Return to Sender by Julia Alvarez  
*A Novel Study incorporating Social Studies, Science, Technology, and Independent Research*

This unit is a novel study that could be used with middle or high school students. It is an interdisciplinary study, incorporating social studies, science and technology. The unit is designed for mainstream classrooms with ELs of different levels mixed in. All chapters are modified for four levels: non-EL and three levels of ELs: advanced, intermediate and beginner. The activities are modified for two levels: non-EL/advanced EL and beginner/intermediate EL. The following is a schedule of the reading and activities and the daily schedule/routine for “Chapter Reading Days”.

### Novel Study Calendar

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### Daily Schedule for “Chapter Reading Days”:

1) See Word document for each chapter  
2) *(5 minutes)* Pre-reading activity: Non ELLs make a prediction in writing. Advanced, Intermediate, and Beginner ELLs use word banks tailored to their levels to make predictions about the chapter.  
3) *(30 minutes)* Read the chapter as a class (use audio support).  
4) *(5 minutes)* All levels confirm or change predictions after reading and check in homogenous groups by language proficiency level.  
5) *(10 minutes)* In heterogeneous groups (by language level), go over discussion questions orally. Begin with lower proficiency questions. More proficient students help their peers. Do question #1 for all proficiency levels and then move on to #2.  
6) *(5 minutes)* In writing, answer one or two of the discussion questions (student choice).  
7) **Extra Vocabulary study**: Students pick one or two words from the vocabulary list for the chapter and complete a word map
“Bad Luck Farm” (pg. 3-16) – Non ELL

Prediction

Before reading: Tyler is 11 year’s old. His family wants to keep the dairy farm but they are in danger of losing it because they don’t have enough help to keep it running. How do you think the family saves the farm? Why?

________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

After reading: How did the family save the farm?

________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Discussion Questions

1. Tyler is the baby of his family and feels like he is often left out. What order are you in the siblings in your family? How are you treated compared to your brothers or sisters? How would you like to be treated?
2. Tyler loves science and looking at the stars. What’s something in nature that you enjoy looking at? Why?
3. Tyler saw his father get hurt in a dangerous accident; now he worries all the time and has nightmares. Talk about a time that you saw something that scared you. How did it change your thinking?
4. What do you think of Aunt Roxie and Uncle Tony? Would you like to meet them? Why or why not?
"Bad Luck Farm" (pg. 3-16) - Advanced

Summary

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Tyler’s family wants to keep their ___________ farm but they are in danger of losing it because they don’t have enough ___________ to keep it running. Dad has been seriously ___________ in a dangerous ___________. The oldest son, Ben (18 years old), is about to go to ___________, and middle sister Sara (15 years old) is more interested in her ___________ than in helping with this family ___________. While Tyler’s parents decide how to ___________ the farm, he is sent to spend part of the summer with Aunt Roxie (mom’s sister) and her ___________ Uncle Tony. When Tyler gets back to his home on the farm, his parents tell him that they have found help from a family of hard ___________ from Chiapas, ___________. At this point in the story, Tyler’s parents tell him to keep the workers a ___________, but he doesn’t ___________ why.

Discussion Questions

1. Tyler is the baby of his family and feels like he is often left out. What order are you in the siblings in your family? How are you treated compared to your brothers or sisters? How would you like to be treated?

2. Tyler loves science and looking at the stars. What’s something in nature that you enjoy looking at? Why?

3. Tyler saw his father get hurt in a dangerous accident; now he worries all the time and has nightmares. Talk about a time that you saw something that scared you. How did it change your thinking?

4. What do you think of Aunt Roxie and Uncle Tony? Would you like to meet them? Why or why not?
"Bad Luck Farm" (pg. 3-16) - Intermediate

Summary

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<td>sister</td>
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Tyler is ____________ years old.

Tyler's family has a ________________.

Tyler's dad can't work. He was ________________ in an accident.

Ben is Tyler's ________________. He can't work because he goes to college.

Sara is Tyler's _________________. She likes boys. She doesn't want to work on the farm.

The family needs ________________ with the work on the farm.

During the summer, Tyler goes to his ________________ and Uncle's house.

During the summer, Tyler's parents find help with the work on the farm.

The workers are from Chiapas, ________________.

The ________________ are a secret.

Tyler doesn't ________________ why the workers are a secret.

Discussion Questions

1. Tyler is the youngest child in his family. Are you the oldest or the youngest? Do you like the way your parents treat you? Why?

2. Tyler loves to look at the stars. What do you like to look at?

3. Tyler's dad was injured in an accident. Tyler saw the accident. Now he is scared. What is something that scares you?

4. Do you like Aunt Roxie and Uncle Tony? Why?
"Bad Luck Farm" (pg. 3-16) - Beginner

**Summary**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>sister</th>
<th>workers</th>
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</table>

Tyler is 11 years old.
Tyler's family has a ____________.
Tyler's dad is _____________.
Ben is Tyler's _____________. Ben goes to college.
Sara is Tyler's _____________.
Tyler goes to his aunt and uncle's house.
____________________ from Mexico help with the farm.

**Discussion Questions**

1. Do you have brothers and sisters? I have _____ brothers and _____ sisters.
   What are their names? My brother's name is ______. My sister's name is ______.
   How old are they? My brother is _____ year's old. My sister is _____ years old.
2. Do you like stars? Yes/No
3. Tyler's dad was injured. Tyler is scared. What scares you? I am scared of _____.

**Vocabulary**

![brother](image1)
![sister](image2)
![injured](image3)
![farm](image4)
![worker](image5)
“Queridísima Mamá” (pg. 17-36) – Non ELL

**Prediction**
**Before reading:** Mari’s mother is in Mexico. Mari writes letters to her so she does not feel so lonely. What do you think Mari writes about in the letters?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

**After reading:** What did Mari write about in this letter?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

**Discussion Questions**
1. Mari’s father is very strict with her because Mamá is not there to help protect her. Do you think this will keep her safe? Why or why not?
2. The uncles are very scared of the police even though they are honest and hard-working. Do you think it is fair for them to have to live in fear of being sent to Mexico?
3. Tió Felipe is not able to defend himself against the accusations that he took his employer’s dog. He doesn’t know enough English. When was a time that you couldn’t find the words to defend yourself?
4. Mari starts writing because she remembers that Mamá used to say “El papel lo aguanta todo” (*Paper can hold anything*). Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Why?
Summary

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Mari wants to feel close to her _______________, but Mamá has had to go back to _______________ to take care of Mari’s _______________ grandmother. Before she leaves, Mamá tells Mari that she should write _______________ to her mother to help lessen the _______________ of them being away from each other. This chapter has the first of many letters.

In this letter, we learn many things:

- Luby is 5 years old, _______________ is 7 years old, and Mari is almost 12.
- Armando and Felipe (Mari’s 2 _______________) are helping the family _______________ on Tyler’s dairy farm.
- Tyler is not _______________ about having to be _______________ with the new girls—Mari and her two American-born _______________ (Ofie and Luby).
- Mari’s family moved from North Carolina to _______________ by bus.
- Mari’s family was smuggled across the _______________ from Mexico to the United States.
- For some reason that we do not know, Papá will not let Mari _______________ her letters to Mamá.
- Mari has horrible _______________ about the trip across the desert.

Discussion Questions

5. Mari’s father is very strict with her because Mamá is not there to help protect her. Do you think this will keep her safe? Why or why not?
6. The uncles are very scared of the police even though they are honest and hard-working. Do you think it is fair for them to have to live in fear of being sent to Mexico?
7. Tió Felipe is not able to defend himself against the accusations that he took his employer’s dog. He doesn’t know enough English. When was a time that you couldn’t find the words to defend yourself?
8. Mari starts writing because she remembers that Mamá used to say “El papel lo aguanta todo” (Paper can hold anything). Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Why?
**Summary**

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</table>

Mari calls her ____________ Mamá.

Mamá went back to Mexico because Mari’s grandmother was ____________.

Mamá wants Mari to write ____________ to her.

Writing letters will make Mari ____________

We learn many things in the letter:

- Luby is 5 years old, Ofie is 7 years old, and Mari is 11.
- Mari’s uncles and her father ____________ on the farm.
- Tyler does not want to be ____________ with the Mexican girls.
- Mari’s family moved from North Carolina to ____________ by bus.
- Mari’s family crossed the ____________ from Mexico to the United States.
- Papá will not let Mari ____________ her letters to Mamá.
- Mari has ____________ about crossing the desert.

**Discussion Questions**

1. Mari’s father is very strict. Is she safe because her father is strict? Why?
2. Mari’s uncles are scared of the police. Why are they scared? Is this fair? Why?
3. Tió Felipe can’t speak English. This causes a problem for him. What problems do you have from not speaking English?
4. Mamá says “El papel lo aguanta todo” (*Paper can hold anything*). What does this mean?
"Querídísima Mamá" (pg. 17-36) - Beginner

**Summary**

| letter | Vermont | desert | send | friends |

Mari's Mamá is in Mexico.
Mari writes a ____________ to Mamá.
The letter says:
- Luby is 5 years old, Ofie is 7 years old, and Mari is 11.
- Tyler does not want to be ____________ with the girls.
- The farm is in ____________.
- Mari's family crossed the ____________ from Mexico to the United States.
- Mari cannot ____________ the letters to Mamá.

