Esperanza Rising
by Pam Munoz Ryan

PreReading:

1. Predict what the story might be about just by hearing the title.

2. Predict what the story might be about by looking at the cover illustration.

Please answer the following questions in complete sentences.

1. Have you ever lost something that meant the world to you?

2. Would you ever be able to take care of your family if your parents died or got really sick?

3. Would you ever learn to live in a shack without running water or electricity?

4. Could you ever move to a new country with no money and completely start over?

5. Write descriptions of what makes a person strong and courageous. Determine whether such strength is emotional, spiritual, or physical; and if you can acquire it or are you born with it?
1. Who is telling the story?
   ______________________________________
   ______________________________________

2. What is the name of the ranch?
   ______________________________________
   ______________________________________

3. Who lives on the ranch?
   ______________________________________
   ______________________________________
   ______________________________________

4. What fruit does the ranch grow? ______________________________________
   ______________________________________

5. What is Esperanza about to celebrate and why is it important?
   ______________________________________
   ______________________________________
   ______________________________________

6. What did Papa promise to Esperanza? Did he keep his promise? _____________
   ______________________________________
   ______________________________________
   ______________________________________

7. What happened to Esperanza that was “bad luck?” Who agreed with Esperanza
   that is was bad luck? ______________________________________
   ______________________________________
   ______________________________________

8. Why was there resentment toward Mexican land owners? _________________
   ______________________________________
   ______________________________________
9. Abuelita is very wise. What does she do to keep her mind busy? What does she mean by “There is no rose without thorns.”

__________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________

10. Who are Alfonso, Hortensia, and Miguel?

__________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________

11. Who are Tio Luis and Tio Marco and what do they bring to Mama?

__________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________

12. What was brought back in the wagon?

__________________________________________________________________
As you read *Esperanza Rising*, you will notice many Spanish words and phrases. Please fill in the chart as you read.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spanish</th>
<th>English</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Cuidate los dedos</em></td>
<td>watch your fingers</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Vaqueros</em></td>
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<td><em>campesinos</em></td>
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<td><em>La cosecha</em></td>
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<td><em>Ole</em></td>
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<td><em>Fiesta</em></td>
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<td><em>Quinceaneras</em></td>
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<td><em>Las Mananitas</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Algun día</em></td>
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<td><em>Mi nieta</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>El jefe</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Companero</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Mi reina</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Un burro</em></td>
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</table>
Las Papayas (Papayas) Questions

Please answer the following questions with COMPLETE SENTENCES.

1. What did Esperanza dream about? Did it come true? Why or why not?
   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________

2. Who is Senor Rodriguez? What did he bring and for what occasion?
   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________

3. What was Esperanza’s favorite birthday food?
   ____________________________________________________________

4. How long did Papa’s funeral last?
   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________

5. Why didn’t Esperanza want to open her birthday presents?
   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________

6. What present did Papa give Esperanza every year?
   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________

7. Why does Esperanza compare Tio Luis and Tio Marco to la calabaza?
   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________
8. Why does Esperanza get angry when she sees Tio Luis wearing Papa’s belt buckle? How would you have felt? __________________________________________________________________________

9. What does Tio Luis ask of Mama? ______________________________________

10. What kinds of things could Tio Luis do to Mama because she refused to marry him? ______________________________________________________________

11. What did Mama get to keep after Papa died? What did Tio Luis and Tio Marco get to have? ______________________________________________________

12. Why is everyone so worried about getting money? ______________________

13. What did Abuelita say about rosehips? ________________________________

14. How is Papa different from other landowners in Mexico? _________________

15. What does Esperanza mean when she tells Miguel that they are on different sides of the river? _____________________________________________
Esperanza Rising  
by Pam Munoz Ryan

16. Find these words in Las Uvas and write the sentence that contains the word.

What do you think these words mean?

a. melodic (p. 23):

b. refined (p.26):

c. crocheting (p. 29):

d. indignation (p. 30):

e. reputation (p.36):

f. pervaded (p. 38):
As you read *Esperanza Rising*, you will notice many Spanish words and phrases. Please fill in the chart as you read.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spanish</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Un chal</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>La sala</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Que paso, nina?</em></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Mantilla</em></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>La calabaza</em></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
In the following activity, you will become a character in each situation and express yourself as if “you were there.” Pretend you are the character and tell what they see, smell, hear, touch, and feel.

