Yugambeh Nation

Name: _____

Date: _____

AGES 11 TO 14

Kinship Detective

Yugambeh word	Meaning recorded in the dictionary
wadjung	mother, mother's sister
biyang	father, father's brother
ngaruny	aunt, father's sister
gawang	uncle (mother's brother)
ngadjang	grandfather, grandson
bahbuny	grandmother, grandchild
muyumgan	daughter, woman's sister's daughter, male's brother's daughter
nanahng	female's older sister, male's sister
banahm	female's brother, male's younger brother
gaguhng	male's older brother

Questions

1. In English, *aunt* can mean your mother's sister or your father's sister. Which Yugambeh word covers each of them?

2. Find two words that are used both for a grandparent and a grandchild. Why might the same word work in both directions?

3. Some words change depending on whether the speaker is male or female. Explain how **nanahng** and **banahm** work.

4. Look at **wadjung**, **biyang** and **muyumgan**. What pattern do you notice about brothers and sisters of the same sex as a parent?

5. Kinship decides how people relate to each other, and their roles and responsibilities. Why might it help a community to call your mother's sister by the same word as your mother?

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Yugambeh words: Margaret Sharpe, *Yugambeh dictionary*