**Discussion Questions**
1. Mari's father is strict. Why is he strict? *He is strict because__________.*
2. Mari's uncles are scared of the police. Why? *They are scared because__________.*
3. Is it important to learn English? Yes / No
   Why is it important to learn English? *It is important to learn English because__________.*
4. Mamá says "El papel lo aguanta todo" (Paper can hold anything.). Do you agree? Yes / No.

**Vocabulary**

- letter
- desert
- send
- friends
"Nameless Farm" (pg. 39-57) – Non ELL

**Prediction**
Before reading: Tyler has just returned from his summer in Boston with his aunt and uncle. Tyler’s parents explain to him that Mari, her father and her 2 uncles do not have the right papers to be in the United States legally. What do you think Tyler’s parents do because the Mexican workers don’t have papers? Why?


After reading: What did Tyler’s parents do about the Mexican workers’ legal status? Why?


**Discussion Questions**

1. Tyler can tell that his mother is about to offer an idea when she says, “I was thinking...”. Tyler knows he usually will NOT like his mother’s “good idea”. What is a phrase that your parent or teacher says all the time? What does it usually mean?

2. Tyler “escapes” and calms himself by looking into his telescope. What do you do to calm yourself when you are stressed?

3. It bothers Tyler that his family’s farm doesn’t have a name. What could be a good name for the farm in your opinion? Be sure to tell why!

4. Tyler’s family names all of their cows after the names of the states in the US. Why do you think they do this?

5. What do you think of Tyler’s parents’ decision to let the Mexican workers stay on the farm even though it is against the law?
"Nameless Farm" (pg. 39-57) - Advanced

Summary

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<td>Mexican</td>
<td>stars</td>
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</table>

Tyler has just returned from his summer in ________________ with his aunt and uncle. His mother wants him to be ________________ to Mari and her ________________. María Ofelia (She is the middle sister and is called Ofie.) and María Lubyneida (She is the ________________ sister and is called Luby.). But Tyler doesn't really feel like being friendly to these ________________ —partly because they are ________________ and partly because they are girls. Tyler is ________________ with how his life is ________________, so he does what he usually does to escape: he looks at the ________________ through his ________________. At the end of this section, Tyler's parents sit him down and ________________ to him that Mari, her father and her 2 uncles do not have the right ________________ to be in the United States ________________. Tyler's mom and dad are not going to do anything about it, though, because without the help from the Mexican ________________, they will not be able to ________________ the farm.

Discussion Questions

1. Tyler can tell that his mother is about to offer an idea when she says, "I was thinking...". Tyler knows he usually will NOT like his mother's "good idea". What is a phrase that your parent or teacher says all the time? What does it usually mean?
2. Tyler "escapes" and calms himself by looking into his telescope. What do you do to calm yourself when you are stressed?
3. It bothers Tyler that his family's farm doesn't have a name. What could be a good name for the farm in your opinion? Be sure to tell why!
4. Tyler's family names all of their cows after the names of the states in the US. Why do you think they do this?
5. What do you think of Tyler's parents' decision to let the Mexican workers stay on the farm even though it is against the law?
“Nameless Farm” (pg. 39-57) - Intermediate

**Summary**

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<td>changing</td>
<td>papers</td>
<td>telescope</td>
<td>frustrated</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Tyler returns home from Boston.
His mother wants him to be ______________ to Mari, Ofie, and Luby.
Tyler doesn’t want to be friendly.
The girls are ______________ and they are ______________.
Tyler’s life is ______________.
He is ______________.
He looks at the ______________ through his ______________.
Tyler’s parents ______________ to him.
Mari and her father do not have ______________.
They are not ______________ residents.
Tyler’s family needs the Mexicans to work at their farm.

**Discussion Questions**

1. Tyler’s mother says “I was thinking…” a lot. Tyler does not like his mother’s ideas. What does your mother or father say all the time?
2. Tyler looks in his telescope when he is frustrated. What do you do when you are frustrated?
3. The farm doesn’t have a name. What is a good name for the farm? Why?
4. The cows have names like Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Texas. Why?
5. The Mexican workers don’t have papers. It is against the law to work without papers. Do you think it is okay to work without papers? Why?
"Nameless Farm" (pg. 39-57) - Beginner

Summary

| telescope       | strangers | frustrated | legal |

The girls' names are Mari, Ofie, and Luby.
Tyler doesn't want to be friendly with the girls.
The girls are ________.
The girls are Mexican.
Tyler is ____________.
He looks at the stars through his ____________.
The Mexican workers are not ____________ residents.
Tyler's family needs the workers.

Discussion Questions

1. Tyler's mother says "I was thinking..." a lot.
   What does your mother say all the time? My mother says ________.
2. Tyler looks in his telescope when he is frustrated.
   Do you get frustrated? Yes/No
   What do you do when you are frustrated? When I am frustrated, I ...
3. The farm doesn't have a name.
   Which name do you like? Vermont Farm / Cow Farm
4. What is a good name for a cow? A good name for a cow is ________.
5. The Mexican workers don't have legal papers.
   Is it okay to work without legal papers? Yes/No

Vocabulary

legal
frustrated

telescope
stranger
“Esteemed Mr. President” (pg. 58-72) – Non ELL

**Prediction**
**Before reading:** Mari writes a letter to the President of the United States. What do you think she tells him in the letter?

________________________________________

________________________________________

________________________________________

________________________________________

________________________________________

**After reading:** What did Mari tell the President of the USA in her letter?

________________________________________

________________________________________

________________________________________

________________________________________

**Discussion Questions**

1. The tone of Mari’s letter to the president is very respectful even though she doesn’t like the laws that the president has to enforce. What does this show us about Mari’s personality?

2. On the bus, Ronnie and Clayton start making fun of Mari and her family, and Tyler doesn’t stand up for her. What do you think of his decision NOT to stick up for his friend?

3. What do you think the president would say in response to Mari’s letter?

4. Ofie gets up to tell the bus driver about Ronnie and Clayton’s bullying. What does this tell us about who Ofie is?

5. Put yourself in Mari’s shoes. When Mari is called an “illegal alien”, how does that make her feel?

6. Tyler’s grandmother is very kind to Mari’s family. She doesn’t seem to care that they do not have permission to be in the United States. Why do you think she chooses to be kind?
"Esteemed Mr. President" (pg. 58-72) - Advanced

**Summary**

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<th>United States</th>
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__________ writes a ____________ to the ____________ of the United States because she wants him to know how ____________ it is that some people like her are not ____________ into the ____________. But she is always ____________ that her ____________ will be sent away from this ____________, so she doesn't give full ____________ or even ____________ in her letter. That way, she can't get caught and ____________. She uses this letter to tell the president about the bullying and ____________ that ____________ like her feel.

**Discussion Questions**

1. The tone of Mari's letter to the president is very respectful even though she doesn't like the laws that the president has to enforce. What does this show us about Mari's personality?
2. On the bus, Ronnie and Clayton start making fun ofMari and her family, and Tyler doesn't stand up for her. What do you think of his decision NOT to stick up for his friend?
3. What do you think the president would say in response to Mari's letter?
4. Ofie gets up to tell the bus driver about Ronnie and Clayton's bullying. What does this tell us about who Ofie is?
5. Put yourself in Mari's shoes. When Mari is called an "illegal alien", how does that make her feel?
6. Tyler's grandmother is very kind to Mari's family. She doesn't seem to care that they do not have permission to be in the United States. Why do you think she chooses to be kind?
Summary

<table>
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<th>country</th>
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<td>address</td>
<td>name</td>
<td>president</td>
<td>afraid</td>
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</table>

Mari writes a ____________ to the ____________ of the United States.

She wants him to know that this ____________ is ____________.

People like her are not welcome in the United States.

She is ____________ because her family can be ____________.

She doesn't tell the president her ____________ or ____________.

She tells the president that ____________ feel ____________.

Discussion Questions

1. Mari is respectful to the President, but she thinks he is unfair. What is Mari's personality like?
2. Ronnie and Clayton make fun of Mari. Tyler doesn't help her. Why?
3. What will the president write to Mari in his letter?
4. Ronnie and Clayton are mean to Mari. Ofie tells the bus driver. What is Ofie like?
5. Mari is called an "illegal alien." How does that make her feel?
6. Tyler's grandmother is kind to Mari's family. She doesn't care that they do not have legal papers. Why is she kind to the family?
“Esteemed Mr. President” (pg. 58-72) - Beginner

**Summary**

<table>
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<th>president</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Mari writes a letter to the ____________.
The country is ____________.
_____________feel ____________.
Her family can be ____________.

**Discussion Questions**

1. Is the President unfair to Mexican immigrants? Yes / No
2. Are Ronnie and Clayton unfair to Mari? Yes / No
   Is Tyler unfair to Mari? Yes / No
3. Will the president write a letter to Mari? Yes / No
4. What word describes Ofie? Ofie is ________.
5. How does Mari feel? Mari feels ____________.
6. What is Tyler’s grandmother like? She is ____________.

