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# Building Background Knowledge and Supporting Vocabulary Development in English Language Learners/Multilingual Language Learners: Grade 5 Exemplars 

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## Grade 5: Esperanza Rising

https://www.engageny.org/resource/grade-5-ela-module-1-unit-2

| Overview |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| Background 1: <br> The Great Depression of the 1930s | American Institutes for Research (AIR) developed this activity to provide students with background information on the Great Depression-the time period in which Esperanza Rising takes place. <br> INSTRUCTIONS FOR TEACHERS <br> - Turn to Expeditionary Learning: Grade 5: Module 1: Unit 2: Lesson 1. <br> - Before beginning the lesson, complete the background activity called "The Great Depression of the 1930s," which AIR has provided on the following pages. |
| Background 2: <br> Historical Fiction | AIR developed this activity to provide students with background information on historical fiction before they read Esperanza Rising. The lesson provides a definition of historical fiction and examples that demonstrate why Esperanza Rising is historical fiction. <br> INSTRUCTIONS FOR TEACHERS <br> - Turn to Expeditionary Learning: Grade 5: Module 1: Unit 2: Lesson 1. <br> - Before beginning the lesson, complete the background activity called "Historical Fiction," which AIR has provided on the following pages. |
| Glossary of key vocabulary: Esperanza Rising | This glossary provides definitions and sample sentences for key vocabulary drawn from Chapters 1 and 2 of Esperanza Rising. The quartile from the list of the 4,000 most frequent words is also provided, where applicable. Glossed words include those identified in the Expeditionary Learning materials and those identified by AIR staff as key to understanding the text. |

## Background 1: The Great Depression of the 1930s

## The Great Depression of the 1930 s

The book Esperanza Rising is about a young girl from Mexico. The story starts in 1924, when Esperanza lived on her family's farm in Mexico. She had a good life until her father was killed and their family lost everything. In the1930s, Esperanza and her family moved to the United States to work on farms in California. Before reading Esperanza Rising, we are going to learn about what happened in the United States and California during this time. In this lesson, we are going to learn about the Great Depression.

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR STUDENTS

- Look at the guiding question.
- Read the text about the Great Depression.
- Use the glossary to help you understand new words.
- Answer the supplementary questions.
- Answer the guiding question.
- Discuss your answers with the class.

Guiding Question: What were the effects of the Great Depression?


A farm in Kansas during the "dust bowl" $(1936)^{1}$


A migrant farmworker's family (1939) ${ }^{2}$

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|  |
| :--- | :--- |
| The Great Depression was a time in history |
| when the economy stopped working. A lot of |
| people lost their jobs, their houses, and all of |
| their money. A lot of people were very poor. | | charitable organizations - organizations that |
| :--- |
| collect food and clothing to help people in need |
| dust storms - strong winds that carry loose |
| sand and dirt |

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Guiding Question: How did the Great Depression affect Mexican farmworkers?


Mexican farm workers in California (1938) ${ }^{6}$

The Great Depression was especially difficult for Mexican farmworkers.

Before the Great Depression, Mexicans had been working on farms in California and Texas for many years. They were paid little money and they had to work very hard for many hours.

During the Great Depression, there were very few jobs. White trade unions organized strikes. They complained that Mexican immigrants were taking their jobs. The U.S. government removed approximately 82,000 Mexicans from the United States. Workers with Mexican backgrounds (citizens and noncitizens) were sent to Mexico. ${ }^{8}$


Living conditions in the Mexican section of San Antonio, Texas (1939) ${ }^{7}$

## Glossary

complained - said they were not happy about something
Great Depression - a period of economic difficulty in the United States
immigrants - people who move to another country
strikes - protests; work stoppages
trade unions - organizations of workers

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## Background 2: Historical Fiction

## Historical Fiction

The book Esperanza Rising is an example of historical fiction. The story is not real, but it is based on real places and events in history. We can learn about how people lived in the past by reading historical fiction.
INSTRUCTIONS FOR STUDENTS

- Look at the guiding question.
- Read the text about historical fiction.
- Use the glossary to help you understand new words.
- Answer the supplementary questions.
- Answer the guiding question.
- Discuss your answers with the class.

Guiding Question: In what ways is Esperanza Rising an example of historical fiction?

History is a description of real places, people, and events from the past. Fiction is an imaginary story. Historical fiction is an imaginary story based on real places, people, and events from the past.

The book Esperanza Rising is historical fiction.

The characters and plot in Esperanza Rising are not real. The main character is a Mexican girl named Esperanza. The book tells the story of Esperanza and her family when they moved to California to work on farms.

The setting is based on real events in history. The story takes place in Mexico and California in the 1930s during the Great Depression.

## Glossary

based on - related to characters*9 - people in a story events - things that happen in a story

Great Depression - a period of economic difficulty in the United States
imaginary - not real; existing only in the mind
plot - actions in a story setting* - the place and time of a story

| Word Bank |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| past | imaginary | true |  |  |
| Supplementary Questions |  |  |  |  |

1. What is historical fiction?

Historical fiction is an $\qquad$ story based on real people or events in the
$\qquad$ . [EN, EM]

[^3]Historical fiction is [TR]
2. Are the characters in the story Esperanza Rising real?

The characters in the story $\qquad$ (are/are not) real. [EN, EM]

The characters are $\qquad$ . [TR]
3. Is the plot of Esperanza Rising real?

The plot of the story $\qquad$ (is/is not) real. [EN, EM]

The events in the story are $\qquad$ . [TR]
4. Is the setting of the story Esperanza Rising real?

The setting of the story $\qquad$ (is/is not) real. [EN, EM]

The setting of the story is $\qquad$ . [TR]
5. What is the historical setting for Esperanza Rising?

The historical setting for Esperanza Rising is the $\qquad$ . [EN, EM]

The historical setting is $\qquad$ . [TR]

Response to Guiding Question: In what ways is Esperanza Rising an example of historical fiction?

