

## Concept Development

The **central message** is a lesson or idea about life in a text.

- The **central message** is **not** directly<sub>2</sub> written in the text.
- The **main events** of the text will provide clues<sub>3</sub> about the central message.

← Definitions      Examples

*Adapted from* **Mulan**

1. A long time ago in China, there was a girl named Mulan.
2. Mulan wanted to fight in her father's place during the war.
3. Women were not allowed to be soldiers during this time.
4. So, Mulan dressed like a man.
5. She put on armor<sub>4</sub> and trained to be a soldier.
6. Then, she rode off with the soldiers to fight in the war.

60 words



More Examples of a Central Message:

- Hard work pays off.
- Good wins over evil.
- Sharing is caring.

CFU questions

CFU

Which statement below might be a central message? How do you know?

- A Friends always help each other.  
B Marco helped Shane with his homework.

In your own words, what is the central message?

"The central message is \_\_\_\_\_."

### Main Events of the Text

- Mulan was a girl who wanted to fight in a war.
- Mulan dressed like a man.
- Mulan trained to be a soldier and went to war.

**Central Message:** *Girls can do what boys can do.* ← Example

Vocabulary →

Vocabulary

<sup>2</sup> clearly

<sup>3</sup> hints

<sup>4</sup> metal suit worn to protect the body

Not examples of a central message:

1. Multiplication is important to learn.
2. Jackie played with the new girl, Lee.

← Non-examples

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Determine the central message in a text.

3