

Vocabulary: Draw a line from each word on the left to its definition on the right. Then use the numbered words to fill in the blanks in the sentences below.

1. propriety
2. forlorn
3. cordial
4. indignation

- a. warm and friendly
- b. anger
- c. politeness; good manners
- d. sad

1. The teacher asked the class to give the new students a(n) _____ welcome so they would feel at home in their new country.
2. The child expressed great _____ when his parents blamed him for something he had not done.
3. John felt _____ when his best friend moved to another state.
4. Mother taught us that _____ was important in life, especially saying “please” and “thank you.”

Questions: Answer each question with a minimum of one complete sentence.

1. How does Papa express his love for his land?

2. What evidence suggests that Esperanza’s family is wealthy?

3. Why had Papa been warned about going out to work the cattle?

4. Why had Esperanza’s relationship with Miguel come to an end?

5. How does Papa’s death affect Esperanza and her family?

6. Why does Tio Luis want to marry Mama?

7. Why don't Mama and Esperanza discuss the cause of the fire?

8. How does Mama trick Tio Luis?

Literary Concepts: Symbolism – A symbol in literature is a person, object, or event that represents an idea or a set of ideas. What did Esperanza's trunk symbolize? What did its destruction symbolize?

Personification – Personification in literature refers to human qualities that an author grants (gives) to nonhuman objects. For example:

He gently touched a wild tendril that reached into the row,
as if it has been waiting to shake hands.

What is being personified?

How does it convey Papa's feelings about his vineyard?

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LAS GUAYABAS; LOS MELONES

Vocabulary: Antonyms are words with opposite meanings. Draw a line from each word in Column A to its antonym in Column B. Then use the words in Column A to fill in the blanks in the sentences below.

- | A | B |
|---------------|---------------|
| 1. monotonous | a. unfamiliar |
| 2. intimate | b. fresh |
| 3. stagnant | c. changing |

1. To avoid gossip, Josie shared her secrets only with her most _____ friends.
2. It is not safe to drink the water from a(n) _____ pool.
3. The _____ voice of the speaker caused many people in the audience to fall asleep.

Questions: Answer each question with a minimum of one complete sentence.

1. Why do Mama, Esperanza, and Hortensia have to leave at night hidden in a wagon?

2. Why does Esperanza's mother say, "Now we are peasants, too."

3. How does Mama convince the officials to let her cross the border?

4. Why does Miguel apologize to Esperanza for her cousin Isabel's comments?

5. How will Esperanza and her mother earn their living in California?

6. Why does Esperanza dislike Marta?

7. According to Isabel why do the farm workers of different nationalities live in separate camps?

Literary Elements: Symbolism –What was the symbolic importance of Esperanza’s inability to hear the earth’s “heartbeat” once she arrived in California?

Characterization – We may learn great deal about characters from his or her actions. Reread the section of the story that tells about Miguel and the thieves. Then fill in the chart below.

Miguel

ACTION	CHARACTER TRAIT

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LAS CEBOLLAS; LAS ALMENDRAS

Vocabulary: Word analogies are equations in which the first pair of words has the same relationship as the second pair of words. For example, TINY is to HUGE as EXCITING is to BORING. Both pair of words are opposites. Choose a word from the Word Box to complete each of the analogies below.

1. WRAP is to PRESENT as _____ is to INFANT.
2. GARBAGE is to _____ as PLAYTHING is to TOY.

Questions: Answer each question with a minimum of one complete sentence.

1. Why does Esperanza feel like a misfit?

2. How has mama’s appearance chanced since she left Mexico?

3. Why does Miguel decide to work in the fields instead of working on the railroad?

4. How is the mystery of the bundle that Miguel and Alfonso had to water at each train stop solved?

5. Why does Marta come to the *jamaica*?

Literary Elements: Symbolism –What do the roses symbolize?

What does the kitten that Marta holds symbolize?

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LAS CIREULAS; LAS PAPAS

Vocabulary: Use the words in the Word Box and the clues below to complete the crossword puzzle.

