

Keeping Community Stories

See how creators help communities remember their heritage.

3.12 "Culture. The student understands the importance of writers and artists to the cultural heritage of communities. The student is expected to identify how various writers and artists such as Kadir Nelson, Tomie dePaola, Carmen Lomas Garza..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Number the four creators in the passage. Underline a word or phrase near each name that tells how the creator's work helps preserve cultural heritage.

Creators Keep Memories

- ① Communities keep memories in many ways. Writers and artists help by sharing what people see, make, celebrate, and remember. Their work can become part of a community's cultural heritage, the traditions and ideas passed along over time. A book, painting, poem, or statue can help people learn about lives that may be different from their own.
- ② Kadir Nelson is an artist and author whose paintings often show important people and moments in African American history. In his book *Heart and Soul*, his pictures and words tell about the African American struggle for civil rights. His art helps readers remember courage and work for fairness. It adds these stories to the heritage shared by many communities.
- ③ Tomie dePaola wrote and illustrated stories that draw on his Italian American family traditions, including *Strega Nona*. Carmen Lomas Garza paints memories of Mexican American family and community life, such as celebrations and meals. Laura Ingalls Wilder wrote the *Little House* books about pioneer family life. Each creator gives people a way to learn about traditions, daily life, and the past.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How do Kadir Nelson's pictures and words in *Heart and Soul* help preserve cultural heritage?

2 What family traditions did Tomie dePaola draw on in his stories?

3 What does Carmen Lomas Garza paint, and how can her paintings help a community?

4 What can readers learn from Laura Ingalls Wilder's *Little House* books?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Imagine that a writer in your community is named Ana. Write three sentences that name Ana, tell what story she creates about a community tradition, and explain how her story could become part of cultural heritage.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Number the four creators in the passage. Underline a word or phrase near each name that tells how the creator's work helps preserve cultural heritage. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How do Kadir Nelson's pictures and words in <i>Heart and Soul</i> help preserve cultural heritage?	They help readers remember the African American struggle for civil rights, including courage and work for fairness.
2	What family traditions did Tomie dePaola draw on in his stories?	He drew on his Italian American family traditions.
3	What does Carmen Lomas Garza paint, and how can her paintings help a community?	She paints memories of Mexican American family and community life, such as celebrations and meals. Her paintings help people remember these traditions and daily life.
4	What can readers learn from Laura Ingalls Wilder's <i>Little House</i> books?	Readers can learn about pioneer family life and the past.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Ana is a writer in my community. She writes a story about families planting seeds and sharing food at the yearly garden festival. Her story helps children remember this tradition and pass it on.

Accept answers that connect a named creator's work to remembering or passing along a community's traditions, daily life, history, or values. For Your Turn, accept any realistic community tradition and a clear explanation of how Ana's story preserves it.