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Glossary of key vocabulary: Esperanza Rising ${ }^{10}$

| Vocabulary <br> word | Quartile | Definition | Sample sentence from the text |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| admired <br> admiró | Q4 | liked | Esperanza stood between Mama <br> and Papa, with her arms linked to <br> theirs, and admired the activity of <br> the workers (pg. 6). |
| adored* <br> adoraban | N/A | loved | Or without being surrounded by <br> people who adored her (pg. 8). |
| alive <br> viva | Q1 | having life; not dead | "Our land is alive, Esperanza," <br> said Papa, taking her small hand as <br> they walked through the gentle <br> slopes of the vineyard (pg. 1). |
| bandits* <br> bandidos | N/A | robbers | "Mama, the neighbors warned him <br> just last night about bandits" (pg. <br> 11). |
| beacon* <br> rayo | N/A | light | They hurried to the courtyard and <br> watched a distant light, a small <br> beacon of hope swaying in the <br> darkness (pg. 21). |
| beat <br> ritmo | Q2 | a regular sound | The beat rushing in her ears (pg. <br> 2). |
| blade <br> cuchilla | Q4 | a tool that cuts | The short blade was curved like a <br> scythe, its fat wooden handle <br> fitting snugly in her palm (pg. 4). |
| capricious <br> caprichos | N/A | acting on impulse | But Esperanza loved her more for <br> her capricious ways than for her <br> propriety (pg. 13). |
| cautiously* <br> cuidadosamente | N/A | taking care to avoid danger | Then she cautiously clipped the <br> blown rose that had wounded her <br> (pg. 9). |
| clusters <br> racimos | N/A | small groups | The clusters were heavy on the <br> vine and ready to deliver (pg. 5). |
| companion <br> compañero | Q4 | one who spends time with another | Alfonso, Hortensia's husband, was <br> el jefe, the boss, of all the field <br> workers and Papa's compañero, <br> his close friend and companion <br> (pg. 16). |
| complained <br> se quejó | Q4 | said she was not happy with something | Esperanza complained, "Must we <br> always crochet to take our minds <br> off worry?" (pg. 13). |

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| Vocabulary word | Quartile | Definition | Sample sentence from the text |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| crochet* hooks <br> agujas de <br> ganchillo o <br> croché | N/A | needles with a hook at one end | "Come, mi nieta, my granddaughter," said Abuelita, holding up yarn and crochet hooks (pg. 12). |
| deliver entregar | Q3 | to produce | The clusters were heavy on the vine and ready to deliver (pg. 5). |
| discuss discutir | Q2 | talk | They still had two more years to wait, but so much to discuss- the beautiful white gowns they would wear, the big celebrations where they would be presented, and the sons of the richest families who would dance with them (pg. 7). |
| distinguished* distinguida | Q4 | dignified appearance | She looked very distinguished, wearing a respectable black dress, the same gold loops she wore every day (pg. 13). |
| distracted distraída | N/A | not paying attention | Distracted, Mama paced at the window, each step making a hollow tapping sound on the tile floor (pg. 18). |
| gathered reunido | Q2 | brought together | Everyone who lived and worked on El Rancho de las Rosas was gathered at the edge of the field (pg. 4). |
| gazing* contemplando | N/A | looking at someone or something for a long time | Esperanza was six years old and loved to walk with her Papa through the winding rows, gazing up at him and watching his eyes dance with love for the land (pg. 1). |
| generations generaciones | Q2 | groups of people born and living during the same time | He loved the land as Papa did and it had been the two of them, working side by side, who had resurrected the neglected rose garden that had been in the family for generations (pg. 16). |
| gentle slopes* <br> ligeras <br> pendientes | Q2 <br> (gentle) <br> Q3 <br> (slopes) | small hills | "Our land is alive, Esperanza," said Papa, taking her small hand as they walked through the gentle slopes of the vineyard (pg. 1). |
| glanced ojeó | Q3 | looked quickly | When she walked toward the arbors and glanced back at her parents, they both smiled and nodded, encouraging her forward (pg. 5). |

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| Vocabulary word | Quartile | Definition | Sample sentence from the text |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| gowns trajes | N/A | long, formal dresses | They still had two more years to wait, but so much to discuss-the beautiful white gowns they would wear, the big celebrations where they would be presented, and the sons of the richest families who would dance with them (pg. 7). |
| grasped <br> sujetó | N/A | took hold with her hands | When she reached the vines, she separated the leaves and carefully grasped a thick stem (pg. 5). |
| grief <br> dolor | N/A | great sadness | A noise came from her mouth and slowly, her first breath of grief grew into a tormented cry (pg. 22). |
| harvest cosecha | Q3 | collecting crops | "¡La cosecha!" said Papa. <br> "Harvest!" (pg. 6) |
| honor honor | Q2 | a special opportunity to do something that makes you proud | This job was usually reserved for the eldest son of a wealthy rancher, but since Esperanza was an only child and Papa's pride and glory, she was always given the honor (pg. 4) |
| host invitará | Q3 | serve guests in a home | Abuelita might host a group of ladies for a formal tea in the afternoon, then after they had gone, be found wandering barefoot in the grapes, with a book in her hand, quoting poetry to the birds (pg. 13). |
| imagine imaginar | Q1 | think of | Because she couldn't imagine living anywhere other than El Rancho de las Rosas (pg. 8). |
| knelt down arrodilló | N/A | put one or both knees on the floor | Esperanza smoothed her dress and knelt down (pg. 2). |
| lopsided* asimétricas |  | uneven | The tops of her mountains were lopsided and the bottoms of her valleys were all bunched up (pg. 14-15). |
| moment momento | Q1 | a very short period of time | She swallowed her laughter and after a moment said, "I can't hear it, Papi" (pg. 2). |
| neglected abandonado | N/A | not given enough attention or care | He loved the land as Papa did and it had been the two of them, working side by side, who had resurrected the neglected rose garden that had been in the family for generations (pg. 16). |