**Activity:** After Papa’s death, Mama finds herself in a tough situation. She has lost her husband, her land, and has refused a powerful man what he wants. Mama has shown strength by telling Tio Luis she will not marry him, but it has put her, her family, and her servants in danger. Pretend you are Mama after telling Tio Luis no. What happened and how are you feeling?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time: ___________</th>
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</table>
Read the following sentences. Decide if the italicized part of the sentence tells you where, when, or how. Circle the correct choice.

1. Papa left the ranch at dawn. where when how
2. Esperanza and Miguel played in the rose garden. where when how
3. The wagon returned later that night. where when how
4. Esperanza watched carefully from her room. where when how
5. In the morning, Esperanza wished it was a dream. where when how
6. Tio Luis and Marco arrived quickly. where when how
7. The family went to the funeral to remember Papa. where when how
8. Esperanza talked with Miguel one morning. where when how
9. The roses grew on the vines. where when how
10. The men worked in the field. where when how
Esperanza Rising
by Pam Munoz Ryan
Los Higos (Figs) Questions

Please answer the following questions with COMPLETE SENTENCES.

1. What do you think Esperanza’s dream about the bear symbolizes? ________________
   _______________________________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________________

2. Why was Mama shaking Esperanza awake? __________________________
   _______________________________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________________

3. Why did Miguel have to go get Abuelita? ________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________________

4. What did the fire burn? _______________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________________

5. What was saved from the fire? _________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________________

6. Do you think Tio Luis and Tio Marco felt sorry for Esperanza, Mama, and
   Abuelita? Why or why not? _____________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________________

7. Why did Mama ask for Esperanza’s forgiveness with her eyes? Do you think
   Mama made the right decision? _________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________________

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8. What could Tio Luis and Tio Marco do if Mama refuses Tio Luis? ________________


9. What is Mama’s decision and how does it affect Esperanza? ________________


10. Why does Abuelita compare them to a phoenix? _____________________________


11. Why does Abuelita go to the convent (a place where nuns live)? _______________


12. What does Abuelita give to Esperanza and why does she give it to Esperanza? ___


13. What are the figs used for that Senor Rodriguez brings over? ________________


14. What did Esperanza take with her? ________________________________


15. What “looked as if someone had taken a giant comb, dipped it in black paint, and gently swirled it across a huge canvas?” ____________________________
Los Higos Vocabulary

Chose four of the following vocabulary words from chapters 4 and 5 and create vocabulary maps.

| waif   | valise | venom   | whimpered | cinder | plentiful |

1. **waif**
   - Definition: A child or person who is dependent on others for care.
   - Sentence: Esperanza was a waif in her small room.
   - Synonym: Orphan, homeless child.
   - Picture: A small child looking up at the sky.

2. **valise**
   - Definition: A suitcase or bag used for carrying clothes on a journey.
   - Sentence: She packed her valise with her favorite books.
   - Synonym: Luggage, baggage.
   - Picture: A small suitcase with wheels.

3. **venom**
   - Definition: A poisonous fluid caused by the bite or sting of certain animals or insects.
   - Sentence: The snake's bite released a venomous poison.
   - Synonym: Poison, poisonous.
   - Picture: A snake coiled up with its fangs extended.

4. **whimpered**
   - Definition: To make a soft sound like a whimper.
   - Sentence: The baby whimpered as she could not find her mother.
   - Synonym: Cried, sobbed.
   - Picture: A baby with a handkerchief in its mouth.

5. **cinder**
   - Definition: A piece of ash or other substance formed by the burning of a substance.
   - Sentence: The campfire left cinders scattered on the ground.
   - Synonym: Ash, embers.
   - Picture: A glowing ember from a bonfire.

6. **plentiful**
   - Definition: In great quantity or amount.
   - Sentence: The garden was plentiful with flowers.
   - Synonym: Abundant, copious.
   - Picture: A garden filled with blooming flowers.

