

The slide features a light beige background with a red border. In the top-left and bottom-right corners are red square knot ornaments. A large, textured red brushstroke in the top-right corner contains five yellow stars, mimicking the Chinese flag. The title 'Red Scarf Girl' is centered in a large, bold, black font. Below it, the subtitle 'A Memoir of The Cultural Revolution' is centered in a smaller, black font and underlined. The bottom of the slide shows a faint, stylized landscape with pinkish-red mountains and a large, glowing red sun or moon. Several black birds are depicted in flight across the sky.

Red Scarf Girl

A Memoir of The Cultural Revolution



Book genres are like movie genres!

Can you think of a few?

Memoir and Creative Nonfiction

Red Scarf Girl is a **memoir**. **Memoir** is a book genre that is *nonfiction*.

Anyone know the difference between nonfiction and fiction?

Memoirs are based on true events of the author's life and often focus on specific memories, time periods of events. This is different than a **biography** or **autobiography** that would cover someone's entire life.



Book genres are like movie genres!

Have you seen any movies that
could be categorized as
“memoir”?

Let's hear from the author!

Interviewer: Why did you write *Red Scarf Girl* for young people instead of adults?

Ji-Li Jiang (Our Author): In 1984 I moved to the US. The first year, I lived with an American family. They were very interested in my life in China. Using my limited English, I shared some of my stories with them. One day they gave me a present, a book called *Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl*. Inside they wrote: "In the hope that one day we will read the diary of Ji-Li Jiang."

Let's hear from the author!

Interviewer: Why did you write *Red Scarf Girl* for young people instead of adults?

Ji-Li Jiang (Our Author): **CONTINUED**

Of course, I was very moved by the story, and I was inspired to write my own story through a little girl's eyes, instead of as an adult looking back. I didn't target specific readers before I wrote it, but I am glad it turned out to be a children's book. I used to be a teacher in China, and it's most rewarding if my book can make an impact on kids.





Ji-Li's World

**Remember, as humans we have
the gift of...ASKING QUESTIONS.**

**Asking questions is our best tool
for learning and what makes us
unique from so many other
animal species.**

**Today we will be looking at some
posters you have never seen
before → You will have lots of
questions by the end!**





Ji-Li's World

Gallery Walk Instructions:

- In your journal, take notes on the posters you see, including:
 - A comment
 - A question
 - A word or phrase that the pictures makes you think of



Ji-Li's World

Group Discussion!

1. Ask as many questions as you can with your group.
2. Do not stop to judge, answer, or discuss your questions.
3. Write the questions exactly as they're asked.
4. Change any statements into questions.
5. Number your questions.
6. **You should have at least four questions** written down by the end of this discussion. Let's see which group is the most curious! Who will have the most questions?!



Ji-Li's World


Group Discussion!

1. Label your questions as either open (short/long answer) or closed (yes or no), and then change at least one closed question to an open question.
2. Prioritize your questions → Pick a “Top 2”
Think about which questions you would need answered to get a better understanding of the concept.
3. Once you have your two, assign one group member to come up and write them on the board for your group.



Ji-Li's World

Propaganda:



Information intended to **promote a particular belief**. While sometimes the word implies that the information is false, or at least misleading, in Communist China it was used as a positive term, like “communications.”



Ji-Li's World

Propaganda:

https://learning.amplify.com/curriculum/#/unit/ff808081636919bf0163847de9cc6a7f_national:2024-2025/lesson/ff808081636919bf0163847f74e5147a_national/chapter/ff808081636919bf0163847f74661476_national#Overview

The background of the slide is a stylized illustration of the book cover for 'Red Scarf Girl'. It features a red border with traditional Chinese knot motifs at the corners. In the top left, there is a red banner with five yellow stars, similar to the Chinese flag. In the bottom left, there is a red sun rising over pink mountains. The title 'Ji-Li's World' is written in large, bold, black letters in the center.

Ji-Li's World

Propaganda

Ji-Li, the narrator of *Red Scarf Girl*, used to see these posters all the time! This was because she grew up during the 1960s and 70s in China during The Cultural Revolution.



Journal Question:

Mao Zedong was the leader of China's Communist Party while Ji-li was growing up. Posters like this one of Chairman Mao were all around her.

Thinking back on all of the propaganda posters you saw today, make an ***inference***, or educated guess, about the setting of *Red Scarf Girl*. Use a complete sentence.

RACE Response:

Prep Question

What details does the artist use in this picture to make you feel like Mao is a good leader?





Mao standing with children makes the viewer feel→

That Mao cared about his people and was invested in their future/lives.

Bright, blue sky background makes the viewer feel→

That Mao would bring prosperity and “beautiful days”.

Mao's calm smile makes the viewer feel → **That Mao was a confident and capable leader.**

Smiling children in the painting makes the viewer feel → **That Mao was a beloved leader.**



RACE Response:

Write this question down in your journal

How do you think the artist wanted people to feel about Chairman Mao when they saw this image? (To cite evidence, describe which details the artist includes to support that feeling).





Journal Question:

How can we create a fair society? What do you think a “fair society” has to have in order to be considered “fair”? List at least three things in your response. Use complete sentences.



How can we create a fair society?

One way in which many Chinese people answered this question in the 1960's was through support of Chinese Communist Party ideals expressed through the Cultural Revolution.

We are going to be reading a book about this time period in China's history, which is known as "The Cultural Revolution".

Our book, *Red Scarf Girl*, begins in 1966 at the **start** of The Cultural Revolution.



How can we create a fair society?

3 Visions for the Future

Communism: All means of production (businesses), land and resources are **owned by everyone** and used for the good of everyone

Socialism: Land and resources are **owned by the government** so that the government can help distribute wealth/money/profit more evenly between the rich and the poor


Capitalism: Means of production/resources are **owned privately**, meaning one person can own a piece of land or a business to try and make their own profits



How can we create a fair society?

In *Red Scarf Girl*, our narrator, Ji-Li, grows up in a China where the Communists are in power. Because the Communists are in power, sometimes capitalism is referred to as “bad” by the Communists because it is a different vision for the future than the future the Communists envision.

Today, America, Japan, Canada, and many more countries are capitalist countries.





How can we create a fair society?

Remember, capitalism, socialism, and communism are different kinds of government that many people debate to this day, and just because one of these ideas may sound good doesn't mean it works as expected when it is actually used in a society.

In the book we are reading, it is up to our narrator to decide which one she believes helps create “a fair society”. As we read, we will be looking to see ***if her perspective changes.***