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| **Approved for use in Grade 9** | |
| Summary: “Ji-li Jiang’s extraordinary memoir *Red Scarf Girl* transports readers to a tumultuous time in Chinese history—the first two years of the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution. Caught between conflicting forces—joining the Revolution’s call for rebellion, protecting her family, and fitting in with her peers—Jiang describes how her once-‘perfect’ world begins to crumble” (Strom 9) | **Rationale:** “Students are best able to learn and understand history by searching for connections between the events they are studying and their own personal experiences…What makes Red Scarf Girl such a compelling read  for adolescents is that Ji-li Jiang’s story highlights how the Cultural Revolution heightened  these dilemmas for millions of adolescents in China. By reading about how Jiang and  her peers navigated through the complex ethical issues of that time, students have the  opportunity to reflect on decisions they have made, and will make, about their own roles  as members of families, peer groups, and a national community” (Strom 9). |
| **Professional Reviews and/or Critical Essays:**   * *Kirkus Reviews*: <https://www.kirkusreviews.com/book-reviews/ji-li-jiang/red-scarf-girl/> * *Publisher’s Weekly:* <https://www.publishersweekly.com/9780060275853> * Resources are available from the library media center and libraries in the district. Contact any Teacher-Librarian to view the scholarly sources. * Scholarly reviews are also available online. Contact the Teacher-Librarian for guidance. | **Noted Distinction:** ALA 1998 Best Book for Young Adults, Judy Lopez Memorial Award for Children's Literature  **Readability**   * Lexile Score: 780 * Readability Level:   **Learning Resources Guidelines**   * The film meets the [Learning Resources Guidelines](about:blank) and [Board Policy.](https://hsd1-my.sharepoint.com/:b:/g/personal/mschulte_helenaschools_org/EZuo14P7UR5JunDDt5VnyPkBLkEjekdhlHtAZyuwY8VvHA?e=rLhuna)   **Approval:**  **Submitted to Committee: [June 2024]**  **Approved for Adoption:** |
| **Notes on the Text:**  This text fits in perfectly with the Grade 9 Unit on language and manipulation. We primarily study the Russian Revolution and Soviet Union in this unit; it is beneficial to look at a parallel revolution in another part of the world. *Red Scarf Girl* is also a first-hand account of the revolution, making an excellent text to pair with *Animal Farm*, which, as an allegory written by an outsider, may seem a little distant/disconnected from real events. | **Connection to the Curriculum:**  **Standard Alignment: *(Type which standard number then link to specific standard document on OPI website.)***  [RL.11-12.2](https://opi.mt.gov/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=j4gYycvfE38%3d&portalid=182)  [RL.11-12.3](https://opi.mt.gov/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=j4gYycvfE38%3d&portalid=182)  [RL.11-12.4](https://opi.mt.gov/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=j4gYycvfE38%3d&portalid=182)  [RL.11-12.10](https://opi.mt.gov/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=j4gYycvfE38%3d&portalid=182) |
| **Additional Connections*:***  *Animal Farm* by George Orwell | |

Works Cited: Strom, Adam. “Rationale.” *Teaching Red Scarf Girl*, Facing History and Ourselves, 2009,

https://www.facinghistory.org/sites/default/files/2022-06/Teaching\_Red\_Scarf\_Girl\_1.pdf.