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Sequencing Events
The events listed below are arranged in incorrect sequence. Write 1 in the blank before the event that happened first, 2 before the event that happened next, and so on.

________________ Mama and Esperanza get on a train car with peasants.

________________ Hortensia reassures Esperanza with a story.

________________ Mama makes a yarn doll for a little girl after Esperanza refuses to let her play with Esperanza’s doll.

________________ Miguel tells Esperanza “Those with Spanish blood, who have the fairest complexions in the land, are the wealthiest.”

________________ Esperanza, Mama, and Hortensia hid in a false floor under the wagon.

________________ Esperanza remembers Miguel’s reward of a train ride.

________________ Carmen gave Esperanza a piece of coconut candy.

________________ Senor Rodriguez let Esperanza, Mama, Miguel, Alfonso and Hortensia into the barn.

________________ Carmen gives the beggar some money.

________________ They arrive in the village of Zacatecas.
Los Guayabas Questions

Please answer the following questions with COMPLETE SENTENCES.

1. Where did Mama, Esperanza, and Hortensia hide? Do you think it is a good hiding place? Why or why not? ________________
   __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________

2. Why was it unsafe for the women to ride in the front of the wagon?
   __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________

3. What does Hortensia tell Esperanza to make her feel better? ________________
   __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________

4. What was Miguel’s reward from Papa? What does Papa buy for Esperanza and Miguel? ________________
   __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________

5. Describe the train car Esperanza rides in. ________________
   __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________
6. What does the peasant girl want from Esperanza? What is Mama’s reaction to Esperanza’s attitude? ________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

7. What do you think Alfonso and Miguel are hiding? What do they keep doing with the package? ________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

8. Why is Miguel excited to go to the United States? ______________________

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

9. Who is the woman with the hens and why is she important? ______________

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

10. What do you think will happen next? _________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________
As you read *Esperanza Rising*, you will notice many Spanish words and phrases. Please fill in the chart as you read.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spanish</th>
<th>English</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mija</td>
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<tr>
<td>Raton</td>
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<td>Rebozo</td>
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<td>Carpetas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mona</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Gracias</td>
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<tr>
<td>De nada</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pepinos</td>
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<tr>
<td>Una palanca</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Dulces</td>
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<tr>
<td>Buena suerte</td>
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</table>
Los Melones (Cantaloupes) Questions

Please answer the following questions with COMPLETE SENTENCES.

1. Where did Esperanza finally get off of the train? _______________________
   ______________________________________________________________________

2. Why were people getting on trains back toward Mexico? _________________
   ______________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________

3. Where did the family get off the train for good?  Who was there to meet them?
   ______________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________

4. Why is Isabel so impressed with Esperanza? ____________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________

5. Why did Isabel's family have to live in a tent at one time? _______________
   ______________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________

6. Why do you think Esperanza can't hear the heartbeat of the valley? _________
   ______________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________

7. Describe the San Joaquin Valley: _____________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________

8. Why can they take the melons from the fields? __________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________
9. Who is Marta? What do you think of her? ____________________________
   ____________________________
   ____________________________
   ____________________________
   ____________________________
   ____________________________
   ____________________________
   ____________________________

10. Why is Marta critical of Papa? ________________________________
    _________________________________
    _________________________________
    _________________________________
    _________________________________

11. Why does Marta want the people to strike? ______________________
    __________________________________________________________________

12. Find these words in *Los Melones* and write the sentence that contains the word. What do you think these words mean?
   a. jalopy (p.88)
   b. cherubs (p.88)
   c. hillock (p.95)
   d. finery (p.96)
Los Melones Questions

Some of the following sentences are statements of fact. Some of the statements are of opinion. In the blank before each sentence, write the letter F if that sentence is a statement of fact. Write O if that sentence is a statement of opinion.