**Vocabulary**

- unfair
- deported
- afraid
- President
- Immigrant
“Watched Over Farm” (pg. 75-91) – Non ELL

Prediction
Before reading: As Halloween comes near, both families are mourning the death of a grandparent: Tyler’s family (the Paquettes) are mourning their grandfather who died last summer. Mari’s family (the Cruzes) are mourning their grandmother who died last December. What do you think the families do to mourn the death of their loved ones?


After reading: How did the families mourn the death of their loved ones?


Discussion Questions
1. Gramps said that nobody got to America without SOMEBODY giving them a chance. If Mari had had the chance to hear him say that, what do you think Mari would have thought of that?
2. The 3 Marias have been visiting Grandma almost everyday even though Tyler has been avoiding them. What does this show us about them?
3. The students in Ms. Ramirez’s class have to write a letter to someone who has died. Who would you write to if you were given this assignment?
4. Grandma enjoys gardening. Tio Felipe enjoys singing. Tyler enjoys looking at the stars. What’s one thing that you enjoy doing?
“Watched Over Farm” (pg. 75-91) - Advanced

Summary

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<td>December</td>
<td>Mari</td>
<td>constellations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>watching</td>
<td>grandfather</td>
<td>feelings</td>
<td>meteor</td>
<td>telescope</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As ___________ comes near, both families are ___________ the death of a grandparent: Tyler’s family (the Paquettes) are mourning their ___________ who died last summer. Mari’s family (the Cruzes) are mourning their grandmother who died last ___________. Tyler wants to talk about his ___________ about missing his grandfather so he confides in his grandmother. She shows Tyler that she has built an ___________ in Gramps’ honor just like Mexicans do like Tyler learned about in ___________ class with Ms. Ramirez. ___________ and Tyler’s grandmother decide to hold a Day of the Dead ___________ in honor of the grandparents. But Tyler doesn’t know what to bring so he brings his ___________ so that they can see the ___________. Tyler thinks this will make them all feel like Gramps and Abuela are ___________ over them. As they look at the ___________ they see a ___________ shower which makes them feel close to their ___________.

Discussion Questions

1. Gramps said that nobody got to America without SOMEBODY giving them a chance. If Mari had had the chance to hear him say that, what do you think Mari would have thought of that?
2. The 3 Marias have been visiting Grandma almost everyday even though Tyler has been avoiding them. What does this show us about them?
3. The students in Ms. Ramirez’s class have to write a letter to someone who has died. Who would you write to if you were given this assignment?
4. Grandma enjoys gardening. Tio Felipe enjoys singing. Tyler enjoys looking at the stars. What’s one thing that you enjoy doing?
“Watched Over Farm” (pg. 75-91) - Intermediate

**Summary**

<table>
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<td>altar</td>
<td>class</td>
<td>December</td>
<td>dinner</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is almost Halloween.
The families are ____________.
Tyler’s grandfather ____________ in the summer.
Mari’s grandmother died in ____________.
Tyler tells his ____________ to his grandmother.
Tyler learns about altars for the dead in Spanish ____________.
Grandma makes an ____________ for Gramps.
Tyler’s grandmother and Mari have a Day of the Dead ____________.
Tyler brings his telescope to see the ____________.
Tyler feels like Gramps is watching him from the sky.
Tyler and Mari see a ____________ shower in the sky.
They feel close to their ____________.

**Discussion Questions**

1. Gramps said that nobody got to America without SOMEBODY giving them a chance. Do you think Mari would agree with him?
2. The 3 Marias visit Grandma everyday. Why do they visit Grandma?
3. The students in Ms. Ramirez’s class write a letter to a dead person. What dead person will you write to?
4. Grandma enjoys gardening. Tio Felipe enjoys singing. Tyler enjoys looking at the stars. What do you enjoy doing?
“Watched Over Farm” (pg. 75-91) - Beginner

Summary

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>dead</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
</table>

The families are ____________.
Tyler’s grandfather is ____________.
Mari’s grandmother is ____________.
Tyler’s grandmother and Mari have a ____________.
Tyler brings his telescope to see the ____________.

Discussion Questions
1. Is it easy to move to America? Yes / No
2. Who do you visit everyday? Everyday, I visit ____________.
3. Who is dead in your family? My ____________ is dead.
4. Tyler likes constellations. What do you like? I like ____________.

Vocabulary

dead

<table>
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<tr>
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</thead>
</table>

dinner

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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mourning

<table>
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</tr>
</thead>
</table>

constellation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>constellation</th>
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</thead>
</table>
"Querida Abuelita" (pg. 92-106) – Non ELL

**Prediction**
**Before reading:** This is Mari’s first letter to her grandmother that we get to read; she had to turn in the first one for the Day of the Dead assignment in Ms. Ramirez’s class. Mari tells Abuela about her worries. If you were worried about being deported, what types of things would you do? How would you act? How would your life change?

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

**After reading:** How do you know that Mari’s family is afraid of being deported? What do they do and how do they act?

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

**Discussion Questions**
1. Mari feels like the shooting stars show her that Abuela is watching over them. What reminds you that your friends or family are watching over you?
2. Mari thinks that her sisters are changing. What are some of the changes that she notices?
3. What do you think of the changes in Ofie and Luby?
4. Do you think Mamá is alive? Why or why not?
5. When the Cruzes hear about the North Carolina family’s deportation, how do they change?
6. At the bottom of page 102, Mari says, “I felt huge desert stretching between my parents and who I was becoming.” What do you think she means by this?
"Querida Abuelita" (pg. 92-106) - Advanced

Summary

<table>
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<td>careful</td>
<td>altar</td>
<td>crying</td>
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<tr>
<td>beggars</td>
<td>alms</td>
<td>deported</td>
<td>frightens</td>
<td>doorbell</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

This is Mari's first letter to her grandmother that we get to ____________: she had to turn in the first one for the Day of the Dead ____________ in Ms. Ramirez's class. Mari wants Abuela to know how ____________ she is about her sisters feeling so "American". They do not care about being ____________ with money and want to put Mamá's picture on the ____________ because they believe she has died. The girls get into a big ____________ about whether or not Mamá is still alive and they all end up ____________. Papá calls their old ____________ in North Carolina and finds out that the family who had been living there had been ____________. This news ____________ them so much that when their ____________ rings as kids come for Halloween candy, the Cruzes are ____________ that it's immigration come to deport them. Mari feels that it is wrong to pretend to be ____________ asking for candy when there are people who need real ____________. Their first ____________ in the United States ends with them very confused and frightened.

Discussion Questions

1. Mari feels like the shooting stars show her that Abuela is watching over them. What reminds you that your friends or family are watching over you?
2. Mari thinks that her sisters are changing. What are some of the changes that she notices?
3. What do you think of the changes in Ofie and Luby?
4. Do you think Mamá is alive? Why or why not?
5. When the Cruzes hear about the North Carolina family's deportation, how do they change?
6. At the bottom of page 102, Mari says, "I felt huge desert stretching between my parents and who I was becoming." What do you think she means by this?
**Summary**

<table>
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<td>deported</td>
<td>afraid</td>
<td>careful</td>
<td>dead</td>
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</table>

Mari writes a letter to her _____________ grandmother.

Mari is _____________ because her sisters act American.

They are not _____________ with money.

They _____________ Mamá is dead. They want to put her picture on the altar.

Mari has a fight with them. She thinks Mamá is _____________.

Papá calls their old _____________ in North Carolina.

The family that lived there was _____________.

Mari's family is _____________ of being deported. They think kids during Halloween are la Migra.

Mari doesn't like _____________. There are people in the world that need alms.

The family is _____________ and afraid.

**Discussion Questions**

1. Mari thinks that the shooting stars are her abuela. What reminds you of someone special?
2. Mari thinks that her sisters are changing. What changes does she notice?
3. What do you think of the changes in Ofie and Luby?
4. Do you think Mamá is alive? Why or why not?
5. Mari's family finds out a family in North Carolina was deported. How does this change the Cruz family?
6. Mari says, "I felt a huge desert stretching between my parents and who I was becoming." What does she mean?
**Summary**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Halloween</th>
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<th>think</th>
<th>alive</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Mari writes a letter to her dead grandmother.

Mari is __________ because her sisters act American.

The sisters __________ Mamá is dead.

Mari __________ Mamá is alive.

A family in North Carolina is __________.

Mari's family is afraid.

Mari doesn't like __________.

**Discussion Questions**

1. Mari thinks the stars are her abuela. Do you agree? Yes / No
2. Are you changing in the USA? Yes / No
   How? One change is ________.
3. Do you like Ofie and Luby? Yes / No
4. Do you think Mamá is alive? Yes / No
5. Do you know someone who was deported? Yes / No
   Who?
6. How are you different from your parents? My parents are ____, and I am _____.

**Vocabulary**

- worried
- think

- alive
- Halloween
"Farm of Many Plots" (pg. 109-120) – Non ELL

Prediction
Before reading: It is Thanksgiving and all 3 of Grandma's children are at the Paquettes for the holiday. They want Grandma to live in a nursing home. Mari wants to stay in the USA, but is worried about being deported. Tyler and Mari make a plan to hide from la Migra. What do you think is their plan?

