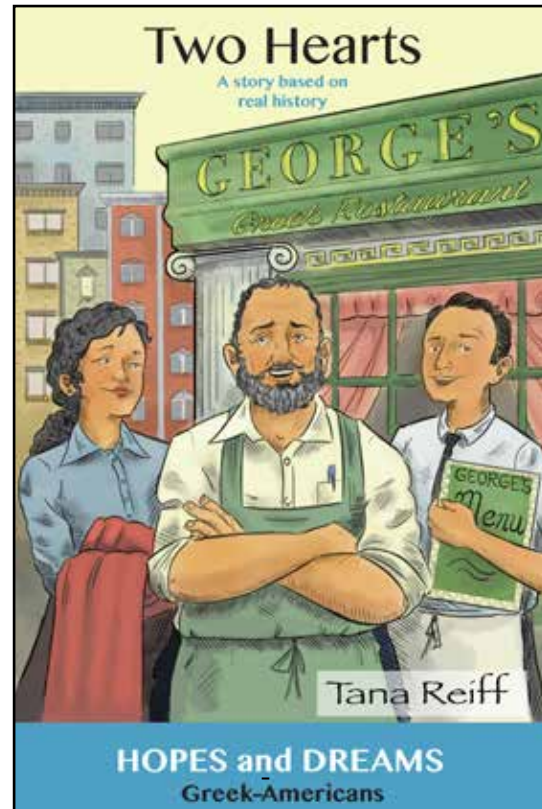


# Teacher's supplement to use with



Brief Plot Summary

Discussion Questions

Historical Drawings and Photos for Discussion

Detailed Plot Summary

Historical Background

What Did You Read? – Form

Book Report – Form

Word Play Activity

Fill in the Blanks Review Activity

## **Brief Plot Summary**

**Two Hearts** tells the story of George Stavros and his Greek-American family. It begins in a mountain village in Greece. In 1910, George's widowed mother had no money for her daughter Adonia's dowry, so she let her teenage son George go alone to America to make money for his sister. First in New York, he worked shining shoes and then as a busboy in a restaurant. He learned some English and began to make some money for Adonia's dowry. Then his mother asked him to come home to fight in a war against the Turks. He returned to America but went to Chicago to do factory work, and then bought an ice cream cart. He made enough money to marry Daphne, a girl from Greektown. With help from his wife and son Andy, he started an ice cream shop, which he then turned into a successful Greek restaurant. Andy married Cleo. When George and Daphne took a trip to Greece, Cleo and Andy changed *George's* into a Greek-American restaurant. George was angry, but the restaurant was popular, The family opened more restaurants, and then George had a heart attack.

# Think About It

## Two Hearts Discussion Questions

### Chapter 1

#### Adonia Needs a Husband

1. What are your thoughts on the dowry system?
2. George was willing to go to a “far-away land” to help his family. What do you do to help your family?
3. Why did George put a stone in his pocket?

### Chapter 2

#### The Shoeshine Boy

1. What would you do if you were “in George’s shoes”?
2. Why do people take deals that are not fair to them?
3. What does it mean to be taken advantage of?

### Chapter 3

#### A Restaurant Job

1. Why do you think Mr. Carter gave George the job?
2. Do you think that George’s time in America was a waste of time? Why or why not?
3. Why did the young Greek men go back to Greece to fight in a war?
4. What is “a pocket full of dreams”?

### Chapter 4

#### Second Time Around

1. If you were selling something, would you give it away to your friends? Why or why not?
2. Why was the new church so important to the people in Greektown?
3. Have you ever “hit it off” with someone the first time you met?

### Chapter 5

#### Selling Ice Cream

1. What are ways to move up in life? Pushcart to restaurant is one example.
2. If you wanted to start a business, what would it be?
3. How do people protect their own space?

### Chapter 6

#### Time to Marry

1. How did taking down the sign help George decide to stay in America?
2. How many hearts do you have?
3. These days, how would you go about selling something you wanted to get rid of?