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| Vocabulary word | Quartile | Definition | Sample sentence from the text |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| opposite opuesto | Q2 | completely different | Esperanza watched the two women look out into the dark and couldn't help but think that Hortensia was almost the opposite of Mama (pg. 15). |
| paced caminaba de un lado a otro | N/A | walked back and forth | Distracted, Mama paced at the window, each step making a hollow tapping sound on the tile floor (pg. 18). |
| palm palma | Q3 | the inside part of the hand | The short blade was curved like a scythe, its fat wooden handle fitting snugly in her palm (pg. 4). |
| patient paciente | Q2 | stay calm | You must be patient, Esperanza" (pg. 2). |
| premonition* <br> premonición | N/A | a sign; warning | She quickly wrapped her hand in the corner of her apron and dismissed the premonition (pg. 89). |
| property* propiedad | Q1 | a piece of land | Her father was a fruit rancher and they lived on the neighboring property (pg. 7). |
| propriety* <br> decencia | N/A | appropriate behavior | But Esperanza loved her more for her capricious ways than for her propriety (pg. 13). |
| resentment* resentimiento | N/A | a feeling of anger about someone | They both knew that even though it was 1930 and the revolution in Mexico had been over for ten years, there was still resentment against the large landowners (pg. 12). |
| resounding* resonante | N/A | making a loud, clear sound | A resounding thud, thud, thud against her body (pg. 2). |
| searching mirando | Q2 | looking | There she found Mama searching the horizon, too (pg. 10). |
| selfimportance* prepotencia | N/A | an exaggerated sense of one's own value | In a moment of self-importance, Esperanza had told all of this to Miguel (pg. 18). |
| servants sirvientes | Q3 | people whose job is to clean and cook | Esperanza's family, the house servants in their long white aprons, the vaqueros already sitting on their horses ready to ride out to the cattle, and fifty or sixty campesinos, straw hats in their hands, holding their own knives ready (pg. 4). |

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| Vocabulary word | Quartile | Definition | Sample sentence from the text |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| shiver tiritar | N/A | to shake because you are afraid | And for that reason, Tío Luis's sudden kindness made her shiver with fear for Papa (pg. 20). |
| silent silenciosa | Q2 | not speaking or making noise | She waited and lay silent, watching Papa's eyes (pg. 2). |
| stared miró fijamente | Q2 | looked at for a long time | She stared at Papa, not wanting to say a word (pg. 2). |
| struggled se movía con dificultad | Q2 | had difficulty | Esperanza struggled with her stitches (pg. 21). |
| stubbornly* obstinadamente | N/A | not changing her ideas | "No, I won't," Esperanza had said stubbornly (pg. 17). |
| superstition* <br> superstición | N/A | a belief that is not based on a fact | "Bad luck," said Mama, confirming the superstition, but she half-smiled (pg. 10). |
| swept extendió | Q3 | touched lightly | He swept his hand towards the grapevines, signaling Esperanza (pg. 5). |
| sympathetic* compasivo | N/A | shows understanding | Papa is sympathetic and has given land to many of his workers (pg. 12). |
| teasing <br> burlas | N/A | making fun of | There was no teasing or laughing or talking about every little thing (pg. 18). |
| thumping* ruido sordo | N/A | beating; striking with a heavy, dull sound | And then she felt it. Softly at first. A gentle thumping. Then stronger (pg. 2). |
| tormented* <br> tormentoso | N/A | painful | A noise came from her mouth slowly, her first breath of grief grew into a tormented cry (pg. 22). |
| twisted up enrollado | Q3 | turned up | Esperanza's parents, Ramona and Sixto Ortega, stood nearby, Mama tall and elegant, her hair in the usual braided wreath that crowned her head, and Papa, barely taller than Mama, his graying mustache twisted up at the sides (pg. 5). |
| vicious* cruel | N/A | dangerous | She bent over to pick a red bloom, fully opened, and pricked her finger on a vicious thorn (pg. 8). |
| vineyard* <br> viñedo | N/A | a field where grapes are grown | "Our land is alive, Esperanza," said Papa, taking her small hand as they walked through the gentle slopes of the vineyard (pg. 1). |

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| Vocabulary <br> word | Quartile | Definition | Sample sentence from the text |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| wealthy <br> rico | Q3 | having a lot of money; rich | This job was usually reserved for <br> the eldest son of a wealthy <br> rancher, but since Esperanza was <br> an only child and Papa's pride and <br> glory, she was always given the <br> honor (pg. 4). |
| winding* rows <br> lineas <br> serpenteantes | Q4 <br> (winding) <br> Q2 <br> (rows) | long, curving lines | Esperanza was six years old and <br> loved to walk with her Papa <br> through the winding rows, gazing <br> up at him and watching his eyes <br> dance with love for the land (pg. <br> 1). |
| worry <br> preocupación | Q2 | fear | Darkness would settle quickly and <br> a feeling of uneasiness and worry <br> nagged at her (pg. 9). |

# The Most Beautiful Roof in the World 

https://www.engageny.org/resource/grade-5-ela-module-2a

| Overview |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| Background 1: <br> The Rainforest | American Institutes for Research (AIR) developed this activity to provide background about rainforests, and the plants and animals that inhabit it. <br> INSTRUCTIONS FOR TEACHERS <br> - Turn to Expeditionary Learning: Grade 5: Module 1: Unit 2: Lesson 1. <br> - Before beginning the lesson, complete the background activity called "The Rainforest," which AIR has provided below. |
| Background 2: Picture Walk | AIR developed this activity to familiarize students with the pictures in the book The Most Beautiful Roof in the World. ELLs/MLLs will need to connect the pictures with the text to assist them with reading comprehension. To complete this lesson, students must use the book. Have the students number the pages in the book starting with the first page of text. <br> INSTRUCTIONS FOR TEACHERS <br> - Turn to Expeditionary Learning: Grade 5: Module 1: Unit 2: Lesson 1. <br> - Follow the instructions for the Opening and Work Time Part A. <br> - Complete the background activity called "The Rainforest," which AIR has provided below. <br> - Follow the instructions for Work Time Parts B and C, Closing and Assessment, and Homework from the Expeditionary Learning materials. |
| Glossary of key vocabulary: The Most Beautiful Roof in the World | This glossary provides definitions and sample sentences for key vocabulary drawn from The Most Beautiful Roof in the World (Module 2A: Unit 2: Lessons 1-7). The quartile from the list of the 4,000 most frequent words is also provided, where applicable. Glossed words include those identified in the Expeditionary Learning materials and those identified by AIR staff as key to understanding the text. |

