

THE BOXED LUNCH

Ky was nervous about his first day in his new school. But he knew for sure he would like his lunch. It would be the same as his lunches in Japan, even though he now was in America.

In Japan, Ky always brought his lunch in a bento box, which was carefully packed with eye-catching foods. Ky loved the sausage that looked like a tiny octopus. Instead of carrot sticks, he had hard-boiled eggs that looked like baby chicks just hatching. And instead of tortilla chips, he had a rice ball covered with pieces of dried seaweed so that it looked like a soccer ball. ●

At lunchtime, when Ky's classmates began eating their lunches, someone said, "Ky, what did you bring for lunch?" ●

Ky opened his box slowly, not sure of what his new friends would think. But they were very interested. He explained each item and showed them how to eat with chopsticks. Some boys asked to try the chopsticks. Ky promised to bring some for everyone the next day. His new friends laughed. One friend said, "I wonder how they'll work with peanut butter and jelly sandwiches."

Skill Here are some clue words—*instead of*. What is being compared? Are they the same or different?

Strategy Here is a good place to stop and predict. What do you think Ky's new classmates will think of what he brought for lunch?