1. Esperanza and Mama were very dirty from their trip on the train.  
2. Esperanza was nervous waiting in line.  
3. Esperanza and Mama are from Aguascalientes.  
4. Mama was angry at the man for asking so many questions.  
5. It is sad that some people could not get through immigration.  
6. Alfonso and Miguel found water for their package.  
7. Esperanza slept well on the train.  
8. The twins names are Juan and Josefina.  
9. Isabel is annoying.  
10. Esperanza did not like Isabel.  
11. Mama brought the two red chickens with her.  
12. Chicken eggs are good to make with burritos.  
13. The valley looked beautiful from the truck.  
14. The grass was prickly.  
15. Left over melons taste worse than melons from a store.  
16. Picking leftover melons is hard work.  
17. Marta has short, black, and curly hair.  
18. Marta is mean to Esperanza because she is jealous.  
19. The campesinos do not have hot water.  
20. Esperanza does not like Marta.
As you read *Esperanza Rising*, you will notice many Spanish words and phrases. Please fill in the chart as you read.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spanish</th>
<th>English</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Campesino</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arroyo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jamaica</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Entiendes</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Las Cebollas (Onions) Questions

Please answer the following questions with COMPLETE SENTENCES.

1. Describe the camp that Esperanza comes to live in._______________________
   ______________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________

2. Describe Esperanza’s new house. How is it different from her old house? ____
   ______________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________

3. Why does Esperanza still consider herself to be rich? ________________
   ______________________________________________________________________

4. What are Esperanza’s jobs at the camp? ________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________

5. Who are Irene and Melina? _________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________________

6. Esperanza learns many things from Isabel. List 4 things that you think are the
   MOST important for Esperanza to learn.
   a.)
   b.)
   c.)
   d.)
7. Draw a picture of what happened when Esperanza went to sweep the platform:
As you read *Esperanza Rising*, you will notice many Spanish words and phrases. Please fill in the chart as you read.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spanish</th>
<th>English</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>De veras?</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Café</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Chorizo</em></td>
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<td><em>Un burrito de frijoles</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>La Cenicienta</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Mi reina</em></td>
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</table>
Español Números

En Esperanza Rising, estamos continuamente aprendiendo nuevos vocabularios en español. Esperanza ha llegado a un nuevo país donde debe aprender nuevas cultura y costumbres.

Usa tu conocimiento matemático para encontrar las palabras españolas a continuación para los números uno (1) a diez (10). Usa las pistas para escribir la palabra española al lado del número en el fondo de la página.

Pistas

- CINCO es un número impar entre 3 y 7
- 3 x (5-4) = TRES
- 14-5 = NUEVE
- SEIS x SEIS = 36
- DOS x DOS = 4
- 2 x DOS = CUATRO
- TRES + CUATRO = SIETE
- DOS x CUATRO = OCHO
- UNO + 9 = DIEZ

1. _________________________  6. _________________________
2. _________________________  7. _________________________
3. _________________________  8. _________________________
4. _________________________  9. _________________________
5. _________________________ 10. _________________________
Las Almendras (Almonds) Questions

Please answer the following questions with COMPLETE SENTENCES.

1. In what way was Esperanza hurt from her first day at work? How is this different from the rest of the family? ________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________

2. What was Miguel and Alfonso’s surprise? __________________________
   __________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________

3. Why hadn’t Esperanza taken a bath since she left Augascalientes? _________
   __________________________________________________________________

4. Why was Esperanza afraid to go the jamaica? What finally made her decide to go? _______________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________

5. Describe the fiesta. __________________________
   __________________________________________________________________

6. What does Esperanza ask Josephina for? __________________________
   __________________________________________________________________

7. Why does Marta compare the workers to the kittens? _________________
   __________________________________________________________________

8. Why are so many people looking for work on farms? _________________
   __________________________________________________________________
9. Do you think it would be good or bad for the workers to strike? Defend your answer. _________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

10. What will Esperanza pray for at church? What does this tell us about her? __
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
As you read *Esperanza Rising*, you will notice many Spanish words and phrases. Please fill in the chart as you read.

<table>
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<tbody>
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<td>Andale</td>
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<tr>
<td>Agua de Jamaica</td>
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<tr>
<td>Huelga</td>
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</table>
Please answer the following questions with **COMPLETE SENTENCES**.