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## Background 1: The Rainforest

| The Rainforest |
| :--- |
| The book The Most Beautiful Roof in the World is an informational text that tells how Meg |
| Lowman explored and studied a rainforest in Belize. In preparation for reading The Most |
| Beautiful Roof in the World, we are going to learn about rainforests, and the plants and animals |
| that live there. |
| INSTRUCTIONS FOR STUDENTS |
| - Look at the guiding question. |
| - Read the text about the rainforest in Belize. |
| - Use the glossary to help you understand new words. |
| - Answer the supplementary questions. |
| - Answer the guiding question. |
| - Discuss your answers with the class. |

Guiding Question: What is a rainforest?

Belize is a country in Central America. It shares borders with Mexico in the north, with Guatemala on the west and south, and the Caribbean ocean on the east.


Most of the country consists of subtropical jungles or rainforests. Rainforests are warm and get a lot of rain.

## Glossary

jungle - land covered with many trees, vines, and bushes
explored - traveled to discover or search for something
wildlife - animals that live in their natural home
species* ${ }^{11}$ - a group of living things that are the same
tropical - living in hot, wet climate areas
reptiles - animals whose body temperature depends on the air or water around it

[^5]

Meg Lowman explored the Blue Creek in Belize.
The Blue Creek is home to a many forms of wildlife. It has many species of tropical trees, plants and flowers. It is home to many insects, birds, reptiles, and other animals. The plants and animals that live in the forest depend on each other to survive.

|  | Word Bank |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: |
| Central America | plants | reptiles | trees |  |
| insects | rain | plants | warm |  |
| Mexico | Guatemala |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

## Supplementary Questions

1. Where is Belize?

Belize is a country in $\qquad$ .
2. What countries share a border with Belize?

Belize share borders with $\qquad$ and $\qquad$ . [EN, EM]

Belize share borders with $\qquad$ . [TR]
3. What is the climate of a rainforest?

Rainforests are $\qquad$ and get a lot of $\qquad$ . [EN, EM]

Rainforests are $\qquad$ . [TR]
4. What does a rainforest look like?

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A rainforest has many $\qquad$ and $\qquad$ with very little space between them. [EN, EM]

A rainforest is $\qquad$ . [TR]
5. What forms of wildlife live in the rainforest?

Rainforest has many plants, $\qquad$ and flowers. It is home to many types of
$\qquad$ , birds, and $\qquad$ . [EN, EM]

Wildlife in the rainforest includes $\qquad$ . [TR]

Response to Guiding Question: What is a rainforest?

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## Background 2: Picture Walk

## Picture Walk

In preparation for reading The Most Beautiful Roof in the World, we are going to look through the pictures in the book and answer some questions. The pictures will help us become familiar with the plants and wildlife that Meg Lowman studied in the book The Most Beautiful Roof in the World. The pictures in the book help us to understand as we read.

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR STUDENTS

- Look at the picture in the book.
- Read the sentence(s) about the picture.
- Use the glossary to help you understand new words.
- Answer the questions.
- Discuss your answers with the class.

| Word Bank |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| above snake do <br> bark coiled gre <br> birds canopy infl <br> lower top mi <br> colors plants red | n pieces <br> walkways  <br> table bromeliads <br> dle  |
| Supplementary Questions |  |
| Look at the picture on page 12 . <br> Read the sentences: "The crowns of these trees extend above the canopy in the layer known as the pavilion. The pavilion is to the canopy as a roof is to a ceiling." | Glossary <br> canopy* - the highest layer of branches in a forest <br> crowns* - top cover <br> layer - section |

1. What is the pavilion of the rainforest?

The pavilion is the layer $\qquad$ the canopy. [EN, EM]

The pavilion is $\qquad$ .
[TR]
Look at the pictures on page 16 .

Read the sentences: "Spider monkeys prefer the middle layers of the canopy. The capuchins are often found in the lower levels, and the howler

Glossary
bellow - shout loudly and with a deep tone
canopy* - the highest layer of branches in a forest

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| monkeys that bellow at dawn like distant foghorns <br> live at the very top." | layers - sections |
| :--- | :--- |

2. Where do the spider monkeys live?

Spider monkeys prefer the $\qquad$ layers of the canopy. [EN, EM]

Spider monkeys $\qquad$ . [TR]
3. Where do the capuchins live?

Capuchins are often found in the $\qquad$ levels of the canopy. [EN, EM]

Capuchins $\qquad$ . [TR]
4. Where do the howler monkeys live?

Howler monkeys live at the very $\qquad$ of the canopy. [EN, EM]

Howler monkeys $\qquad$ . [TR]

Look at the picture on page 20.
Read the sentences: "Meg climbs higher into the canopy. Suddenly, through the avenues of emerald light, like winged rainbows, two macaws sweep through the canopy."

Glossary
canopy* - the highest layer of branches in a forest
rainbow - an arc of light with many colors
sweep - fly
winged - having wings
5. What are macaws?

Macaws are $\qquad$ . Their wings have many $\qquad$ . [EN, EM]

Macaws are $\qquad$ . [TR]

Look at the picture on page 22.

Read the sentences: "Epiphytes, unlike vines or lianas, usually start growing from the canopy down. They need the tree for support. They root on the bark or soil found on the tree."