________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

After reading: What is Tyler and Mari's plan to hide from La Migra?

________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Discussion Questions
1. Why is this chapter called the Farm of Many Plots?
2. Whose plot do you like more: the one about grandmother or the one about hiding from la migra? Why?
3. What do you know about The Underground Railroad where slaves escaped to freedom?
4. At the beginning of the story, Tyler wanted the Cruzes to be deported. Why do you think Tyler is now plotting to help the family stay in the United States?
"Farm of Many Plots" (pg. 109-120) - Advanced

Summary

<table>
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<th>holiday</th>
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<th>laws</th>
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<td>run away</td>
<td>plotting</td>
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<tr>
<td>deported</td>
<td>hide</td>
<td>dinner</td>
<td>Thanksgiving</td>
<td>talk</td>
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</table>

It is ___________ and all 3 of Grandma's children are at the Paquettes for the ___________. They want ___________ to live in a ___________ home but they know she does not want to ___________ her home; she said she will ___________ if they force her to leave. So they are ___________ about how to solve this "Grandma ___________." Mari's family joins the Paquettes for Thanksgiving ___________. Tyler's aunts and uncles want to ___________ about how many Mexican workers are getting ___________ from farms in the area but Tyler just wants the ___________ to be changed so that Mari's family can ___________ in the United States safely. So Tyler and ___________ plot about how they could ___________ her family if la migra came for them.

Discussion Questions

1. Why is this chapter called the Farm of Many Plots?
2. Whose plot do you like more: the one about grandmother or the one about hiding from la migra? Why?
3. What do you know about The Underground Railroad where slaves escaped to freedom?
4. At the beginning of the story, Tyler wanted the Cruzes to be deported. Why do you think Tyler is now plotting to help the family stay in the United States?
“Farm of Many Plots” (pg. 109-120) - Intermediate

Summary

<table>
<thead>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grandma</td>
<td>safe</td>
<td>plan</td>
<td>hide</td>
<td>run away</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is ___________.
The Paquettes are ___________ the holiday.
They want ___________ to live in a nursing home.
She does not want to ___________.
She says she will ___________.
They want to ___________ this “Grandma problem”.
Mari’s family joins them for dinner.
Many Mexican workers are getting deported.
Tyler wants the ___________ to change.
He wants Mari’s family to be ___________.
Tyler and Mari make a ___________.
They will ___________ if la Migra comes.

Discussion Questions

1. A plot is a plan. A plot is also a piece of land. Why is this chapter called the Farm of Many Plots?
2. What plan do you like more: the one about grandmother or the one about hiding from la migra? Why?
3. Many slaves escaped to freedom on The Underground Railroad. Do you know any information about the Underground Railroad?
4. In the beginning, Tyler wanted the Cruz family to leave. Now, he wants them to stay. Why?
"Farm of Many Plots" (pg. 109-120) - Beginner

**Summary**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Thanksgiving</th>
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<th>laws</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
</table>

It is ____________.
The Paquette family is ____________.
Grandma is ____________.
She needs help.
Many Mexican workers are getting deported.
Tyler wants the ____________ to change.
Tyler and Mari make a plan.
They will ____________ from la Migra.

**Discussion Questions**

1. Mari wants to hide from la Migra. Is this a good idea? Yes / No
2. Do you know about the Underground Railroad? Yes / No

**Vocabulary**

- Thanksgiving

- Celebrate

- old

- Law

- hide
"Adorada Virgen de Guadalupe" (pg. 121-136) – Non ELL

**Prediction**
Before reading: In this chapter, Mari writes a prayer to la Virgen de Guadalupe. Tío Felipe and Tyler's brother, Ben, go to a party. On the way home, the police stop the care because they are speeding. What do you think happens to Tío Felipe?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

After reading: What did Tío Felipe do when he and Ben were stopped by the police? What happens to him?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

**Discussion Questions**

1. If you were Felipe, would you have ran or done something else? What?

2. When the family is "laying low", they tell each other stories. Ofie wants to hear the story about crossing the desert, but Papá won't let her. What do you think happened in that story?

3. What do you think should happen to older people? (Do you agree with the Paquettes or the Cruzes?)
"Adorada Virgen de Guadalupe" (pg. 121-136) - Advanced

Summary

<table>
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<td>careless</td>
<td>trailer</td>
<td>friend</td>
<td>upset</td>
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<tr>
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<td>promise</td>
<td>reunite</td>
<td>scared</td>
<td>deported</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mari writes a ______________ to la Virgen de Guadalupe because Tío Felipe has been ______________. He had gone to a ______________ with Ben Paquette and they were stopped by the police for ______________. Felipe got ______________ and ran, so when he is finally caught, he will have a ______________ and will be ______________. Ben's family is very ______________ with him for being ______________. Papa is even more worried about la migra and will not let the girls go to school. Also, Grandma runs away to the Cruzes ______________ to hide from her children; her ______________ Martha is coming to pick her up to hide her. The Cruzes are ______________ with the Paquettes for causing Grandma to run away. In Mexico, older people are treated with more ______________. The Paquettes are worried when they can't find Grandma, but the Cruzes agree to tell them where she is if they ______________ not to send her away. Mari begs la Virgen to ______________ her family—both Mamá and Tío Felipe—just like the Paquettes' family has been reunited.

Discussion Questions

1. If you were Felipe, would you have ran or done something else? What?
2. When the family is “laying low”, they tell each other stories. Ofie wants to hear the story about crossing the desert, but Papá won’t let her. What do you think happened in that story?
3. What do you think should happen to older people? (Do you agree with the Paquettes or the Cruzes?)
Summary

<table>
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<th>reunite</th>
<th>prayer</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>deported</td>
<td>angry</td>
<td>worried</td>
<td>brother</td>
<td>hides</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mari writes a ____________ to la Virgen de Guadalupe.

Tío Felipe went to a party with Tyler's ____________.

The ____________ stopped the car for going too fast.

Felipe is afraid and runs from the police.

He is going to be ____________.

Tyler's family is ____________ with Ben for being careless.

Mari's father is worried. The girls can't go to school.

Grandma ____________ from her children. She goes to the Cruzes' ____________.

The Cruz family is angry with the Paquette family.

In Mexico, old people are ____________.

The Paquettes are ____________ about Grandma.

The Cruz family asks them not to put her in a nursing home.

The family is reunited.

Mari asks the Virgen Guadalupe to ____________ her family.

Discussion Questions

1. The police stopped Ben and Felipe. Felipe decides to run. What else could he do?
2. Ofie wants to hear the story about crossing the desert. Papá won't tell her. Why?
3. Should families take care of their grandparents? Or should families send grandparents to nursing homes? What do you think?
Summary

reunited  trailer  police  respected

Tío Felipe runs from the ___________.
He is going to be deported.
Tyler's family is angry with Ben.
Mari's father is worried.
Grandma hides. She goes to the Cruzes ___________.
The Cruz family is angry with the Paquette family.
In Mexico, old people are ___________.
The Paquettes are worried about Grandma.
The family is ___________.

Discussion Questions
1. Are you afraid of the police? Yes / No
2. Do you like the desert or the mountains? I like the ______.
3. Do you have a grandma? Yes / No
   What is her name? Her name is ___________.

Vocabulary

reunite  trailer  police  respect
"Christmas Tears Farm" (pg. 139-155) – Non ELL

**Prediction**
**Before reading:** Christmas is normally a time to be merry, but there are a lot of problems for all of the people that live on the farm. How do you think the families could make the holiday season more cheerful?


**After reading:** At the end of this chapter, the phone rings. Many people think it is Mari's mother. If so, why doesn't she say anything? What do you think is happening?


**Discussion Questions**
1. Tyler is sad that they closed down the tree farm this year. Why did the family decide to do this?
2. Mari learns that all of the constellations have names. What is the name of the one she likes the most in this chapter? Use your own words to explain why she likes it.
3. Mari says that she feels like Mary and Joseph. In the Christmas story, there was no room for them in any of the hotels, so they had to sleep in a barn which is where Jesus was born. Describe how she is feeling when she says there is "no room in this country" for her family.
4. Mari's father chooses a gift for each of his daughters, gives Tyler money and asks Tyler to buy them "from Santa." What do you think Tyler is thinking as the father hands him the crumpled flyer and $25?
5. Do you think Mari's mother is the person on the phone at the end of this chapter? Why or why not?
"Christmas Tears Farm" (pg. 139-155) – Advanced

Summary

<table>
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<td>hire</td>
<td>possibility</td>
<td>forward</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>constellation</td>
<td>Christmas</td>
<td>Gramps</td>
<td>reminds</td>
<td>jail</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is __________ vacation and Ben is still __________ for speeding and causing the trouble with Tio Felipe. It will also be their first Christmas without ___________. The Cruzes are worried about Felipe, Mamá and the ___________ of getting deported, so they are not looking ___________ to Christmas. Tyler teaches Mari about the ___________ called The Seven Sisters which ___________ her of her ___________ mother. The Paquettes ___________ a lawyer for Felipe; they visit Tio Felipe at ___________ on Christmas Eve. Ms. Ramirez, the Spanish teacher, also comes so she can ___________. Tyler comes, too, because he has ___________ Mari that he will give Felipe a special letter that she wrote him. When they ___________ from the jail visit, the phone ___________ and everyone thinks that it might be Mari's ___________.