### Chapter 7

#### A Growing Business

1. What is a family business? How is a family business different?
2. What is the difference between children working in a family business and child labor?
3. How do you react to other people’s ideas?

## **Chapter 8**

### **Running a Restaurant**

1. How much have the roles of men and women changed since the time of this story?
2. Are there customs in your culture that you think are out of date?
3. Are there old ways in your culture that should always stay?
4. What do you think about when you have to make a decision?

## **Chapter 9**

### **A Trip to Greece**

1. Have you ever visited a place you hadn't seen for a long time? What was that like?
2. Why was it important for George to visit Greece?
3. What could happen at the restaurant while George and Daphne are in Greece?

## **Chapter 10**

### **Red Tablecloths**

1. Did George have a right to be angry about the changes?
2. What does it mean to "cut me to the heart"?
3. What would you have done — change things back or start a new restaurant?

## **Chapter 11**

### **A Chain of Restaurants**

1. What does it mean to "come a long way"?
2. In business, what is a chain?
3. Why is George's Pizza the right name for the new restaurants?

## **Chapter 12**

### **Soft Hearts**

1. What is a "soft heart"? Who are the soft hearts in this chapter? How do they show it?
2. In your family, what do you do when an older family member needs special care?
3. Do you have a special something that you have kept for a long time? Why?
4. Do you know someone who keeps a part of his or her heart in another place?

# Two Hearts

## Historical Drawings and Photos for Discussion



<http://www.loc.gov/pictures/resource/cph.3b13633/>

Note: Many of these photos are from the Library of Congress and in the public domain. Others appear many times without attribution online and thus are in the public domain. You may print them for classroom use.

Links to other appropriate illustrations are given.

Other topics, such as the Greek world George came from and the food typically served in Greek restaurants, are illustrated with modern color photographs, with links to the copyrights and data given.



Greek mountain village, Kerasia, in golden light before Spring snow storm.  
Photo taken on: April 17th, 2014.  
ID 45986093 © Bruce Whittingham | Dreamstime.com



Remote Greek mountain village, Kerasia, mainland.  
Photo taken on: October 18th, 2014. ID 46010709 ©  
Bruce Whittingham | Dreamstime.com



A small white Greek church.  
Photo taken on: May 19th, 2007.  
ID 8402529 © Patrickwang | Dreamstime.com





Greek Bootblacks in Indianapolis. (Same boys are in both photos.) Aug., 1908.  
Wit., E. N. Clopper. Location: Indianapolis, Indiana.

Top: <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/resource/nclc.03209/>

Bottom: <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/resource/nclc.03210/>



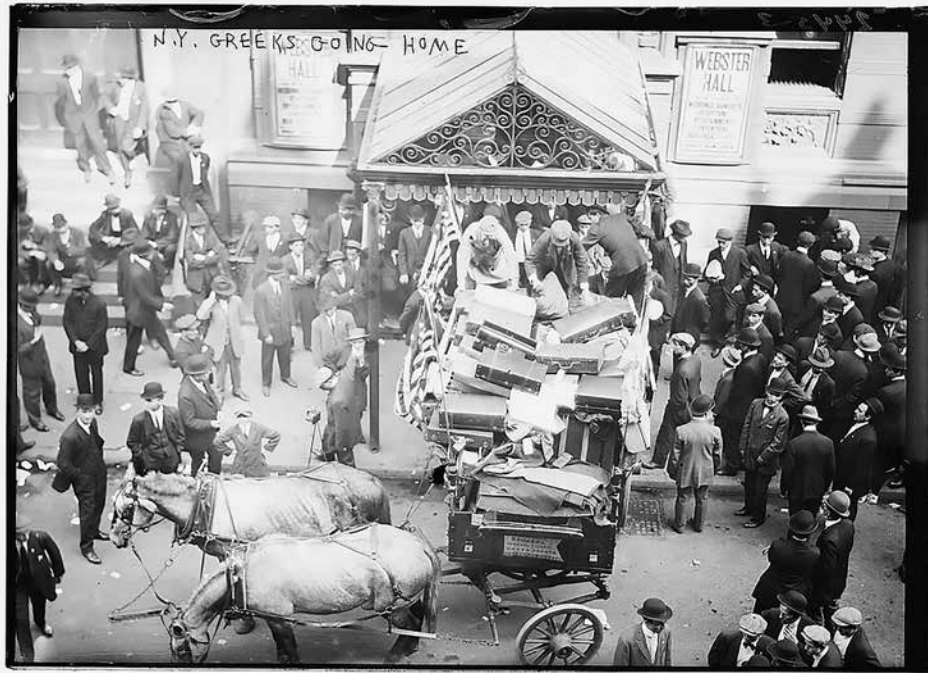
Young boy is Ciriakos Keiradimos, a young Greek bootblack, working in a shop at 511 Penn. Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. Said to be 16 yrs. old, but is absolutely illiterate. Has been in this country only 2 months. Works until 9 P.M. every day and until 11 P.M. Saturdays. Location: Washington (D.C.), District of Columbia.



