Text Dependent Questions

The Jade Peony

1. Why are all the family members holding their breath?
2. What is the Jade Peony and why does the author tell us about the Jade Peony now?
3. Sek-Lung says the wind chimes “caused dissension in our family.” What does the word “dissension” mean and why does the author it here?
4. Why does Grandmama continue to make the wind chimes, which cause so much dissension in the family?
5. Father and the older children have a conversation about learning Mandarin Chinese. How does this conversation connect with other parts of the story?
6. The author tells us more about the wind chime Grandmama is making from the “sacred glass”. How does this connect to other parts of the story?
7. Why does the author connect the silk on the pot of glue to the Jade Peony?
8. Grandmama describes the color of her spirit. What does she mean by this description and why is this important?
9. How do things change for Sek-Lung as they work on and finish the wind chime?
10. Why do Father and Grandmama go pale at Grandmama’s description of the cat?

What is the importance of the last paragraph?

1. Why did Grandmama leave the sign for the narrator to find?