

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## The Luminous Lotus

### Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. The theme of emotional transparency is evident in how Raj's luminous lotus encourages people to express their emotions honestly. It serves as a catalyst for deeper connections and understanding among the residents of Calcutta.
2. (Answer may vary) If I had a luminous lotus like Raj's, I might use it to facilitate open and honest conversations about emotions among friends and family. I would ensure that its revelations led to better communication and stronger relationships, helping people support each other in times of need.
3. The Hooghly River in the story symbolizes the flow of emotions and the connection between people in Calcutta. It represents the heart of the city, where emotions are intertwined and shared freely. The river reflects the transformative power of the luminous lotus on the emotional landscape of the city.
4. Raj's use of the luminous lotus benefited Calcutta by encouraging emotional transparency and fostering deeper connections among its residents. The city thrived as a place where people celebrated their emotions, leading to a more compassionate and understanding community.