Top: <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/resource/nclc.03760/>

Greek bootblack, at the St. Lo Indianapolis, Indiana.

Bottom: <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/resource/nclc.03214/>



Young Greek men leaving New York going home to war.  
<http://www.loc.gov/pictures/resource/ggbain.10828/>



In N.Y., patriotic young Greek men going home in 1912.  
<http://www.loc.gov/pictures/resource/ggbain.10829/>





Leaving N.Y., going to war. Greeks boarding MADONNA, Oct. 1912  
<http://www.loc.gov/pictures/resource/ggbain.10726/>



Greeks boarding MADONNA  
<http://www.loc.gov/pictures/resource/ggbain.10727/>



Selling ice cream on a street corner from a pushcart.

<http://www.loc.gov/pictures/resource/nclc.03586/>

Other links

<http://www.exodus2013.co.uk/tag/carlo-gatti/>

<http://www.exodus2013.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/hokey-pokey-man.jpg>

<http://mentalfloss.com/article/52281/brief-history-ice-cream-truck>



A Greek restaurant in Aliquippa, Pennsylvania, Greek steelworkers  
of the Jones and Laughlin Steel Corporation

<http://www.loc.gov/pictures/resource/fsa.8c04559/>



Nick's Greek restaurant in Paris, Kentucky  
<http://www.loc.gov/pictures/resource/fsa.8a32712/>

Other links

<https://www.icp.org/browse/archive/objects/greek-restaurant-new-york-0>

**Greektown (Baltimore)** [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Acropolis\\_Restaurant#/media/File:Acropolis\\_Restaurant\\_02.JPG](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Acropolis_Restaurant#/media/File:Acropolis_Restaurant_02.JPG)

**Greektown (Detroit)** [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Popular\\_Greektown.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Popular_Greektown.jpg)

**Greektown (Chicago)**

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Greektown\\_Skyline\\_\(14560194756\).jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Greektown_Skyline_(14560194756).jpg)  
<http://www.greektownchicago.org/about/history> (great pic but can't nail down source)

**Greek Family (not necessarily immigrants)**

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Pontus\\_Greek\\_family.JPG](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Pontus_Greek_family.JPG)

**Greek Wedding**

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:StateLibQld\\_1\\_78371\\_Wedding\\_of\\_Michael\\_J.\\_Londy\\_and\\_Angela\\_C.\\_Kalokerinos,\\_Toowoomba,\\_1932.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:StateLibQld_1_78371_Wedding_of_Michael_J._Londy_and_Angela_C._Kalokerinos,_Toowoomba,_1932.jpg)

**Greektown festival**

<http://www.metroparent.com/daily/family-activities/family-events/greek-independence-day-parade-in-detroit/>