Discussion Questions

1. Tyler is sad that they closed down the tree farm this year. Why did the family decide to do this?
2. Mari learns that all of the constellations have names. What is the name of the one she likes the most in this chapter? Use your own words to explain why she likes it.
3. Mari says that she feels like Mary and Joseph. In the Christmas story, there was no room for them in any of the hotels, so they had to sleep in a barn which is where Jesus was born. Describe how she is feeling when she says there is “no room in this country” for her family.
4. Mari’s father chooses a gift for each of his daughters, gives Tyler money and asks Tyler to buy them “from Santa.” What do you think Tyler is thinking as the father hands him the crumpled flyer and $25?
5. Do you think Mari’s mother is the person on the phone at the end of this chapter? Why or why not?
“Christmas Tears Farm” (pg. 139-155) – Intermediate

Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>trouble</th>
<th>constellation</th>
<th>Christmas</th>
<th>mother</th>
<th>phone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>jail</td>
<td>Gramps</td>
<td>worried</td>
<td>translate</td>
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</table>

It is ___________ vacation.

Ben is grounded for causing the ___________ with Tio Felipe.

It will be the first Christmas without ___________.

The Cruzes are ___________ about Felipe and Mamá.

Tyler teaches Mari about the ___________ called The Seven Sisters. It reminds her of her mother.

The Paquettes pay for Felipe’s ___________.

The Paquettes visit him in ___________ on Christmas Eve.

Ms. Ramirez, the Spanish teacher, goes to ___________.

Tyler gives Felipe a letter from Mari.

At home, the ___________ rings.

People think it is Mari’s ___________.

Discussion Questions

1. Tyler is sad. The family closed the tree farm this year. Why did the family decide to close the tree farm?
2. The constellations have names. What is Mari’s favorite? Why does she like it?
3. Mari says there is no room in this country for her family. Why does she say this?
4. Why does Mari’s father ask Tyler to buy the Christmas presents?
5. Is it Mari’s mother on the phone? Why?
“Christmas Tears Farm” (pg. 139-155) – Beginner

Summary

<table>
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<th>phone</th>
<th>Christmas</th>
<th>Jail</th>
<th>gives</th>
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</thead>
</table>

It is __________ vacation.
Both families are __________.
Tyler teaches Mari about constellations.
The Paquettes visit Felipe in __________.
Tyler __________ Felipe a letter from Mari.
At home, the __________ rings.

Discussion Questions
1. Does your family celebrate Christmas? Yes / No
2. What constellations do you know? I know __________.
3. Is the United States a fair place for immigrants? Yes / No
4. What do you give for Christmas? I give __________.
5. Is Mari’s mother on the phone? Yes / No

Vocabulary

sad
phone
Christmas
Jail
Give
"Querido Tio Felipe" (pg. 156-178)

**Prediction**
Before reading: Mari writes seven letters to Tio Felipe while he is in jail. What do you think she tells him about?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

After reading: What is the most important thing that Mari talks about in her letters? Why is it the most important?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

**Discussion Questions**
1. Felipe’s “girlfriend” can go to Mexico and the United States without a problem. How do you think Mari feels about that? How would you feel?
2. Why does Papá make the girls speak only in Spanish?
3. Do you think Felipe deserves to be sent back to Mexico? Why?
4. What have we learned by the end of Mari’s letters to Tio Felipe?
“Querido Tío Felipe” (pg. 156-178) - Advanced

Summary

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<th>guitar</th>
<th>deported</th>
<th>changes</th>
<th>Spanish</th>
<th>jail</th>
<th>updated</th>
<th>letters</th>
<th>hearing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Mari writes 7 ______________ to Felipe to keep him __________. She wants him to know that they consider him a ____________ for running away from the ____________ so that la migra didn’t find them all. He is the only Mexican and ______________ speaker in ____________ so they let him receive ____________ and cookies. Ms. Ramirez has come to ____________ the Cruz girls like her own and Felipe has started a ____________ with a girl from the party. Felipe has his ____________ and will be ____________ to Mexico. This news ____________ Papá. He will ____________ only Spanish to be spoken in their house. Felipe’s “girlfriend” will be going to Mexico over her spring ____________ and volunteers to take Wilmita the ____________ back to their family there.

Discussion Questions

1. Felipe’s “girlfriend” can go to Mexico and the United States without a problem. How do you think Mari feels about that? How would you feel?
2. Why does Papá make the girls speak only in Spanish?
3. Do you think Felipe deserves to be sent back to Mexico? Why?
4. What have we learned by the end of Mari’s letters to Tío Felipe?
"Querido Tío Felipe" (pg. 156-178) - Intermediate

**Summary**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>hero</th>
<th>relationship</th>
<th>guitar</th>
<th>jail</th>
<th>deported</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>girlfriend</td>
<td>allows</td>
<td>loves</td>
<td>police</td>
<td>writes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mari ___________ 7 letters to Felipe.
She thinks he is a ___________. When he runs from the ___________, la Migra can't find the family.
He is the only Mexican person in ____________.
Ms. Ramirez ____________ the Cruz girls.
Felipe starts a ____________ with a girl from the party.
Felipe is ____________ to Mexico.
Papá only ____________ the girls to speak Spanish.
Felipe's ____________ is going to Mexico. She will bring Felipe's ____________.

**Discussion Questions**

1. Felipe's "girlfriend" can go to Mexico. Many Mexicans can't come to the USA. Is this fair? Why?
2. Why does Papá make the girls speak only in Spanish?
3. Do you think Felipe deserves to be deported? Why?
4. What do we learn in Mari's letters to Felipe?
"Querido Tio Felipe" (pg. 156-178) - Beginner

**Summary**

| allows | hero | girlfriend | loves |

Mari writes 7 letters to Felipe.
She thinks he is a ____________.
He is the only Mexican person in jail.
Ms. Ramirez ____________ the Cruz girls.
Felipe is deported to Mexico.
Papá only ____________ Spanish.
Felipe's ____________ goes to Mexico.

**Discussion Questions**
1. Felipe's "girlfriend" is allowed to go to Mexico. Many Mexicans can't come to the USA. Is this fair? Yes / No
2. Is your language important? Yes / No
3. Is it fair that Felipe is deported? Yes / No
4. Who is your favorite character? My favorite character is ____________.

**Vocabulary**

allow

hero

girlfriend

love
"Farm for the Lost & Found" (pg. 181-194) – Non ELL

Prediction
Before reading: In this chapter, Tyler wants to go on a school trip to Washington D.C. he doesn't have enough money. At a meeting, he finds $800. What do you think he does with the money? Why?


After reading: What would you have said to Mr. Rosetti's comments about how the workers should be deported?


Discussion Questions
1. If you were Tyler and found the money, what would you do?
2. At the end of the Town Meeting, Tyler thanks Mari for helping to save his family's farm. How do you think she feels when he does this?
3. When Tyler is chosen to carry the flag and lead the Pledge of Allegiance, he gets nervous and almost gets a stomachache. When was a time that you had to speak in front of people and got nervous?
4. This chapter is called "Farm for the Lost and Found." What is lost and what is found in this chapter?
Summary

<table>
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<tr>
<th>finds</th>
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<th>angry</th>
<th>permission</th>
<th>planning</th>
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<tr>
<td>birthday</td>
<td>belongs</td>
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<tr>
<td>struggling</td>
<td>reminds</td>
<td>successful</td>
<td>migrant</td>
<td>Meeting</td>
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</table>

Tyler is about to turn 12 years old and realizes that he can’t _______ the trip to Washington D.C. that his school’s 4H Club is _________. The day before his ________, there is a Town _________. Mr. Bicknell’s students are supposed to go and write a _______ about what they learn. Before the Meeting, Tyler ________ over $800 and is ________ about whether or not he should _________ the money. During the Town Meeting, some people, especially Mr. Rosetti, want the town’s _________ workers to be deported. He is _________ that people are in the United States without the proper _______. But Mr. Bicknell speaks up and _________ the citizens that everyone who has succeeded has had help becoming ________. Tyler finds out the money _________ to Mr. Rosetti and _________ it to him.

Discussion Questions

1. If you were Tyler and found the money, what would you do?
2. At the end of the Town Meeting, Tyler thanks Mari for helping to save his family’s farm. How do you think she feels when he does this?
3. When Tyler is chosen to carry the flag and lead the Pledge of Allegiance, he gets nervous and almost gets a stomachache. When was a time that you had to speak in front of people and got nervous?
4. This chapter is called “Farm for the Lost and Found.” What is lost and what is found in this chapter?
"Farm for the Lost & Found" (pg. 181-194) - Intermediate

**Summary**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Washington D.C</th>
<th>meeting</th>
<th>fair</th>
<th>citizens</th>
<th>returns</th>
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<tr>
<td>assignment</td>
<td>old</td>
<td>afford</td>
<td>finds</td>
<td>keep</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tyler is about to be 12 years ____________.
He can’t ____________ the school trip to ____________.
He goes to a town ____________. It is an ____________ for class.
Tyler ____________ $800 at the meeting. He wants to ____________ the money.
At the meeting, Mr. Rosetti wants the migrant workers to be deported.
He thinks they need papers. He says it is not ____________ for the citizens.
Mr. Bicknell reminds the ____________ that all Americans are immigrants.
Tyler ____________ the money to Mr. Rosetti.

