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Tangible and Intangible Gifts

A gift is something you offer to someone in order to show your affection. It can be something you can see, such as a toy, book, or item of clothing. This is a tangible gift. But gifts can also be intangible, such as time spent listening to someone or cheering him/her up with a joke. These gifts cannot be seen.

Think about the gifts that are given in *A Single Shard*. Some are listed on the chart below. Record who gives each gift, and who receives it. Then write down whether each gift is tangible or intangible.

Discuss your answers with the class.

Gift	Giver	Recipient	Tangible	Intangible
woven sandals				
long hours of work				
a jacket and pants				
a bowl full of food				
a royal commission				
branches of flowering plum				
good advice				
a job				
cleaning a wound				
spilled rice				

Now think about one of your friends and/or family members. Make a list of three tangible gifts and three intangible gifts that you might give this person.

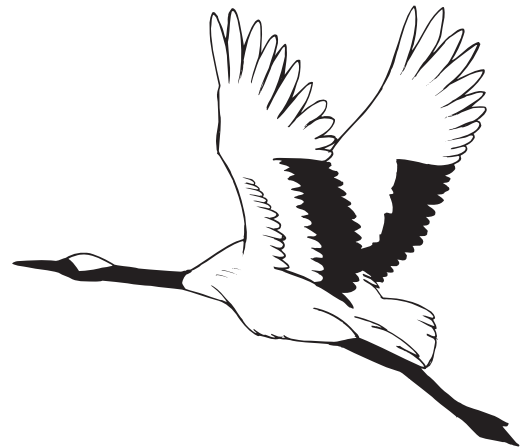
Tangible	Intangible
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.

Research Ideas

As you read *A Single Shard*, you discovered geographical locations, events, and people that you might wish to know more about. To increase your understanding of the characters, places, and events in this novel, do research to find out more information.

Work alone or in groups to find out more about one or more of the items listed below. You may use books, magazines, and the Internet to do your research. Afterwards, share your findings with the class.

- + orphans
- + celadon pottery
- + monks
- + rice cakes
- + weaving
- + other countries in the 12th century
- + trees and plants in Korea
- + birds and animals in Korea
- + the homeless
- + Korean clothing from the 12th century
- + Korean marketplaces
- + villages vs. towns
- + throwing pots



- + Songdo (now called Kaesong)
- + invasions of Korea
- + contemporary Korea
- + 12th century Korean houses
- + 12th century Korean transportation
- + calligraphy
- + Korean food
- + Korean folk tales
- + China's influence on Korea
- + Japan's influence on Korea
- + Korean music
- + Korean palaces and temples
- + master/apprentice relationships
- + Korean New Year
- + communist North Korea