1. Describe Esperanza’s first morning alone with Pepe and Lupe.

2. What did Esperanza do to make the babies feel better?

   __________________________________________________________

3. List Esperanza’s daily schedule:

4. What is the reason that some people strike and some keep working?

   __________________________________________________________

5. Describe the dust storm. Why is it so dangerous?

   __________________________________________________________

   __________________________________________________________
6. What happened to Mama? __________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________

7. What is Valley Fever? ____________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________

8. Read over the description of the dust storm carefully; then draw a picture to
   show what it looks like based upon the description in the book:
As you read *Esperanza Rising*, you will notice many Spanish words and phrases. Please fill in the chart as you read.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Spanish</th>
<th>English</th>
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<td><em>Rapido</em></td>
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<td><em>Una tormenta de polvo</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Mi gata</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Manana</em></td>
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Las Papa (Potatoes) Questions

Read the following sentences. Explain in your own words the meaning of the italicized word or group of words. Write your response on the line below.

1. Esperanza worried the strikers might turn on her.

________________________________________________________________

2. It seemed like a lifetime ago since Papa had died.

________________________________________________________________

3. The fine brown powder had found its way deep inside the trunk.

________________________________________________________________

4. The crocheting was only a few hands wide.

________________________________________________________________

5. Esperanza stared straight into the alley of light made from the truck’s headlamps.

________________________________________________________________

6. Esperanza was holding back tears.

________________________________________________________________

7. A thick tule ground fog that hugged the earth settled in the valley.

________________________________________________________________

8. She turned to the wall, yearning for the holidays of the past.

________________________________________________________________


________________________________________________________________
Las Papas (Potatoes) Questions

Please answer the following questions with COMPLETE SENTENCES.

1. What is happening to Mama?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

2. What does Esperanza think will help Mama and why?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

3. Compare what is happening to Mama to the blanket.

________________________________________________________________________

4. Why is Mama depressed?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

5. What does Esperanza decide to do to help herself and Mama?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

6. Describe what Esperanza is wearing to work in the sheds. How does she get her clothing?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
7. Reread the description of the packing shed on page 168. Draw a picture showing what it looks like.

8. Describe the process for cutting potato eyes:

________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

9. Why is Marta not allowed to stay with her aunt and uncle?

________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

10. What does Esperanza think of Marta’s plans?

________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

11. What is Esperanza’s Christmas wish?

________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

12. Choose 4 of the following vocabulary words to make vocabulary maps:

| needlework | intent | grotto | charity | repatriation | nativity |

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<td>La Navidad</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feliz Navidad</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Catedral</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Atole de chocolate</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Un cuento de hadas</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>La patrona</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Las Papas

Draw one of the scenes the author describes in Las Papas. Write YOUR OWN description of what you have drawn. Be sure to use complete sentences.

______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
1. What is Esperanza’s life like now? ______________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
2. What did Hortencia do to help Esperanza’s hands? ______________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
3. How would you have felt if you were Esperanza when the doctor told her Mama had pneumonia? _____________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
4. Why did Hortensia want Esperanza to go to the grocery store? __________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
5. Why does the family go to Mr. Yakota’s store instead of the others? ______
____________________________________________________________________
6. Why do you think Miguel said people see Mexicans as “one big, brown group who are good for only manual labor?” _____________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
7. What does Esperanza buy as a treat for Mama? _________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
8. Where do Marta and her mother live? ________________________________

9. Why does Marta change her mind about Esperanza?

________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

10. What good news does Miguel share with the family? Do you think it is good or bad and why? _________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
As you read *Esperanza Rising*, you will notice many Spanish words and phrases. Please fill in the chart as you read.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spanish</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Por favor</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Que Buena suerte</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Gracias</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Los Esparragos (Asparagus) Questions

A synonym is a word having the same or nearly the same meaning as another word. Choose a synonym for each word in the Word List. Write the synonym on the blank.

1. begin __________________________
2. sound __________________________
3. wise ____________________________
4. cry _____________________________
5. pluck ____________________________
6. frighten __________________________
7. protect __________________________
8. starve ___________________________
9. struck ____________________________
10. slither ___________________________
11. paces ____________________________
12. mend ____________________________
13. wound ____________________________
14. dawn ____________________________
15. held ____________________________

**Word List**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>weep</th>
<th>hit</th>
<th>steps</th>
<th>scare</th>
<th>hungry</th>
<th>glide</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>start</td>
<td>smart</td>
<td>fix</td>
<td>injure</td>
<td>guard</td>
<td>daybreak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>grasped</td>
<td>pick</td>
<td>noise</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Los Esparragos (Asparagus) Questions

Please answer the following questions with COMPLETE SENTENCES.

