

Name _____

Growing Up, Laughing Hard

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Answers may vary. Example response: One of Uncle Ming's captivating stories was about the legend of the Dragon Dance during Lunar New Year. He described the vibrant dragon costumes, the rhythmic drumming, and the symbolic meaning of the dance. It left a lasting impression on me because it made me feel proud of my heritage and excited to celebrate Lunar New Year with my family.
2. Maya's diverse community contributed to her personal growth by exposing her to a variety of cultures, traditions, and perspectives. It allowed her to embrace diversity and appreciate her own Asian heritage more fully, making her journey of self-discovery richer.
3. Answers may vary. Example response: I would choose to explore and celebrate the tradition of making dumplings during special family gatherings. Dumplings symbolize unity and sharing, and I would love to learn how to make them with my family, creating delicious memories together.
4. Laughter is considered the universal language because it transcends cultural and language barriers. It helps people connect on a human level, fostering understanding and building bonds. For Maya, humor and laughter bridged gaps and brought people from diverse backgrounds together, creating a sense of unity and connection.

