

and hope that by falling on the ice bit by bit would be broken away, until it should be able to reach the sembei; and indeed the carp did thus break the ice, until at last he reached the prize, bleeding and hurt, but still rewarded for brave perseverance.

- 9 Rosetsu, much impressed, watched the fish swim off with the food, and reflected.
- 10 'Yes,' he said to himself: 'this has been a moral lesson to me. I will be like this carp. I will not go home until I have gained my object. As long as there is breath in my body I will work to carry out my intention. I will labour harder than ever, and, no matter if I do not progress, I will continue in my efforts until I attain my end or die.'
- 11 After this resolve Rosetsu visited the neighbouring temple, and prayed for success; also he thanked the local deity that he had been enabled to see, through the carp's perseverance, the line that a man should take in life.
- 12 Rosetsu then returned to Kyoto, and to his master, Okyo, told the story of the carp and of his determination.
- 13 Okyo was much pleased, and did his best for his backward pupil. This time Rosetsu progressed. He became a well-known painter, the best man Okyo ever taught, as good, in fact, as his master; and he ended by being one of Japan's greatest painters.



RL.8.9.1

1. The carp's struggles for food would *best* be described as —

- A a symbol.
- B an analogy.
- C a metaphor.
- D an allusion.

RL.8.4.3

2. After reading this passage, you know that the word perseverance means —

- A failing miserably.
- B making a fool of oneself.
- C working to reach a goal.
- D being proud of oneself.