**Greeks in 4th of July parade, NY – c.1910-1915**

<http://www.loc.gov/pictures/resource/ggbain.09596/>  
<http://www.pappaspost.com/fourteen-really-cool-photos-of-early-greek-immigrants-in-the-united-states/>  
[http://historytogo.utah.gov/people/ethnic\\_cultures/earlygreekimmigrants.html](http://historytogo.utah.gov/people/ethnic_cultures/earlygreekimmigrants.html)  
<http://www.helleniccomserve.com/bookhpsgenealogy.html>  
<http://chicagohistory.org/research/aboutcollection/printsphotographs>  
[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Pontian\\_Greek\\_family.JPG](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Pontian_Greek_family.JPG)  
[http://www.historicsomerville.org/links\\_related\\_to\\_somerville\\_and\\_history/greek\\_immigration\\_to\\_somerville](http://www.historicsomerville.org/links_related_to_somerville_and_history/greek_immigration_to_somerville)



**Moussaka made with beef, eggplant, onions, cheese, tomatos. and herbs and spices. ID 58942650 © Sergii Koval | Dreamstime.com**



**Fresh Greek salad with lettuce, feta cheese, tomato, cucumber, green and black olives, and anchovies. ID 7477508 © Photka | Dreamstime.com**



**Greek gyros typically include tomato, onion, fried potatoes tzatziki in addition to the meat. ID 26997921 © Dbdella | Dreamstime.com**



**Meat cooking on skewer for authentic greek gyro sandwich. ID 9824546 © Robert Lerich | Dreamstime.com**



**Dolmas - grape leaves stuffed with rice. ID 4776382 © Jabiru | Dreamstime.com**





**A young Greek-American immigrant on Ellis Island, New York late 19th-20th century - Hulton Archive - Wikimedia Commons, the free media repository**



**Deliciously sweet fresh baked baklava made with filo dough and chopped walnuts or pistachios. ID 13255033 © Jabiru | Dreamstime.com**



**Slices of fried hake cooked with garlic and lemon. ID 1110579 © Ramon Grosso | Dreamstime.com**



**Marinated, grilled octopus. ID 9961532 © Robert Lerich | Dreamstime.com**



**Souvlaki - meat roasted on a skewern with pita bread. ID 28536826 © Periklis Kontongonas | Dreamstime.com**

# Two Hearts

## Detailed Plot Summary

In their Greek mountain village in 1910, George Stavros' widowed mother laments that his sister Adonia needs a husband but has no dowry. Sixteen-year-old George sings a song that is popular with the young men of the village, about going to far-away lands. George's mother grants him permission to go with the others to America to make money for Adonia's dowry. As George sadly leaves the village, he picks up a little, round, gray stone and puts it in his pocket.

When George arrives in New York, a padrone (labor agent) shows the boy his living quarters and escorts him to the bootblack shop where he will shine shoes. The shop's owner, Mr. Kostas, shows George how to do a perfect spitshine. George works under constant pressure. Then Gus, another shoeshine boy, informs George that there will be no pay for the entire first year. George, who came here to make money fast, leaves the bootblack shop and finds work as a restaurant busboy. The job includes a room upstairs for George to live in.

A few months later, George receives a letter from his mother asking him to come home to fight in the war against the Turks. George returns to Greece penniless.

After the war is over a year later, George returns to America, this time to Chicago to work in a factory. He lives in Greektown with other young men and socializes at the new Greek church, where he meets Daphne. It is love at first sight, but George cannot marry until he makes his sister's dowry.

George loathes factory work, so he buys a used pushcart and sells ice cream on the street. At last he has sent home enough money for Adonia's dowry, but, ironically, she cannot find a husband because almost all the young men have gone to America.

After George and Daphne's Greek wedding, they open an ice cream shop together. The day George sells the old pushcart, he realizes he has "two hearts:" one is still back in Greece, the the other, he now knows, will stay in America.