Glossary
canopy* - the highest layer of branches in a forest
bark - the outside cover of a tree
soil - the top layer of the earth's surface; dirt

|  | vines - plants having a long, thin, <br> woody stem that climbs up a tree |
| :--- | :--- |
| 6. What is special about the epiphytes? |  |
| Epiphytes are plants that start growing from the top canopy __or soil found on the tree. [EN, EM] |  |
| Epiphytes are _ They root on the |  | | Look at the picture on the bottom right of page 23. |
| :--- |
| Read the sentences: "The leafcutter ants do their <br> farming in reverse, trudging up to the canopy day <br> and night to cut dime-size disks. They hoist the <br> pieces overhead and carry them back down to the <br> underground chambered caverns." |
| canopy* - the highest layer of <br> branches in a forest <br> chambered - divided into sections <br> hoist - raise or lift |

7. What do you see in the picture at the bottom right of page 23 ? The picture shows
leafcutter ants carrying $\qquad$ of leaves. [EN, EM]

The picture shows $\qquad$ .
[TR]

Look at the picture at the bottom right of page 24.
Read the sentences: "Bromeliads have spiky leaves, which form a fibrous hollow tank. The outer leaves are bright green, but often the inner leaves are fiery red and erupt like tongues of flame from a volcano."
8. What type of plant do you see in the picture on the bottom right of page 24?

I see a $\qquad$ . [ALL]
9. What colors are the leaves of the plant?

The leaves are $\qquad$ and $\qquad$ . [ALL]

Look at the picture at the top left of page 25.

Read the sentence: "Maybe the frog and its tadpoles have been eaten by the little venomous snake she spots coiled among the outer leaves."

| Glossary |
| :--- | :--- |
| coiled - wound into many connected <br> rings <br> tadpoles - a young frog |

coiled - wound into many connected rings
tadpoles - a young frog

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|  | venomous - able to give poison with its bite |
| :---: | :---: |
| 10. What do you see in the picture at the top left of <br> I see a $\qquad$ . [AL <br> 11. How is the snake described in the text? <br> The snake is described as being $\qquad$ <br> The snake was $\qquad$ | mong the outer leaves. [EN, EM] $\qquad$ . [TR] |
| Look at the pictures on pages 32 and 33 . <br> Read the sentences: "Keep on climbing." "At last they reach the walkway. ' | Glossary <br> walkway - bridge; place to walk |
| 12. How does Meg get from one tree to another? <br> Meg climbs up the trees. Meg uses high $\qquad$ another. [EN, EM] <br> Meg uses $\qquad$ [TR] | to get from one tree to |
| Look at the picture on page 34. <br> Read the sentence: "In Cameron there was an immense inflatable raft that a dirigible floated over the rainforest canopy and settled upon the emergent crown of trees." | Glossary <br> canopy* - the highest layer of branches in a forest <br> crown* - top cover <br> floated - rested on the surface of a tree without falling <br> immense - very large; huge <br> inflatable* - able to be filled with air |
| 13. What do you see in the picture on page 34 ? <br> I see an immense $\qquad$ raft. [EN, EM] <br> I see $\qquad$ . [TR] |  |

## engage ${ }^{n}$

Glossary of key vocabulary: The Most Beautiful Roof in the World ${ }^{12}$

| Vocabulary Word | Quartile | Definition | Sample sentence from the text |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| acid-free* <br> libre de ácido | N/A | not containing any <br> harmful acid | Finally Meg glues them down on special acid- <br> free paper. |
| aerial roots <br> raices aéreas | Q2 <br> (roots) | roots above the <br> ground | Just outside the cave, over the surface of the <br> water, epiphytes drop their aerial roots from <br> one hundred feet (thirty meters) overhead. |
| altered* <br> alterados | N/A | changed | When a tree falls, the stump rots, bark loosens, <br> and new creatures move in and take over the <br> altered habitats. |
| anole <br> anole | N/A | a small lizard | The palm viper coiled in the buttressed roots of <br> the acacia tree might hear them, but more <br> meaningful is the flick of an anole's tail on a <br> nearby philodendron leaf. |
| ascending* <br> ascender | N/A | climbing; rising | For a human being, ascending to the canopy is <br> not easy. |
| balances* <br> se equilibra | Q1 A | holds steady | She stops, balances on a staple, and looks <br> straight up. |
| bank* <br> orilla | land at the edge of a <br> river | The main stem of the Y spans nearly hundred <br> feet (thirty meters) across Blue Creek to the <br> bank. |  |
| base* <br> base | N1 | bottom part | And this does not include the approximately ten <br> days every month she spends at the base of trees <br> looking up. |
| biomass* <br> biomasa | the total amount of <br> living things in a <br> particular <br> environment | They knew that the canopy was the <br> "powerhouse" of the rainforest, the place where <br> most photosynthesis occurs and where 95 <br> percent of the biomass, the living things of the <br> rainforest is produced. |  |
| bristles <br> esté lleno de | N/A | is covered with | She wants to observe a mature one that fairly <br> bristles with plant life. |
| buttressed tree roots <br> raíces apuntaladas <br> de árboles | Q1 (tree) <br> Q2 <br> (roots) | tree roots that extend <br> above ground <br> supporting the tree | And the immense buttressed tree roots are <br> covered with thin veils of bright orange lichen. |
| canopy* <br> follaje | N/A | the highest layer of <br> branches in a forest | Meg wants to know about the relationships <br> between plants and insects in the canopy. |

