

Name _____

Melody of the Qeej (pronounced “keng”)

I can connect music-making to its cultural heritage.

In Hmong culture, the **qeej** (pronounced “keng”) is an instrument that communicates with the spirit world. It has a very important role in funerals, and is also used in other special rituals such as weddings and New Year festivals.

Part 1



Read *Melody of the Qeej*

Mai Kou Xiong, author / Vang Lee, illustrator

<https://library.biblioboard.com/viewer/b58307ce-c312-4230-b0c8-315d8d1bacc0/1>

Part 2



Watch a performance of the qeej (pronounced “keng”) filmed in St. Paul at the Hmong Cultural Center of Minnesota. Think about the sound of the instrument, how the sound is produced, and the skills needed by the musician to play it.

<https://youtu.be/zgRdNsD-5q4>

Write 15 things you notice about the music and performance.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____

Part 3

Complete your choice of one writing statement below.

- 1. Write a paragraph to connect what you saw in the video with information you learned from the EBOOK.

- 2. Write a paragraph to connect information you learned about the qeej with something from your own culture.

- 3. Complete this sentence about the qeej, and add a few more sentences to give detail or explain your response.

I was surprised _____