Daphne and George have three children, Phoebe, Myra, and Andreas, who help out in the shop as soon as they can walk. When the boy, Andreas, whom they call Andy, is 18 years old, he suggests the ice cream shop should

grow into a restaurant. George turns the idea around to make it sound like his own and plans every aspect of the new restaurant.

George instantly clashes with strong-willed Cleo, who has married Andy and joins the family business. Cleo objects to George's green tablecloths, which remind him of the mountains of Greece; she contends that red makes people hungrier. George tells Andy that he should take better care of Cleo because, he says, Greek men should control their wives. Andy asks Cleo to try giving her ideas without making "Bamba" (an affectionate Greek term for "Father") so angry. Cleo says she'll work on it and that she loves George even if he doesn't know it yet.

Things between George and Cleo have improved somewhat when, a few years later, George and Daphne leave for a trip to Greece. There they go sightseeing with Adonia (Mama is dead now). At first everything seems unchanged, but during this trip George realizes that his life is in Chicago now. Daphne tells him he is a man of two hearts, one of which has found a new home in America.

When George returns to Chicago, he is shocked to find that Cleo has replaced the green tablecloths with red ones. What's more, Andy and Cleo have added fried chicken, hamburgers, and pizza to the menu. Angrily, George opens a completely Greek restaurant on the other side of town and uses green tablecloths there. Andy and Cleo will run the first place.

Gradually, however, George begins adding American dishes to the menu at his new restaurant. Then Andy suggests to George that they open a third restaurant together. George not only agrees but suggests the three restaurants be set up as a chain, with the same name ("George's"), menu, and decor.

George is busy and happy with the three restaurants when Daphne gets cancer and dies. Heartbroken, he pours himself into his work, which leads to a mild heart attack. Cleo's love for George surfaces when she takes care of him during his recovery.

By the third month, George is back to his hectic work schedule. But as he arrives at the restaurant one day, he has his second heart attack, which he does not survive. As the ambulance staff prepares to take him away, Cleo empties his pockets, and just as Andy walks in, she finds a little, gray stone. Andy identifies it as the stone his father had put in his pocket the day he first left Greece. Cleo thinks it stands for Bamba's Greek heart. Andy takes the stone and puts it in his pocket.

# Two Hearts

## Historical Background

In the early 20th century, Greece was very poor and worn down from defending itself against the Ottoman Turks. During this time, many Greeks, mostly men and mostly peasants, were recruited to America by labor agents called “padrones.” The young men couldn’t resist the offer to rescue their families, to whom they typically were very loyal, from dire poverty and to earn *prikas* (dowries) for their sisters. Often they planned to stay in the United States only long enough to get their share of the “gold in the streets” that they imagined was here for the taking.

Once in America, however, the fantasy became reality. The padrones set up the young men to work in difficult situations, usually with no pay until they completed the first year so that the padrones could take their cut. Room and board were deducted as well. What the young men didn’t always realize was that they were not as captive as they believed they were. They were free to leave their employment if they were willing to go it alone in a strange country.

Some of the young men did return to Greece prematurely. Some of these went back to fight the Turks in the Balkan Wars of 1912-1913. Then after the wars, many returned to the United States. Others never went back to Greece at all. Indeed so many young men left their villages that many of their sisters for whom they earned dowries had no one to marry anyway. The few remaining men could command a high price.

The young Greeks who came to America typically lived in the cities of the North. They began their time in America working in the textile mills and shoe factories of Lowell, Massachusetts, or in the restaurants, bootblack shops, factories, and meatpacking plants of New York or Chicago. Some went west to Colorado, Utah, and California to work in the mines or build the railroads.

At some point, however, many Greeks eschewed such labor in favor of their own business ventures. What may have started as an ice cream pushcart, a fruit-peddler stand, or a hot-dog wagon (eventually with control of the sidewalk space) developed into a confectionery or flower shop and then into a full-scale florist, candy store, or restaurant and then into a



chain of businesses. The evolution of Greek economic gain in America is a true success story, but it did not come without long hours of hard work and tremendous sacrifice. The whole family, including several generations, pitched in.