[^6]
## engage ${ }^{n}$

| Vocabulary Word | Quartile | Definition | Sample sentence from the text |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ceaseless* <br> incesante | N/A | continuous and unending | Within the tangled vines under the rotting bark of fallen trees, caught in the slime and mold of decaying vegetation and fungi, life teems with ceaseless energy. |
| chatterings* <br> parloteos | N/A | quick; short sounds | They could only wonder about the canopy, brilliantly lit, noisy with bird life and the chatterings of monkeys. |
| cliffs* peñascos | Q3 | high, steep surfaces of rocks | They must be as skillful as any mountaineer, perhaps more so, for the cliffs they ascend are made not of rocks but of leaves and branches of enormous elasticity. |
| coati <br> coatí | N/A | a small animal related to the raccoon | In the understory, above the chameleon, a frog slaps its sticky padded feet on a palm frond and freezes-are these the sounds of its enemy, the coati? |
| conservation* <br> conservación | Q4 | the protection of forests from harm | Meg's lab is at the Marie Selby Botanical Gardens, a rainforest research center in Sarasota, Florida, where she is director of research and conservation. |
| considered* considerado | Q1 | thought of | Blue Creek is considered one of the most humid places on the entire planet. |
| consumed consumidas | N/A | eaten | Or does the fact that a branch's new leaves are being consumed stimulate the tree to produce more? |
| creek <br> arroyo | Q3 | a small river | Once across, the arms of the Y diverge into two separate walkways that tie into trees on the opposite bank of the creek. |
| crowns* <br> copas | N/A | top cover | The crowns of these trees extend above the canopy in the layer known as the pavilion. |
| decaying* decadente | N/A | breaking down by a slow, natural process | Within the tangled vines under the rotting bark of fallen trees, caught in the slime and mold of decaying vegetation and fungi, life teems with ceaseless energy. |
| discarded descartados | N/A | thrown away | If they are not, the disks are discarded and the ants must turn around and climb one hundred or more feet (thirty meters) into the canopy again in search of the right kind of leaf. |
| elasticity elasticidad | N/A | flexibility | They must be as skillful as any mountaineer, perhaps more so, for the cliffs they ascend are made not of rocks but of leaves and branches and enormous elasticity. |

## engage

| Vocabulary Word | Quartile | Definition | Sample sentence from the text |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| emergent*growth crecimiento superior | Q1 (growth) | highest layer | From the emergent growth to the floor of the rainforest is a drop of 150 feet ( 46 meters) or more. |
| environmentalist* ambientalista | N/A | someone who works to protect the natural environment | John Audubon, the famous naturalist and bird painter, has always been considered a great artist but today is regarded as an irresponsible environmentalist. |
| Epiphytes <br> Epifitas | N/A | plants that grow on other plants | Epiphytes, unlike vines or lianas, usually start growing from the canopy down. |
| exclusion* <br> experiment <br> experimento de exclusión | Q2 (experime nt) | a test to discover something new (in the test, some species are included and some species are not included) | With the mesh bags Meg is going to begin an exclusion experiment. |
| excretes excreta | N/A | gets rid from the body | They often begin when a bird excretes a seed from overhead, or as in this case, when the ants drag in bits of plant materials. |
| fascinated* <br> fascinado | N/A | attracted and held the attention and interest of | Since Meg was six, she has been fascinated by the natural world. |
| fearless* <br> intrépidos | N/A | without fear; brave | Such scientists, however, must be strong, fearless, and physically fit as well as smart and hard-working. |
| foliage* follaje | N/A | leaves | When viewed from below, the canopy appears to be one big maze of tangled vines and foliage, but within the canopy there are a variety of distinct regions. |
| footholds puntos de apoyo | N/A | places where feet may be placed when climbing | These are the footholds. |
| foraging <br> buscando | N/A | searching for food | Or the pair might be foraging in the surrounding mahogany and kapok trees for fruit and nuts. |
| frontier* <br> frontera | Q4 | limits of knowledge in a particular field | The rainforest canopy has been linked to an undiscovered continent, a kind of last frontier. |
| fungi <br> hongos | N/A | mushroom | In the dark damp maze of tunnels and caves, the leaves begin to grow mold and fungi, which in turn feed the ants. |


| Vocabulary Word | Quartile | Definition | Sample sentence from the text |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| funnel shape forma de embudo | Q1 (shape) | a cone shape (wide at one end and narrow at the other end) | Through some mysterious power, the web is being drawn back into a funnel shape. |
| galls <br> agallas | N/A | abnormal bumps | There might also be galls on a leaf to be noted. |
| glucose <br> glucosa | N/A | a type of sugar that is found in plants | The little ant farmers tend them night and day, and in return they feed off the glucose and proteins that the plants contain in their succaries, the sugary deposits made by the plants' metabolic processes. |
| habitats* <br> hábitats | N/A | places where plants or animals live | When a tree falls, the stump rots, bark loosens, and new creatures move in and take over the altered habitats. |
| hatching eclosión | N/A | coming out of an egg; being born from an egg | She will compare these figures and notations with what she already knows about the hatching periods of certain insect populations. |
| herbarium* <br> herbario | N/A | collection of dried plants | Each preserved plant is carefully tagged and labeled and then put in the herbarium, a plant library. |
| herbivory* herbivoros | N/A | animals that eat plants | She is especially interested in herbivory, leaf and plant eating insects and other animals. |
| howler monkeys monos aulladores | N/A | monkeys that make a long, loud, sad sound | The capuchins are often found in the lower levels, and the howler monkeys that bellow at dawn like distant foghorns live at the very top. |
| interlocking entrelazadas | N/A | connecting so that the individual parts affect each other | There are many such interlocking relationships within the rainforest, and ants play a major role. |
| interrupt interrumpen | Q3 | stop happening for a time | It is necessary for a scientist not only to observe ongoing processes but to ask new questions that might only be answered by setting up experiments that often interrupt natural processes. |
| intrigued* <br> intrigada | N/A | interested | When Meg was ten years old, she was intrigued by two women: Rachel Carson, one of the first environmentalists, who studied and wrote about the delicate relationships in the web of life, and Harriet Tubman, the most famous "conductor" of the Underground Railroad. |
| inventory inventario | N/A | list | It is her aim to try to inventory, or count, the different species of plants and insects, starting from the ground up. |

