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It is **morals and virtues**  
that direct Dr Zhong in  
making hard choices in  
his life.

**“the backbone of China”**



Preview & Predict

Q1: What do you already know about this lady?

Reading and Thinking

Q2: What do you expect to read about this lady?

## MOTHER OF TEN THOUSAND BABIES



Lin Qiaozhi  
(1901-1983)

biography



## Fast reading

### MOTHER OF TEN THOUSAND BABIES



"Life is **precious**. ... To a person nothing is more precious than their life, and if they entrust me with that life, how could I refuse that trust, saying I'm cold, hungry, or tired?" These words of Dr Lin Qiaozhi give us a look into the heart of this amazing woman, and what carried her through a life of hard choices.

As a five-year-old girl, Lin Qiaozhi was deeply

### Para.2: The life as a student



Lin Qiaozhi (1901—1983)

**complained**, thinking of the high tuition **fees**. She **responded**, "I'd rather stay single to study all my life!"

Eight years later, Lin graduated from Peking Union Medical College

**Scholarship**, the highest prize given to graduates. She immediately was **hired** as a resident **physician** in the OB-GYN department. Within six months, she was named a chief resident physician, a position she achieved after working for a few years. She was sent to the US in 1939, in the US. She greatly impressed her American colleagues, who invited her to stay. Dr Lin, however, **rejected** the offer. She wanted to serve the women and children at home.

In 1941, Dr Lin became the first Chinese woman ever to be appointed director of the OB-GYN department of the PUMC Hospital, but just a few months later, the department was closed because of the war. Thinking of all the people still in need of help, Dr Lin opened a private **clinic**. She charged very low fees to treat patients and often reduced costs for poor patients. At times she was even seen riding a donkey to faraway villages to provide medical care.

### Para.1: The principle guides Dr Lin through the choices in life

The new People's Republic of China saw Dr Lin Qiaozhi playing a key role. In 1954, she was elected to the first National People's Congress and, over the next several **decades**, she held many important positions. Her heart, however, was **elsewhere**. She was more interested in **tending** patients, **publishing** medical research on care for women and children, and training the next generation of doctors. "The OB-GYN department cares for two lives," she told new **staff** in her department. "As doctors, we should be responsible for the patients and treat them as our sisters."

### Paras.3-6: The life as a physician

In 1983, since she had no children of her own, she left her **savings** to a **kindergarten** and a fund for new doctors. And even as she lay dying, her final thoughts were for others. "I'm ready to go," she said. "Don't try to rescue me any more. Don't waste the medicine any more."

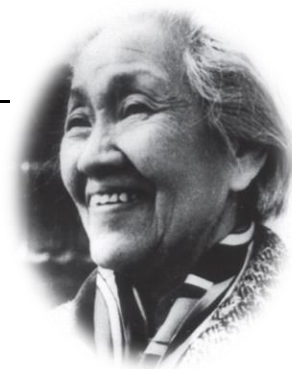




## Close reading

*“life is precious, ... To a person nothing is more precious than their life, and if they entrust me with that life, how could I refuse that trust, saying I’m cold, hungry, or tired?”*

Dr Lin’s main life principle is to always put others first.



## Close reading

Dr Lin's hard choices in her life	Time	Choices	Results
The 1 <sup>st</sup> Choice	At age 18	She chose to study medicine instead of finding a husband.	She took the entrance exam and entered Peking Union Medical College.
The 2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice	In 1939	She rejected the offer to stay in the US.	She went back to China to serve the women and children.
The 3 <sup>rd</sup> Choice	During the war	She opened a private clinic.	She continued to provide medical care for the people in need for help, especially the poor patients.
The 4 <sup>th</sup> Choice	From 1954 to 1983	She was more interested in tending patients, publishing medical research and training the next generation of doctors	She was known as the “mother of ten thousand babies”.

## Critical reading

**Which choice impresses you most?**

**What can you learn from the choice?**

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## Critical reading

**Which choice impresses you most?**

**What can you learn from the choice?**

The 4th choice:

Dr Lin was more interested in tending patients, publishing medical research on care for women and children, and training new doctors.

I will decide upon my major definite purpose (to be a good teacher) in life and then organize all my activities around it.

## Critical reading



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*What kind of person do you think Dr Lin was?*

# Summary

love for others

- *rejected* the offer
- *charged* low fees
- *left* savings to a kindergarten and a fund for new doctors

patience for patients

- *served* women and children
- *tended* patients
- *treated* them *as* sisters

enthusiasm for study/work

- *won* the highest scholarship
- *published* medical research
- *trained* the next generation of doctors



## Summary



**love for others**

**patience for patients**

**enthusiasm for study/work**

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It is **morals** and **virtues**  
that direct Dr Lin in  
making **hard choices** in  
her life.

## Review

That's the **real meaning** of “morals and virtues”.

The main **life principle** of Dr Lin is  
**her devotion to others without any thought of herself**.

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“the backbone of China”



“the young backbones of the times”



## Discussion

We don't have many chances to make big choices, but from making some **small** choices in daily life, we can still decide all by ourselves what to do.

**Can you think of some examples about small choices?**

**I will choose to... because...**







We all make choices, but in  
the end our choices make us.

Ken Levine

“ quote fancy ”

# Assignment

Write a summary entitled “Dr Lin in My Eyes”  
(around 60 words).



## *One possible version:*

*Lin Qiaozhi, a specialist in women's diseases, lived from 1901 to 1983. She remained single throughout her life. She had devoted her whole life to helping women of China. As a student, she was diligent; as a physician, she was outstanding. The main principle of Lin Qiaozhi was her devotion to others without any thought of herself. (57 words)*