A surge of refugees arrived during the 1920s after the Turks defeated the Greek army in Asia Minor. But Greeks continued arriving in the United States well beyond the peak Ellis Island days. Although few people arrived immediately after World War II, many came during the 1950s and 1960s after national-origins restrictions were lifted. Another wave occurred when George Papadopoulos overthrew King Constantine in 1967. Many still came with the unfulfilled intent of returning to Greece after three to five years of making money. Even now in the 21st century, with economic depression in Greece as part of the Common Market and the political turmoil and refugee crisis in the Middle East, Greeks continue immigrating for economic opportunity that is available in the U.S. in exchange for their unrelenting hard work.

Though most Greeks who came to America have eventually become naturalized U.S. citizens, they have always retained a steadfast identification with Greek culture. Eastern Orthodox churches have been at the heart of Greektowns, if they existed, or a focal point for Greeks scattered throughout a community. The churches have kept alive not only the Orthodox branch of Christianity in the U.S. but also Greek customs, language, foods, music, and other aspects of the culture. The result even to this day is a strong, distinctive ethnic identity that co-exists with full participation in the American mainstream, in both business and the professions. Second- and third-generation Greek-Americans rarely separate from at least some degree of involvement in the Greek community and are unlikely to engage in activities that would disgrace their families. They thrive on close family ties, sacrificing immensely to make sure their children get educated and married and care for their aging parents.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

# What Did You Read?

Write the answers to these questions about *Two Hearts*.

1. Why did George Stavros want to make money in America?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. What was George's first job in New York? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Why did George go back to Greece after only one year?

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Where did George go the second time he came to America?

\_\_\_\_\_

5. What little business did George start when he left the factory?

\_\_\_\_\_

6. What two things did Daphne say are more important than money?

\_\_\_\_\_

7. Where was each of George's two hearts? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

8. In what way did George's son Andy want the ice cream shop business to grow?

\_\_\_\_\_

9. Why did George and Andy's wife Cleo have trouble with each other?

\_\_\_\_\_

10. What did George learn on his trip to Greece?

\_\_\_\_\_

11. How many restaurants were in George's chain?

\_\_\_\_\_

12. Where did the stone come from that Cleo found in George's pocket?

\_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

# Book Review

Book Title \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_

The people in this book came from \_\_\_\_\_

I read this book because \_\_\_\_\_

Is this book interesting? Why or why not? \_\_\_\_\_

The best part of the story is \_\_\_\_\_

The worst part of the story is \_\_\_\_\_

My favorite person in the story is \_\_\_\_\_

because \_\_\_\_\_

The main thing I learned from this book is that \_\_\_\_\_

Too many hard words? yes / no Examples: \_\_\_\_\_

Too many long sentences? yes / no Examples: \_\_\_\_\_

The length of the books is: too long / too short / about right

Tell a friend to read this book? yes / no Why? \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

# Word Play: One Heart or More?

No one really has two hearts, as George seems to have in the book *Two Hearts*. But for two or more of something you have to spell the word in a different way. For example, **one heart, two hearts**. Circle the word that completes each sentence. Use other words in the sentence to tell you which word to pick. The first one is done for you.

1. Adonia wanted a **husband** / **husbands**.
2. The **house** / **houses** look like tiny white boxes against the mountain.
3. Gus made twenty **dollar** / **dollars** a year at the bootblack shop.
4. George sent home a few more **cent** / **cents**.
5. His job was to put **piece** / **pieces** into machines.
6. There were young **woman** / **women** at the church.
7. The man found another **place** / **places** to sell his hot dogs.
8. George and Daphne started an ice cream **shop** / **shops**.
9. One of George's **heart** / **hearts** was back in Greece.
10. "What sweet **child** / **children**" the people said.
11. "Where would we put **table** / **tables**?" Andy asked.
12. How much **cheese** / **cheeses** goes into the spinach pie?
13. Cleo's **parent** / **parents** were Greek, too.
14. Phoebe and Myra drove George and Daphne to the **airport** / **airports**.
15. What did Cleo do with those old green **menu** / **menus**?