## engage ${ }^{n}$

| Vocabulary Word | Quartile | Definition | Sample sentence from the text |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| leafcutter ants <br> hormigas <br> cortadoras de hojas | N/A | ants that cut pieces of leaves | The leafcutter ants do their farming in reverse, trudging up to the canopy day and night to cut dime-size disks. |
| lianas* <br> lianas | N/A | tropical, highclimbing, woody vines | For those creatures that swing or glide or climb, there are the "emerald highways" strung together by vines and lianas that lace the tops of the trees together into a web for commuting life. |
| lichen <br> liquen | N/A | small, slow growing plant | And the immense buttressed tree roots are covered with thin veils of bright orange lichen. |
| lungless sin pulmones | N/A | without lungs | She recognizes it as a very rare lungless salamander. |
| lycopods <br> licopodios | N/A | low-growing green plants that look like large moss | Continuing to count, Meg finds ten ferns of three different species and forty-one lycopods, or mosses, of which there are five different species. |
| machinery maquiaria | Q2 | system | Meg Lowman believes that science is the machinery that runs the earth. |
| metabolic metabólicos | N/A | food changed into energy or used to make cells and tissues | The little ant farmers tend them night and day, and in return they feed off the glucose and proteins that the plants contain in their succaries, the sugary deposits made by the plants' metabolic processes. |
| mesh* <br> malla | N/A | a material made of fiber woven to form open spaces, as in a net | With the mesh bags Meg is going to begin an exclusion experiment. |
| minings* minerías | N/A | digging in mines | "Leaf number four is zero percent, with three minings," Meg calls out to a graduate student assistant, who writes the figure down in a notebook. |
| mold <br> moho | Q3 | a soft substance that grows on the surface of wet things | In the dark damp maze of tunnels and caves, the leaves begin to grow mold and fungi, which in turn feed the ants. |
| moss <br> musgo | Q4 | a small green plant without flowers | But it was not only moss that she had to look for. |
| mountaineer montañero | N/A | person who climbs mountains | They must be as skillful as any mountaineer, perhaps more so, for the cliffs they ascend are made not of rocks but of leaves and branches and enormous elasticity. |
| navigated caminaba | N/A | Made her way; walked | Meg read that she often navigated by feeling for the moss that grew on the north sides of trees. |


| Vocabulary Word | Quartile | Definition | Sample sentence from the text |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| nutrients nutrientes | Q3 | a substance that plants, animals, and people need to live and grow | Scientists think that the ant gardens themselves may be of benefit to more than just the ants, that these gardens help the tree itself by allowing it to capture more solar energy and to trap atmospheric nutrients that slip off a bare trunk. |
| obstacles obstáculos | N/A | problems | Since the mid-1980s better technology has been developed, offering new ways for scientists to overcome the natural obstacles of gravity, ants, and thorns. |
| opportunistic* oportunistas | N/A | seeking or taking advantage of situations to serve one's own ends | It is the very diversity of the rainforest that allows life to thrive everywhere, to spring back with a rush of opportunistic species to fill the gaps. |
| pavilion* <br> pabellón | N/A | highest layer | The crowns of these trees extend above the canopy in the layer known as the pavilion. |
| permit* permiso | Q3 | an official document that shows that a person is allowed to do something | She has a special permit that allows her to collect many rare specimens, some of which are brought back and continue to grow in the Selby greenhouses. |
| photosynthesis fotosintesis | N/A | process by which a green plant turns water and carbon dioxide into food when exposed to light | They knew that the canopy was the "powerhouse" of the rainforest, the place where most photosynthesis occurs and where 95 percent of the biomass, the living things of the rainforest, is produced. |
| pickling encurtiendo | N/A | preserving with salt and a liquid | These she must carefully preserve by pickling or pressing. |
| pioneer* <br> pionera | Q4 | first to do something | Meg, was a pioneer field naturalist, one of the first women field naturalists in this country. |
| pitfall traps trampas pitfall | N/A | holes in the ground to trap small animals | The boys begin by helping one of Meg's graduate research assistants dig pitfall traps within the square. |
| platform* <br> plataforma | Q3 | a flat, raised surface used as a place to stand | She is climbing to the first observation platform, 110 feet ( 33.5 meters) above the ground. |
| powerhouse* central de energía | N/A | great energy, strength, or power | They knew that the canopy was the "powerhouse" of the rainforest, the place where most photosynthesis occurs and where 95 percent of the biomass, the living things of the rainforest, is produced. |

## engage

| Vocabulary Word | Quartile | Definition | Sample sentence from the text |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| proteins <br> proteinas | Q3 | chemical <br> compounds found in <br> all living things and <br> necessary for life | The little ant farmers tend them night and day, <br> and in return they feed off the glucose and <br> proteins that the plants contain in their <br> succaries, the sugary deposits made by the <br> plants' metabolic processes. |
| regurgitate <br> regurgitarán | N/A | pour back out; spit <br> out | When they return to their young, they will <br> regurgitate this food into the mouths of their <br> chicks. |
| relationships* <br> relaciones | Q2 | connections | Meg wants to know about the relationships <br> between plants and insects in the canopy. |
| research <br> investigación | Q1 | the study and <br> collecting of <br> information | Meg's lab is at the Marie Selby Botanical <br> Gardens, a rainforest research center in <br> Sarasota, Florida, where she is director of <br> research and conservation. |

## engage

| Vocabulary Word | Quartile | Definition | Sample sentence from the text |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| rotting <br> podrida | N/A | slowly decaying | Within the tangled vines under the rotting bark <br> of fallen trees, caught in the slime and mold of <br> decaying vegetation and fungi, life teems with <br> ceaseless energy. |
| salamander* <br> salamandra | N/A | small animal that <br> looks like a lizard <br> with smooth skin <br> and that lives both <br> on land and in water | A rare and mysterious tree salamander slinks <br> unto the petals of an orchid. |
| samples* <br> muestras | Q2 | small parts of <br> something that <br> shows what the <br> whole is like | When Meg is at Selby Gardens, she busily sorts, <br> classifies, and prepares samples of plants, <br> flowers, and insects she has brought back from <br> her exploration in rainforest canopies all over <br> the world. |
| saplings <br> plántulas | N/A | young trees | There are forty-one saplings four or five feet in <br> height struggling toward the filtered light. |
| scent <br> aroma | N/A | smell | She had to know how to find a swamp to plunge <br> into when slave-hunting dogs bore down; the |
| sulfurous mud and slime could disguise a |  |  |  |
| human scent and confuse the dogs. |  |  |  |\(\left|-\begin{array}{l}The birds fly in silence, but the spider monkeys <br>


screech in alarm.\end{array}\right|\)| N/A |
| :--- |
| screech <br> chillan |
| seedling <br> vástagos |
| sound and very high |

