

BOOK SEARCH and EVALUATION

STAPLE THIS TO THE PRINTED CHAPTER FROM THE BOOK

	<p>Your Thematic Statement: <u>Parents can encourage or discourage their children.</u></p> <p>Underline the important words in the statement.</p>
	<p>Synonyms and related words that you will use as keywords (search terms).</p> <p><i>Parents, mothers, fathers, encouragement, motivation, discouragement, sons, daughters</i></p>
	<p>Title and author of the book: <u>The Joy Luck Club</u> by Amy Tan</p>
SEARCH	<p>What keywords did you start with, and did you need to change them? Explain.</p> <p><i>I started my search using these keywords: parents and encouragement, parents and discouragement, mothers and encouragement, fathers and encouragement. I didn't find any titles when I used these combinations of keywords.</i></p> <p><i>I started a new search, typed the keyword parents in the subject line in the search screen, scrolled down to the Advanced Search button and clicked on it. I got a list of 721 titles (records).</i></p> <p><i>That list of titles was very large, so I used the limits to reduce the number of titles.</i></p>
SEARCH	<p>Which of the limits, shown on the left hand side of the list of titles (records) did you use? Explain.</p> <p><i>In each of my searches I used limits. In the Library limit, I clicked on Downtown, Shadle and Indian Trail. Mrs. Hanson and Mrs. Reamer were going to pick up the titles that I searched for and they would only go to those 3 libraries.</i></p> <p><i>In the Format limit I clicked on Books because I couldn't use any other formats like CDs, DVDs, Ebooks, or Audiobooks so I didn't want them included in the results to my searches.</i></p> <p><i>In the Subject limit I clicked on more and many Subjects appeared. These subjects contained many suggestions for keywords that I had not included in my keyword searches. I clicked on Parents and Adult Children – Fiction. And that got my search down to 58 titles. That was a manageable number of titles to evaluate.</i></p>
SEARCH	<p>How did you determine if the title was actually available? Explain.</p> <p>I opened the title (detailed record) and scrolled down to the bottom of the screen. I clicked on the Availability tab. A list of the libraries that carried <u>The</u> opened. The book was carried at the Downtown library and it was available.</p>

EVALUATE

How did you evaluate the appropriateness of the novel? In no less than 2 sentences describe/explain how you read to determine appropriateness.

Did you open the **abstract** in the **detailed record** and read it?
OR
 If there wasn't an **abstract** did you open the **summary** at the bottom of the page?
OR
 Did you look up the title in **Novelist Plus** or do a web search for a summary?

*The book version of Joy Luck Club didn't have an **abstract**, but did have a **summary**. The summary wasn't very good. Luckily, the audio book version did have an abstract. I read the abstract from the audio book version and it provided a very good summary of the content.*

EVALUATE

List 5 important words from your reading of the novel's abstract or summary.

Tragedy	Chinese	immigrants
Mahjong	Dim Sum	

Write a **"One Sentence summary"** of the novel's content, utilizing the 5 important words from reading of the **abstract** or **summary**.

Instead of giving in to tragedy, four Chinese women, immigrants to San Francisco, meet monthly for 40 years to play mahjong, eat dim sum and look to the future.

EVALUATE

In no less than two sentences, explain how this novel connects to your **thematic statement**.

This novel connects to the thematic statement, "Parents can inspire or discourage their children." This mothers in this book are all encouraging their children to take advantage of the opportunities in the United States. Unfortunately, one mother pushes her daughter to be a piano playing prodigy, and her daughter finally rebels.

Find information that explains your **author's literary background**. Write no less than two sentences that summarize the **author's literary background**.

"Amy Tan's first book, The Joy Luck Club, won the Commonwealth Gold Award and was adapted into a feature film in 1994. Her other novels include The Kitchen God's Wife, The Hundred Secret Senses, The Bonesetter's Daughter, Saving Fish from Drowning, and The Valley of Amazement. She is also the author of a memoir entitled The Opposite of Fate and two children's books entitled The Moon Lady and Sagwa, The Chinese Siamese Cat."

"Amy Tan." Fantastic Fiction, www.fantasticfiction.com/t/amy-tan/.