Name \_\_\_\_\_

# Fill in the Blanks Review Activity

**Two Hearts** tells the story of George Stavros and his Greek-\_\_\_\_\_ family. It begins in 1910 in a \_\_\_\_\_ village in Greece. George's widowed mother has no \_\_\_\_\_ for her daughter Adonia's \_\_\_\_\_, so she lets George, her teenage son, go alone to America to make money for his \_\_\_\_\_. When he arrives in New York, he finds a job \_\_\_\_\_. Then he works as a \_\_\_\_\_ in a restaurant. He learns some English, but after a few months he has saved very \_\_\_\_\_. His mother writes to him and asks him to come home to fight in a war against the Turks. After the war, he returns to America. He goes to Chicago to work in a \_\_\_\_\_. He doesn't like the job. He lives in \_\_\_\_\_, where he meets Daphne, a girl in \_\_\_\_\_. She finds an old ice cream cart for \_\_\_\_\_. He buys it and makes enough money to marry her. Then, with help from his wife and their son Andy, he starts an \_\_\_\_\_ shop. When Andy is 18, the family turns their shop into a successful \_\_\_\_\_. Andy marries \_\_\_\_\_. While George and Daphne take a trip to Greece, Cleo and Andy change *George's* into a \_\_\_\_\_ restaurant. George is very angry, but the restaurant is popular, He changes his mind. The family opens more restaurants, and then George has a \_\_\_\_\_. Cleo takes \_\_\_\_\_ of him.

## **Full text of the fill in the blanks review activity**

**Two Hearts** tells the story of George Stavros and his Greek-American family. It begins in 1910 in a mountain village in Greece. George's widowed mother has no money for her daughter Adonia's dowry, so she lets George, her teenage son, go alone to America to make money for his sister. When he arrives in New York, he finds a job shining shoes. Then he works as a busboy in a restaurant. He learns some English, but after a few months he has saved very little. His mother writes to him and asks him to come home to fight in a war against the Turks. After the war, he returns to America. He goes to Chicago to work in a factory. He doesn't like the job. He lives in Greektown, where he meets Daphne, a girl in Church. She finds an old ice cream cart for sale. He buys it and makes enough money to marry her. Then, with help from his wife and their son Andy, he starts an ice cream shop. When Andy is 18, the family turns their shop into a successful Greek restaurant. Andy marries Cleo. While George and Daphne take a trip to Greece, Cleo and Andy change *George's* into a Greek-American restaurant. George is very angry, but the restaurant is popular. He changes his mind. Daphne dies. The family opens more restaurants, and then George has a heart attack. Cleo takes care of him.

## *Answer Key*

The “What Did You Read?” questions may sometimes be answered in more than one way. The answers given below should serve as guidelines for accepting the students’ answers. The answers to the “Word Play” exercise should be exactly as given in this answer key, except where specifically noted.

### *What Did You Read?*

1. to make money for his sister’s dowry.
2. He was a bootblack or shoeshine boy
3. to fight in a war
4. Chicago.
5. selling ice cream on the street / He bought a pushcart and sold ice cream.
6. church and family
7. One was in Greece and one was in America.
8. Andy wanted to open a restaurant.
9. because George wanted to be the boss, and Cleo had ideas of her own.
10. that his life was in Chicago, in America
11. three
12. Greece/his village

### *Word Play: One Heart or More?*

1. husband
2. houses
3. dollars
4. cents
5. pieces
6. women
7. place
8. shop
9. hearts.
10. children
11. tables
12. cheese
13. parents
14. airport
15. menus