**Discussion Questions**

1. Should Tyler return the money? Why?
2. Tyler thanks Mari for helping to save the farm. How do you think this makes her feel? Why?
3. Tyler has to carry the flag in front of all the people. This makes him nervous. When is a time that you got nervous?
4. This chapter is called “Farm for the Lost and Found.” What is lost and what is found in this chapter?
“Farm for the Lost & Found” (pg. 181-194) - Beginner

**Summary**
Tyler wants to go to Washington, D.C.
He doesn't have ____________.
He goes to a ____________.
Tyler ____________ $800.
Mr. Rosetti wants the Mexican workers to be deported.
Mr. Bicknell says all Americans are immigrants.
Tyler ____________ the money to Mr. Rosetti.

**Discussion Questions**
1. Should Tyler return the money? Yes / No
2. Is Mari important to Tyler? Yes / No
3. What makes you nervous? ____________ makes me nervous.

**Vocabulary**

- money
- return
- find
- meeting
"Para todo mi familia en Las Margaritas" (pg. 195-210) – Non ELL

**Prediction**
Before reading: Tio Felipe wants to return to the USA so he can earn money to help out his family. Do you think he should return? Why?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

After reading: Why do you think Mr. Rosetti is difficult to get along with at first? Do you know anyone like this?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

**Discussion Questions**
1. Do you speak another language? Are you better at that language or English?
2. Why does Mari say, “Friendship is a country everyone can belong to” (page 202)?
3. Tyler’s 4H club has their picture in the paper! Who do you know that has been in the paper, on television or school newsletter? Tell about it!
4. Tyler gets into a fight with the bullies who tease him about liking Mari. How else could he have dealt with the bullies?
5. Mr. Rosetti hires Tyler to work around his house. What does this show us about Mr. Rosetti?
Summary

<table>
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<tr>
<td>updated</td>
<td>return</td>
<td>phone</td>
<td>fight</td>
<td>make up</td>
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</table>

Mari wants to _____________ to her family in Las Margaritas because they only get to talk on the _____________. She wants to _____________ the family in Mexico ____________. Felipe has made it back to ____________ but wants to _____________ to the U.S. so he can ____________ money to help out his family. Before she leaves for her ____________ trip, Alyssa, Felipe’s “girlfriend”, takes ____________ of all of the Cruzes for the family in Las Margaritas. Tyler and Mari have a ____________ after an ____________ in Mr. Bicknell’s class, but they ____________ at the Town Meeting when Tyler ____________ her. Mr. Rosetti ____________ Tyler to do work around his house so that Tyler can ____________ money for his trip to DC. Gram and Tyler start to like Mr. Rosetti.

Discussion Questions

1. Do you speak another language? Are you better at that language or English?
2. Why does Mari say, “Friendship is a country everyone can belong to” (page 202)?
3. Tyler’s 4H club has their picture in the paper! Who do you know that has been in the paper, on television or school newsletter? Tell about it!
4. Tyler gets into a fight with the bullies who tease him about liking Mari. How else could he have dealt with the bullies?
5. Mr. Rosetti hires Tyler to work around his house. What does this show us about Mr. Rosetti?
Summary

<table>
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<td>writes</td>
<td>phone</td>
<td>fight</td>
<td>return</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Mari ____________ to her family in Las Margaritas because they only talk on the ____________.
Félix wants to ____________ to the U.S. so he can ____________ his family.
Alyssa takes ____________ of the Cruz family to Las Margaritas.
Tyler and Mari have a ____________ about a class ____________.
They make ____________ at the Town Meeting.
Mr. Rosetti ____________ Tyler to do work around his house.
Tyler wants to ____________ money for his trip to DC.
Gram and Tyler start to like Mr. Rosetti.

Discussion Questions

1. Do you speak another language? Are you better at that language or English?
2. Why does Mari say, "Friendship is a country everyone can belong to" (page 202)?
3. Tyler's 4H club has their picture in the paper! Do you know anyone in the paper or on television? Who?
4. Tyler fights with some bullies. They say he likes Mari. Is fighting the best thing for this problem?
Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>return</th>
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<th>money</th>
<th>letters</th>
<th>fight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Mari writes ____________ to her family in Mexico.
Felipe wants to ____________ to the U.S.
Felipe's girlfriend brings ____________ to Mexico.
Tyler and Mari have a ____________.
Tyler works at Mr. Rosetti's house.
Tyler wants ____________ for a school ____________.
Gram and Tyler like Mr. Rosetti.

Discussion Questions
1. Do you speak another language? I speak ____________.
2. Who is your friend? My friend is ____________.
3. Is your photo in a newspaper? Yes / No
4. Who do you fight with? I fight with ____________.

Vocabulary

photos

fight

trip
"Interrobang Farm" (pg. 213-226) – Non ELL

Prediction
Before reading: In this chapter, the family finally receives information about mama. She is alive, but her situation is not positive. What do you think is going on with mamá?


After reading: What is one word that you feel describes Tyler’s actions? Explain why you chose that word with examples from the chapter.


Discussion Questions
1. What do you think is the BIGGEST surprise in this chapter?
2. For one of the protests, all the people who support immigrants are asked to stay home from work one day. How do you think that would change things in a city?
3. If you were Mari’s mother, how do you think you would feel at this point in the story?
4. What could be another title for this chapter?
"Interrobang Farm" (pg. 213-226) - Advanced

Summary

<table>
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<td>ransom</td>
<td>girls</td>
<td>rights</td>
<td>surprise</td>
<td>North Carolina</td>
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</table>

Mr. Bicknell teaches his students that one way to show ____________ in writing is by using an "_____________" (!?). And in this chapter, there are many surprises. First, Mr. Rosetti becomes like a ____________ to Tyler and the _____________. Also, the trip to DC is ____________ because there are so many ____________ about immigration ___________ happening in that city. Additionally, the Cruz family finds out that Mamá is still ____________ but is being held _____________. The family puts together the money for her _____________. Aunt Roxy and Uncle Tony ____________ that they forgot to give Tyler a birthday present and want to take him to DC for his _____________. But he asks if they can go to ____________ instead so that they can ____________ Mamá from the ____________ who are holding her.

Discussion Questions

1. What do you think is the BIGGEST surprise in this chapter?
2. For one of the protests, all the people who support immigrants are asked to stay home from work one day. How do you think that would change things in a city?
3. If you were Mari's mother, how do you think you would feel at this point in the story?
4. What could be another title for this chapter?
"Interrobang Farm" (pg. 213-226) - Intermediate

Summary

<table>
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<td>ransom</td>
<td>surprise</td>
<td>symbol</td>
<td>grandfather</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mr. Bicknell teaches his students a new ______________. The symbol shows ____________. It is called an ______________ (!?).

This chapter has many surprises.

Mr. Rosetti acts like a ______________ for the kids.

The DC trip is ______________ because there are ______________ about immigration rights.

The Cruz family finds out that mama is alive. She is a ______________.

They need to pay a ______________.

Aunt Roxy and Uncle Tony forgot to give Tyler a birthday ______________.

He wants to go to North Carolina to ______________ Mari's mom.

Discussion Questions

1. What is the BIGGEST surprise in this chapter?
2. Do you think the protests will improve life for immigrants? Why?
3. How do you think Mari's mother feels?
4. What could be another title for this chapter?
"Interrobang Farm" (pg. 213-226) - Beginner

Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>protests</th>
<th>ransom</th>
<th>save</th>
<th>surprises</th>
<th>hostage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

This chapter has many ________.

Mr. Rosetti is like a grandfather for Tyler, Mari, and her sisters.

There are _________ for immigrants in Washington D.C.

Mama is alive. She is a _________.

They need to pay a _________.

Tyler wants to ________ Mari's mom.

Discussion Questions

1. What is your favorite part of this chapter? My favorite part is _________.
2. Do you want to protest for immigrants? Yes / No
3. How does Mari's mother feel? Mari's mother feels _________.
4. What is a good title for this chapter? A good title for this chapter is _________.

Vocabulary

- **save**
- **ransom**
- **hostage**
- **protest**
- **surprise**
"Queridos Papá, Tío Armando, Ofie y Luby" (pg. 227-246) – Non ELL

**Prediction**

*Before reading:* During this chapter, Mari, Aunt Roxy, Uncle Tony, Sara and Tyler travel to North Carolina to get Mamá from the coyotes. How do you think it goes? What do you think happens?

