*The Pearl* Key

**Pages 14-15: Comprehension Check: Author Biography**

1. modest – humble or reserved; perceptive – insightful, understanding, and aware; intrigued – interested or curious; backdrop – an environment, surroundings, or setting; migrating – moving or shifting from one place or region to another; correspondent – a journalist, reporter, or writer; interaction – contact or communication; oscillated – moved to and fro, back and forth between; blockbuster – a work that is overly impressive or influential; relevance – significance or importance
2. his coastal birthplace; interest in and experiences with marine environments; working odd jobs alongside other workers experiencing hardships; observations on social inequality
3. the genuine feelings surrounding the unequal social and economic conditions of rural America; the importance and influence of environmental factors
4. He focused more on addressing social interaction and also valued entertainment as one of his goals after WWII.
5. *The Grapes of Wrath*
6. 6. He was awarded a Pulitzer Prize in 1940 for *The Grapes of Wrath* and a Nobel Prize for literature in 1962.
7. 7. “It was noted that not only was he able to depict real people in real situations, but he did so with a bit of humor, raw emotion, and a true understanding of the social experience at this time in history.”