



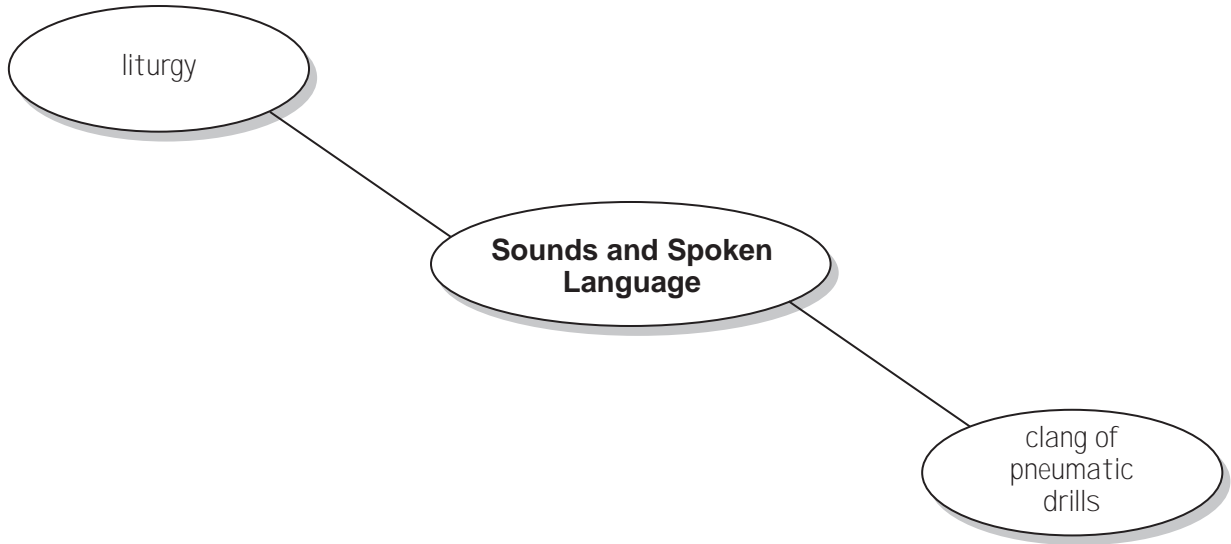
# Graphic Organizer for Active Reading

## What For Garrett Hongo

Pupil's Edition page 1122

### Language Matters

In the last stanza of "What For" the speaker says that he or she would like to place a necklace of words, like a lei, or wreath of flowers, around his or her father's neck. Throughout the poem, there are references to spoken words and to various sounds. As you read the poem, complete the cluster diagram started below by adding these descriptions of sounds and spoken language.



1. Choose one of the examples you added to the cluster, and describe how it is different from or similar to the other descriptions in the graphic.

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2. What effect do the spoken words in the poem seem to have on people?

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**Words to Own**

**from Rules of the Game**

Amy Tan

Pupil's Edition page 1110

**Connotations**

A word's *denotation* is its objective, dictionary definition. However, many words have *connotations*, meanings suggested by the word and the way it is used. Connotations can have a strong effect on people's emotions, either positive or negative. For example, *slow* and *methodical* have similar denotations. However, in most contexts being slow has a negative connotation, whereas being methodical is considered positive. Other words, such as *chair*, do not evoke any emotion and are considered neutral.

Decide which of the following Words to Own have positive connotations, negative connotations, or are neutral. In the space before each number, write **P** for positive, **N** for negative, or **O** for neutral. Then explain your answer on the lines provided by using examples or personal experiences.

  P   **EXAMPLE:** **humility** Humility is usually considered a virtuous quality.

       **1. intricate** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

       **2. ancestral** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

       **3. obscured** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

       **4. retort** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

       **5. touted** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

       **6. prodigy** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

       **7. malodorous** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

       **8. concessions** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

       **9. careened** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

       **10. successive** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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Circle the letter next to the word or group of words that belongs in each space.

**Amy Tan's parents fled China and   1   to the United States before she was born. Her mother was   2   from Shanghai; her father came from Beijing. Tan had never planned to write fiction. In fact, for years she worked as a freelance writer for high-technology companies, a career in which flights of imagination   3   rarely encouraged. To ease job stress, she   4   fiction. The result was the emergence of a dazzling storyteller.**

- 1 A had came  
B came  
C coming  
D come

- 3 A is  
B being  
C are  
D was

- 2 F origin  
G original  
H originally  
J originality

- 4 F writing  
G wrote  
H write  
J written

Circle the letter next to the word or group of words that belongs in each space.

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