________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

**After reading:** What types of things do you think happened to mama while she was being held hostage?

__________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

**Discussion Questions**

1. How long do you think it will take for Mamá to be “back to normal”?
2. Mari’s family has very strict rules about boyfriends and girlfriends. What do you think about this?
3. Re-read the paragraph where Mamá is dropped off. What does it show us about the smugglers?
4. How has Mari’s mother changed?
Summary

<table>
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<th>nightmares</th>
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<td>settled</td>
<td>travel</td>
<td>back</td>
<td>traumatized</td>
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Mari, Aunt Roxy, Uncle Tony, Sara and Tyler ____________ to North Carolina to get Mamá from the ____________. On the way ____________ to Vermont, Mari learns about what ____________ to her mom during her ____________. Mamá is ____________ from her experience and has ____________ and ____________ a lot. Mr. and Mrs. Mahoney (the aunt and uncle) help get her ____________ with some clothes and ____________ since the coyotes ____________ her out of the ____________ without letting her get her ____________. Mari wants to write this ____________ so that she can help the family ____________ what Mamá has been through.

Discussion Questions

1. How long do you think it will take for Mamá to be "back to normal"?
2. Mari's family has very strict rules about boyfriends and girlfriends. What do you think about this?
3. Re-read the paragraph where Mamá is dropped off. What does it show us about the smugglers?
4. How has Mari's mother changed?
"Queridos Papá, Tío Armando, Ofie y Luby" (pg. 227-246) - Intermediate

**Summary**

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<tr>
<td>traumatized</td>
<td>situation</td>
<td>letter</td>
<td>nightmares</td>
<td>travel</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mari, Aunt Roxy, Uncle Tony, Sara and Tyler ____________ to North Carolina. They are going to ____________ Mamá.

Mamá ____________ Mari about her experience being a ____________ .

Mamá is ____________ . She cries and has ____________ .

The coyotes keep Mama's ____________ . Aunt Roxy and Uncle Tony buy her clothes and ____________ .

Mari writes a ____________ to her family. She wants them to understand Mama's ____________ .

**Discussion Questions**

1. Will Mamá ever be “back to normal”? Why?
2. Mari’s family has rules about boyfriends and girlfriends. What are you family rules about this?
3. Describe the coyotes. What are they like?
4. How has Mari’s mother changed?
"Queridos Papá, Tío Armando, Ofie y Luby" (pg. 227-246) - Beginner

**Summary**

| bag  | buy  | travel | cries | sad  | save |

Mari, Aunt Roxy, Uncle Tony, Sara and Tyler ____________ to North Carolina.

They ____________ Mamá.

Mamá tells Mari about her experience.

Mamá is ____________ . She ____________ a lot.

Mamá does not have a ____________ .

Aunt Roxy and Uncle Tony ____________ things for Mamá.

**Discussion Questions**

2. Can you have a boyfriend or girlfriend? Yes / No
3. Is a coyote good or bad? A coyote is ____________ .
4. Do you think Mamá is different? Yes / No

**Vocabulary**

- bag
- buy
- travel
- cry
Prediction
Before reading: During this chapter, Mamá returns home. How do you think things change in the house now that Mamá is back?

After reading: At the end of the chapter, something very serious happens. What do you think Mari and her sisters will do? Why?

Discussion Questions
1. Tyler feels that the examples that adults set for him are sometimes unclear and confusing. When have you felt the same way?
2. Is Mari’s father right or wrong in the way he treats Tyler?
3. At the Mother’s Day dinner, Grandma announces that she is taking some of her church’s youth to Mexico. Why do you think she decides to do this?
4. When la migra raids the trailer, the 2 younger sisters are at Grandma’s house making American flags to put on the graves of veterans at the next day’s Memorial Day service. How would you feel about the flag if you were in their place?
Mari turns 12; for her _______, Tyler names a _________ after her and arranges a star-gazing _______ for her. Mari wants things at home to be beautiful since Mamá is _______ with them. But as Mamá tells Papá more about her _________, Papá becomes more _________, bitter and _________ that he was not able to _________ her. He does not want Tyler at the _________ visiting Mari. They also learn that _________ George Bush is building a _________ between the US and _________.

The Cruz family must decide if they will try to go to Mexico before the wall is _________. At the end of the chapter, Tyler and Mari are at the birthday star-gazing session as police cars _________ the Cruz trailer where Mamá, Papá and Tío Armando are _________ by ICE, la migra.

Discussion Questions
1. Tyler feels that the examples that adults set for him are sometimes unclear and confusing. When have you felt the same way?
2. Is Mari’s father right or wrong in the way he treats Tyler?
3. At the Mother’s Day dinner, Grandma announces that she is taking some of her church’s youth to Mexico. Why do you think she decides to do this?
4. When la migra raids the trailer, the 2 younger sisters are at Grandma’s house making American flags to put on the graves of veterans at the next day’s Memorial Day service. How would you feel about the flag if you were in their place?
"Return-to-Sender Farm" (pg. 249-263) - Intermediate

Summary

<table>
<thead>
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<th>wall</th>
<th>protect</th>
<th>star</th>
<th>together</th>
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<tr>
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<td>trailer</td>
<td>strict</td>
<td>returning</td>
<td>Police</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mari turns 12.
Tyler names a ___________ after her.
They look at the star ___________.
Mamá tells Papá about her ___________.
Papá becomes very ___________ and angry. He feels guilty because he didn't ___________ Mamá.
He does not want Tyler to visit Mari in the ___________.
President Bush is building a ___________ between the US and Mexico.
The Cruz family is thinking about ___________ to Mexico.
___________ cars surround the Cruz trailer.
Mari and her ___________ are not in the trailer.
Mamá, Papá, and Tío Armando are ___________ by la Migra.

Discussion Questions
1. Tyler thinks that adults are confusing. How do you feel about adults?
2. Is Mari's father right or wrong in the way he treats Tyler? Why?
3. Grandma is going to Mexico with her church. Why do you think she wants to go to Mexico?
4. The 2 younger sisters are American because they were born in the US. After their parents are captured, how do you think they feel about the USA?
"Return-to-Sender Farm" (pg. 249-263) - Beginner

Summary

| trailer | star | wall | hostage | strict | captured | police |

Tyler names a ____________ for Mari.
Mamá tells Papá about being a ____________.
Papá is very ____________ and angry.
Tyler cannot visit Mari in the ____________.
President Bush is making a ____________ between the US and Mexico.
The Cruz family may return to Mexico.
The ____________ go to the Cruz trailer.
Mari and her sisters are not in the trailer.
Mamá, Papá, and Tío Armando are ____________ by la Migra.

Discussion Questions
1. Tyler thinks adults are confusing. What do you think? I think adults are ____________.
2. Mari’s father is strict with Tyler. Is this good or bad? It is ____________.
3. Do you want to travel to Mexico? Yes / No
4. Do you like the USA? I like / don’t like the USA.

Vocabulary

wall
star
capture
strict
"Dear Diary" (pg. 247-263) – Non ELL

**Prediction**

**Before reading:** Mamá and Papá are in jail. What do you think happens to them and their family?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________


**After reading:** Describe Mari with one word. Then, explain why you chose that word. Use as many examples as possible.

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________


**Discussion Questions**

1. How has Tyler changed from the beginning of the story to this point?
2. If you were Mari, would you want to turn yourself in to ICE like she did? Why or why not?
3. When Mari starts to speak to Mr. O'Goody, she is very nervous, so Tyler helps her by telling her to just talk to him. What is one thing you do when you are nervous to help yourself out?
4. The law said that Mari's parents were criminals. What do you think?
Summary

Mari's mother has given her a __________ for her __________ and she wants to use it to __________ down all the __________ events that she and her family have been through.

Mr. Rosetti and Grandma help __________ the 3 girls after the __________ which was held all over the __________ and was called Operation Return to __________. Ms. Ramirez, Mr. Calhoun (the __________) and Mrs. Paquette work to find out where the Cruzes are being __________ and how to get them out of __________. Only Armando will be __________ directly to Mexico. Both Mamá and Papá face more serious, criminal __________ because the mother tried to run and the father fought back at the ICE __________. The girls are not __________ to go to school so Mr. Bicknell's class writes a __________ letter to Mari. Mari decides that she wants to go to __________ and tell them her family's story so that they will not be treated like __________, but can instead be __________ as a family. The ICE agent, Mr. O'Goody, is __________ with Mari's maturity and her __________ helps free her parents from jail. They will all __________ back to Mexico together after Mamá __________ against the coyotes that __________ her.

Discussion Questions
1. How has Tyler changed from the beginning of the story to this point?
2. If you were Mari, would you want to turn yourself in to ICE like she did? Why or why not?
3. When Mari starts to speak to Mr. O'Goody, she is very nervous, so Tyler helps her by telling her to just talk to him. What is one thing you do when you are nervous to help yourself out?
4. The law said that Mari's parents were criminals. What do you think?
Summary

<table>
<thead>
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<th>birthday</th>
<th>difficult</th>
<th>hide</th>
<th>raid</th>
<th>deported</th>
<th>trouble</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>freed</td>
<td>return</td>
<td>ran</td>
<td>impressed</td>
<td>diary</td>
<td>happened</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lawyer</td>
<td>fought</td>
<td>jail</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mari’s mother gives her a ___________ for her ___________. She writes about all the ___________ events in the past.

Grandma and Mr. Rosetti ___________ the 3 girls.
The raid was called Operation Return to Sender. It ___________ in many places in the USA.
Ms. Ramirez, Mr. Calhoun (___________), and Mrs. Paquette try to get the Cruzes out of ___________.

