



**NEW ENGLAND  
COMMON ASSESSMENT PROGRAM**

**Student Work Samples  
2011**

**Grade 8**



# Reading

7

Different characters react to Kong Rong in a variety of ways. Kong Rong's father reacts to his action of giving the best pear to his younger brother with pride. Kong Rong's father is proud that his son would perform such a kind and selfless deed, and his "father was touched." An official who serves Master Li reacted to Kong Rong's poise and knowledge with envy that he is not as wise as Kong Rong is. This official was jealous and tried to imply to Master Li that Kong Rong would not always be clever. However, Master Li taught Kong Rong and developed a teacher's pride to be in the company of and enhance the knowledge of such a wise and devoted young boy. Characters generally were surprised in different ways about the kindness, maturity, and wisdom of Kong Rong.

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Kong Rong does some things that make other people proud for him. In the beginning of the story when they all get the pears. Kong's two older brothers immediately go for the best pears for themselves. But Kong gives the next best pear to his younger brother because his father had told him he needed to watch out for his younger brother. This made Kong's father very happy and proud of Kong. Also when he gets to Master Li's house and stands up to one of the officials. That made Master Li very impressed with Kong which was probably one of the reasons he took him in as a pupil.

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Some characters react to Kong Rong in different ways. Like his dad becomes very proud of his son for giving the best fear to his younger brother. Master Li feels honored to teach Kong Rong.

7 The other characters in the story  
are amazed that the boy is so wise.

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He goes to the City to Study  
and he is really nice to his brother  
All he wants to do is be kind  
and caring.

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The theme or message from this folk-tale is that if you put your mind to something and you work hard then you can achieve almost anything. Kong demonstrated this by reading and studying. He took care of his brother to show that he had patience and cared. When he gave his younger brother the best pear he showed he was not selfish at all, he showed love, care and he showed his father how special he was. He read almost all the time and tried to learn as much as he could. When he heard about the great, Master Li He wanted to become his student. He wanted to become Li's student to learn more and become wise. He did not want to become famous, he wanted knowledge. When Kong set out to see Master Li he was accepted. Kong Rong was the son that carried out the tradition of Confucius.

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The theme of this folktale is respect. At the beginning of the story, when Hong Rong's father tells him that he needs to care for his younger brother, Hong Rong respects him and does what he asks. When the father saw how well of a job Hong Rong did, he respected him more. When Hong Rong wanted to go to the capital city to study, his father respected his wishes and let him go. When he got to Master Li's estate, Hong Rong respected the scholar so he let him study with him. Once Hong Rong had shown how smart and devoted he was, Master Li respected him. It was because of respect that Hong Rong went on his journey to become better and wiser.

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The message of this folktale is that if you believe in yourself then you can do anything. Like when Kong Rong gave the best pear to his little brother he believed what his father had told him, that it was his duty to look out for his brother. Later on he believed that he would be a student of master Li's and he did become one.

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I think that the message is to be kind and respectful to everyone.

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He made the folkale  
song form them and song  
it for them and he came  
famouse off of the song