1. Why is Esperanza so worried about the striker’s efforts? __________________
   ___________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________

2. List the things the strikers did to those who did not strike.
   a) __________________
   b) __________________
   c) __________________
   d) __________________
   e) __________________

3. Would you be afraid of the strikers? Why or why not?____________________
   ___________________________________________________________________

4. What happened to stop the strikers from striking? _______________________
   ___________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________

5. Do you think it is fair that this happened? Why or why not? _______________
   ___________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________

6. What did Esperanza discover hiding in a corner? _______________________
   ___________________________________________________________________
7. Why do you think Esperanza did not turn Marta into the officials? __________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

8. How was the striker’s camp different from before the deportation? __________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

9. Draw a picture of what the camp now looks like:
As you read *Esperanza Rising*, you will notice many Spanish words and phrases. Please fill in the chart as you read.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spanish</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Americana</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>La Migra</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gracias</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Los Duraznos (*Peaches*) Questions

1. Choose 4 of the following words and make vocabulary maps.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>word</th>
<th>synonym</th>
<th>picture</th>
<th>definition</th>
<th>sentence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>posy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>devoutly</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>barracks</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>irrigation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>anxiety</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>relapse</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Los Duranznos (Peaches) Questions

Please answer the following questions with COMPLETE SENTENCES.

1. Why is Isabel praying at the washtub grotto? __________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________

2. Why is it unlikely that Isabel will get her wish? _________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________

3. How is the camp for the Oklahoma people different from Esperanza’s camp?
   ___________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________

4. What happened to Miguel and his job? ________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________

5. What is Esperanza’s reaction to Miguel losing his job? Why do you think she
   reacted this way? _________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________

6. What happened to Miguel after he and Esperanza fought? _________________
   ___________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________

7. Why was Isabel waiting for Esperanza? ________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________

8. How does Esperanza react to Isabel’s news? ____________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________
9. What does Esperanza do for Isabel to make her feel better? ________________
_____________________________________________________________________

10. What good news does Esperanza receive about Mama? ________________
_____________________________________________________________________

11. Describe the preparations Hortensia and Josephina made for Mama. _________
_____________________________________________________________________

12. What happened to Esperanza’s money orders? What would you have done in
the situation? __________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________

13. What do you think will happen next?
Las Uvas (Grapes) Questions

Please answer the following questions with COMPLETE SENTENCES.

1. Why was Esperanza mad at Miguel? How would you have felt? 
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

2. What fruit did the women have to sort? 
________________________________________________________________

3. What is Esperanza’s favorite fruit and why? 
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

4. What does Alfonso come to tell Esperanza? 
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

5. Is Esperanza excited to see Miguel? Why or why not? 
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

6. Miguel did not bring Esperanza back her money orders. What did he bring her instead? Is this a better or worse gift? Why? 
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

7. What is Mama’s reaction to the surprise? 
________________________________________________________________
8. Describe how Abuelita traveled to the camp.
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________

9. How did Esperanza tell Abuelita her story? _______________________________
____________________________________________________________________

10. What did Esperanza ask Miguel for her birthday? Why did she want this gift?
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________

11. What was Esperanza’s big realization? _________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________

12. In the following space, write a letter to Esperanza, and tell her how you feel
about her and what she has gone through.
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
Esperanza Rising
by Pam Munoz Ryan

The chapter titles in *Esperanza Rising* are the names of fruits and vegetables. Each fruit or vegetable appears in that chapter and symbolizes something important. Write about each fruit or vegetable in the chart below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter Title/Food</th>
<th>How does the food appear in the story?</th>
<th>What does the fruit symbolize?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Uvas</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Papayas</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Higos</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guayabas</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melones</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cebollas</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Almendras</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ciruelas</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Papas</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aguacates</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Esparragos</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duraznos</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uvas</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The first and last chapters are named with the same fruit—grapes. Why do you think the author chose to name these chapters the same title?