WORD BOX

atrocious

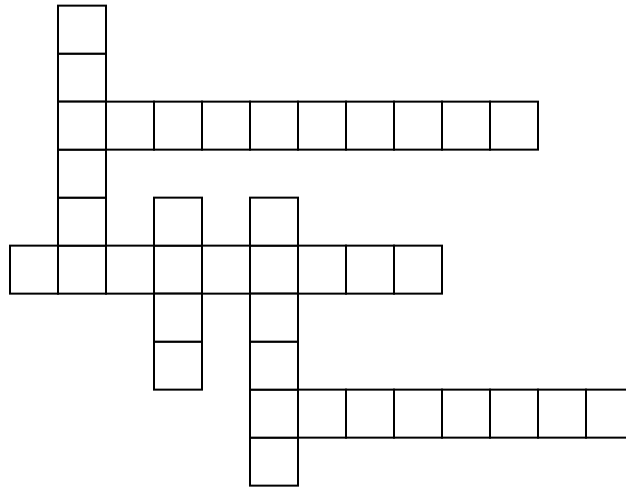
bereft

listless

nimble

regimented

roil



ACROSS

- 2. uniform
- 5. very unpleasant
- 6. too tired to care about anything

DOWN

- 1. deprived of something
- 3. disturb
- 4. light and quick

Questions: Answer each question with a minimum of one complete sentence.

1. Why is Esperanza left alone to care for the two babies?

2. Why do the babies become ill under Esperanza's care?

3. Why doesn't the strike take place?

4. Why is the dust storm so destructive?

5. How does Mama become ill? Why is Esperanza fearful after hearing the doctor's diagnosis?

6. Why does Esperanza continue working on the crocheted blanket that Abuelita has begun?

7. Why does Esperanza decide to work in the sheds?

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LOS AGUACATES; LOS ESPÁRRAGOS

Vocabulary: Use the context to determine the meaning of the underlined word in each of the following sentences. Then compare your own definition with a dictionary definition.

1. The cotton sheet was pulled taut over the mattress so that it would be free of wrinkles on the bed.

Your definition _____

Dictionary definition _____

2. As part of the wedding ceremony, rose petals from the flower girl's baskets were strewn all along the aisle.

Your definition _____

Dictionary definition _____

Questions: Answer each question with a minimum of one complete sentence.

1. What evidence reveals that Esperanza did good work in the shed cutting potatoes for planting?

2. Why is Esperanza told that she may not visit her mother in the hospital for one month?

3. Why are Marta and her mother living in conditions that are worse than those at Esperanza's camp?

4. Why does the strike become a time of opportunity for Miguel?

5. How does Miguel disagree with his father and insist that "things will get worse" for the workers?

6. What tactic does the government use to stop the strike?

Literary Elements: Symbolism –What does the change in Esperanza's hands symbolize?

What does the damaged piñata on the tree symbolize?

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LOS DURAZNOS; LAS UVAS

Vocabulary: Synonyms are words with similar meanings. Draw a line from each word in column A to its synonym in column B. Then use the words in column A to fill in the blanks in the sentences below.

- A
1. primly
 2. antiseptic
 3. buoyed

- B
- a. cheered
 - b. formally
 - c. germ-free

1. The walls and floors were scrubbed and the doctors' instruments were sterilized so that everything in the operating room was _____.
2. Lisa _____ called her babysitter "miss Wallace" instead of calling her "Cindy."
3. The hopes of the stranded victim of a boating accident were _____ when they saw the Coast Guard coming to their rescue.

Questions: Answer each question with a minimum of one complete sentence.

1. How does the arrival of the families from Oklahoma affect Esperanza and the other Mexicans at the camp?

2. Why does Esperanza give Isabel her porcelain doll and a bag of peaches?

3. How does Esperanza and Hortensia's family prepare for Mama's return from the hospital?

4. Why did Miguel take Esperanza's money?

5. Why is Abuelita amused when she sees the blanket she started and Esperanza has almost finished?

6. Why was it risky for Miguel to take Abuelita out of Mexico?

Literary Element: Theme – Theme in literature refers to the statement(s) about life the author is trying to get across to the reader. Often the theme is repeated in different parts of the book. For example: Papa says in Chapter One, “Wait a little while and the fruit will fall into your hand.” Toward the end of the book, this quote is repeated by both Miguel and Esperanza.

What does this quote mean?

How does this quote apply to Esperanza’s life?

How may it apply to other people’s lives?