## engage

| Vocabulary Word | Quartile | Definition | Sample sentence from the text |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| solitariness soledad | N/A | without others; loneliness | But despite the solitariness of her work, the lonely hum of the computer, and the clicking of the keys, in the back of her mind is the consoling knowledge of other scientists and pioneers. |
| sonar <br> sonar | N/A | a way to find things underwater by using sound waves | And far ahead, in the canopy, a fruit bat cocks its sonar toward the dark little cabin one hundred feet below as it swoops through the night dropping a seed here, a seed there. |
| species* especies | Q2 | a group of living things that are the same | Within a 16 -foot (five meter) square there can be upward of two hundred different species of plants. |
| specimens* especimenes | N/A | samples | She has a special permit that allows her to collect many rare specimens, some of which are brought back and continue to grow in the Selby greenhouses. |
| springs back repliega | Q1 | returns to its original shape | The web springs back, and at its trembling center is a small insect. |
| staples <br> grapas | N/A | pieces of metal in the shape of a $u$ | Metal staples project from the tree trunk. |
| starvation inanición | N/A | dying from not eating | She had to know which berries and nuts could be eaten, which could make the difference between starvation and survival. |
| stimulate estimula | N/A | makes more active | Or does the fact that a branch's new leaves are being consumed stimulate the tree to produce more? |
| suction-cup <br> ventosa | N/A | a round piece of rubber that sticks to surfaces | Because of their rareness and inaccessibility in the canopy, these salamanders with their suction-cup feet are one of the canopy's most mysterious inhabitants. |
| sweeping <br> barrido | Q4 | cleaning with a brush | Sweeping is another technique for sampling insects in the column. |
| synchronized* <br> sincronizados | N/A | caused to happen at the same time | She has a hunch that the hatchings are synchronized to occur when certain leaves flush, or first grow, and are at their most tender for eating. |
| tadpoles <br> renacuajos | N/A | young frogs | Poison dart frog tadpoles swim high above the forest floor in the tanks of bromeliads. |
| teems* <br> pulula | N/A | full of | Within the tangled vines under the rotting bark of fallen trees, caught in the slime and mold of decaying vegetation and fungi, life teems with ceaseless energy. |

engage ${ }^{n y}$

| Vocabulary Word | Quartile | Definition | Sample sentence from the text |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| tended atendidas | Q2 | cared for | This, in fact, is the foundation for the little treetop farms so carefully tended by several different species of ants. |
| tendrils zarcillos | N/A | long, thin, leafless twisting stem or extension | They appear to be almost hanging, with their tendrils of plant roots and vines swaying in the still air. |
| thrive* <br> prosperar | N/A | grow | It is the very diversity of the rainforest that allows life to thrive everywhere, to spring back with a rush of opportunistic species to fill the gaps. |
| timeless* <br> eterno | N/A | lasting forever | The rainforest is a timeless, uncharted world, where mysteries abound and new or rare species appear like undiscovered islands. |
| treetops* <br> copas de los árboles | N/A | leafy heads of trees; the highest parts of trees | During the past ten years Meg has spent at least five days a month in the treetops, which adds up to six hundred days. |
| uncharted* <br> inexplorado | N/A | not recorded or located on a map, chart or plan | The rainforest is a timeless, uncharted world, where mysteries abound and new or rare species appear like undiscovered islands. |
| upward* <br> más | Q2 | to a higher number | Within a 16 -foot (five-meter) square there can be upward of two hundred different species of plants. |
| varieties* <br> variedad | N/A | a number of different things | In this shadowed world, pierced occasionally by slivers of sunlight, are more varieties of living things than perhaps any other place on earth. |
| vegetation* <br> vegetación | Q4 | plants | Within the tangled vines under the rotting bark of fallen trees, caught in the slime and mold of decaying vegetation and fungi, life teems with ceaseless energy. |
| venomous <br> venenosa | N/A | poisonous; deadly | Maybe the frog and its tadpoles had been eaten by the little venomous snake she spots coiled among the outer leaves. |
| vials ampollas | N/A | small containers | Meg gets out one of her insect vials filled with alcohol she always carries. |
| vines <br> lianas | Q4 | plants having long, thin, woody stems that climb up a support | Within the tangled vines under the rotting bark of fallen trees, caught in the slime and mold of decaying vegetation and fungi, life teems with ceaseless energy. |
| wonder* <br> preguntarse | Q1 | think about something with curiosity | They could only wonder about the canopy, brilliantly lit, noisy with bird life and the chatterings of monkeys. |

## ABOUT AMERICAN INSTITUTES FOR RESEARCH

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[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ http://www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/fsa/item/fsa1998018503/PP/resource/
    2 http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/fsa1998021557/PP/

[^1]:    ${ }^{3}$ http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/fsa2000009740/PP/
    ${ }^{4}$ http://www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/fsa/item/fsa1997025609/PP/
    5 http://www.globalresearch.ca/great-depression-level-unemployment-in-america/25098

[^2]:    ${ }^{6}$ http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/fsa2000001774/PP/
    ${ }^{7}$ http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/fsa2000013844/PP/
    ${ }^{8}$ http://www.uscis.gov/history-and-genealogy/our-history/historians-mailbox/ins-records-1930s-mexicanrepatriations

[^3]:    ${ }^{9}$ Words with an asterisk $\left({ }^{*}\right)$ are highlighted in the Expeditionary Learning lessons.

[^4]:    ${ }^{10}$ The vocabulary in the glossary pertains to Chapters 1-2 of Esperanza Rising. Words with an asterisk (*) are highlighted in the Expeditionary Learning lessons.

[^5]:    ${ }^{11}$ Words with an asterisk (*) are highlighted in the Expeditionary Learning lessons.

[^6]:    ${ }^{12}$ The vocabulary pertains to The Most Beautiful Roof in the World: Exploring the Rainforest Canopy. Words with an asterisk $\left({ }^{*}\right)$ are highlighted in the Expeditionary Learning lessons.