Armando is going to be ___________.

Mamá and Papá are in more ___________. Mamá ___________ from the police. Papa ___________ the police.

The girls don’t go to school. The class writes Mari a letter.

Mari tells la Migra her family’s story. The ICE agent is ___________ with Mari. Her parents are ___________ from jail.

The family will ___________ to Mexico together on an airplane.

Discussion Questions
1. How has Tyler changed from the beginning of the story?
2. Did Mari do the best thing for her family? Why or why not?
3. Mari is nervous speaking with Mr. O’Goody. Tyler helps her. What do you do to help when you are nervous?
4. The law says that Mari’s parents are criminals. Do you agree? Why?
"Dear Diary" (pg. 247-263) - Beginner

**Summary**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>return</th>
<th>letter</th>
<th>fought</th>
<th>diary</th>
<th>problems</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>jail</td>
<td>hide</td>
<td>ran</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mari's writes in her ________ for her birthday.

Grandma and Mr. Rosetti ________ the girls.

Mrs. Paquette visits the Cruzes in ________.

Mamá and Papá have ________. Mamá ________ from the police. Papa ________ the police.

The girls don't go to school. The class writes Mari a ________.

Mari talks to la Migra. They are ________ with Mari.

The family will ________ to Mexico.

**Discussion Questions**

1. Is Tyler different from the beginning? Yes / No
2. What is one word that describes Mari? Mari is ________.
3. What makes you nervous? ________ makes me nervous.
4. Are Mari's mom and dad bad people? Yes / No

**Vocabulary**

- diary
- problem
- run
- impressed
"Dear Mari" (pg. 264-296) – Non ELL

**Prediction**
**Before reading:** In this chapter, Tyler writes a good-bye letter to Mari because she is leaving with her family for Mexico. If you were Tyler, what would you write about in the letter?


**After reading:** What went wrong for Tyler's family? What did they do and what things happened that pushed them to lease their farm?


**Discussion Questions**

1. What do you think the farm should be named? Why?
2. Tyler realizes that Mari's parents will never have the life they want because they have had to spend so much time working for their family to have a better life. Do you think they regret their choice?
3. Tyler ends his letter by telling Mari that it's up to "us" if things are going to change on our planet. What's one thing that you think needs to be changed in our world? Be specific and explain why.
4. Mrs. Paquette says that life is about "change, change, change." How do you know she is right about this?
"Dear Mari" (pg. 264-296) - Advanced

Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>help</th>
<th>name</th>
<th>Boston</th>
<th>last</th>
<th>left</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>lease</td>
<td>good-bye</td>
<td>Mari</td>
<td>telescope</td>
<td>connected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>far</td>
<td>farm</td>
<td>Before</td>
<td>gift</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This is Tyler's __________ letter to __________ before he and his family go to __________ to see Mari's family for the __________ time. He wants Mari to know that this letter and the __________ he is sending (his __________) will help them stay __________ even though they are __________ away. The __________ is not doing well since the Cruzes __________, so his family will have to __________ it to Uncle Larry. __________ they do that, Tyler wants Mari to __________ them come up with a __________ for the farm.

Discussion Questions

1. What do you think the farm should be named? Why?
2. Tyler realizes that Mari's parents will never have the life they want because they have had to spend so much time working for their family to have a better life. Do you think they regret their choice?
3. Tyler ends his letter by telling Mari that it's up to "us" if things are going to change on our planet. What's one thing that you think needs to be changed in our world? Be specific and explain why.
4. Mrs. Paquette says that life is about "change, change, change." How do you know she is right about this?
Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>name</th>
<th>goodbye</th>
<th>family</th>
<th>Boston</th>
<th>farm</th>
<th>problems</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>last</td>
<td>telescope</td>
<td>writes</td>
<td>connected</td>
<td>Mari</td>
<td>lease</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tyler ________ a letter to say _________ to Mari.
Tyler's _________ is going to _________ to see Mari's family for the last time.
Tyler gives Mari his _________ so she will be _________ to him.
The _________ is having _________ since the Cruzes left.
The family has to _________ the farm to Uncle Larry.
Tyler wants _________ to help make a _________ for the farm.

Discussion Questions
1. What is a good name for the farm? Why?
2. Tyler feels bad because Mari's family doesn't have a good life. Do you think their life was better in the USA or in Mexico?
3. Tyler tells Mari that we need to change the world. What do you want to change on this planet?
4. Mrs. Paquette says that life is about "change, change, change." What does she mean?
"Dear Mari" (pg. 264-296) - Beginner

Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>travels</th>
<th>problems</th>
<th>letter</th>
<th>farm</th>
<th>telescope</th>
<th>leases</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Tyler writes a ___________ to Mari. He says goodbye.
Tyler's family ___________ to Boston to see Mari's family.
Tyler gives Mari his ___________.
The farm is having ___________.
The family ___________ the farm to Uncle Larry.
Tyler wants Mari to name the ___________.

Discussion Questions
1. What is a good name for the farm? A good name for the farm is ___________.
2. Is life better in the USA or Mexico? Life is better in ___________.
3. What needs to change on this planet? ___________ needs to change.
4. Are you changing in the USA? Yes / No

Vocabulary

lease
"Dear Tyler" (pg. 299-318) – Non ELL

**Prediction**
**Before reading:** What do you think Mari is going to write to Tyler? Why do you think that?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

**After reading:** What will happen between Tyler and Mari in the future? Why?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

**Discussion Questions**
1. Do you think that they Cruzes should ever try to go back to the US? Why?
2. Tyler gives Mari a very special gift when he gives her his telescope. What is one gift that you would like to receive? Why?
3. How is life in Las Margaritas different from life in the US?
4. What is the difference between being "patriots of a country" and "citizens of a planet"?
5. How has Mari changed during this story?
6. What do you think of the name that they have chosen for the farm?
"Dear Tyler" (pg. 299-318) - Advanced

Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mexico</th>
<th>return</th>
<th>early</th>
<th>country</th>
<th>election</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>back</td>
<td>Grandma</td>
<td>church</td>
<td>farm</td>
<td>Swallows</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>host</td>
<td>name</td>
<td>farewell</td>
<td>political</td>
<td>demonstrations</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mari writes __________ to Tyler just as __________, Mr. Rosetti and the __________ group are about to leave __________ and __________ to the US. The group must return __________ because there are many __________ protests and __________ happening as the __________ gets ready for its __________. The __________ families and all of the church visitors have a huge __________ party. Afterwards, the family decides on a __________ for the __________:

Estrellas y Golondrinas (Stars and __________).

Discussion Questions

1. Do you think that they Cruzes should ever try to go back to the US? Why?
2. Tyler gives Mari a very special gift when he gives her his telescope. What is one gift that you would like to receive? Why?
3. How is life in Las Margaritas different from life in the US?
4. What is the difference between being “patriots of a country” and “citizens of a planet”?
5. How has Mari changed during this story?
6. What do you think of the name that they have chosen for the farm?
“Dear Tyler” (pg. 299-318) - Intermediate

Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>church</th>
<th>visitors</th>
<th>family</th>
<th>farm</th>
<th>Swallows</th>
<th>protests</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>election</td>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>writes</td>
<td>Tyler</td>
<td>party</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mari ____________ back to ______________.

Grandma, Mr. Rosetti and the ______________ group have to leave ______________.

There are ______________ because there is going to be an ______________.

There is a huge farewell ______________ for the ______________.

In the USA, the ______________ decides to name the ______________ Estrellas y Golondrinas (Stars and ______________).

Discussion Questions

1. Will the cruzes go back to the US? Why?
2. Tyler gives Mari a very special gift (a telescope). What is a gift you want? Why?
3. How is life in Las Margaritas different from life in the US?
4. What is the difference between being “patriots of a country” and “citizens of a planet”?
5. How has Mari changed during this story?
6. Do you like the name for the farm? Why?


“Dear Tyler” (pg. 299-318) - Beginner

Summary

| church | Swallows | election | letter | party |

Mari writes a ____________ to Tyler.
Grandma, Mr. Rosetti and the ____________ group return to the USA.
There are protests because there is an ____________.
There is a big ____________ for the visitors.
The family names the farm Estrellas y Golondrinas (Stars and ____________).

Discussion Questions

1. Will the cruze return to the US? Yes / No
2. Tyler gives Mari a telescope. What do you want? I want ____________.
3. How is life in Las Margaritas? Life in las Margaritas is ____________.
4. Do you love your country more or the world more? I love ____________ more.
5. Did Mari change? Yes / No
6. Do you like the name for the farm? Yes / No

Vocabulary

- church
- swallow
- election
- party
### Research Topics and Vocabulary

*(Divided into Sections and in order of appearance in the novel)*

#### Parts 1 and 2 (summer and summer into fall)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Possible Research Topics</th>
<th>Advanced Vocab</th>
<th>Beginner Vocab</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Dairy Farming</td>
<td>• swallows</td>
<td>Brother</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Trail of Tears</td>
<td>• borders</td>
<td>Sister</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• The North Star &amp; slaves</td>
<td>• separation</td>
<td>Injured</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• swallows</td>
<td>• constellation</td>
<td>Farm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• constellation</td>
<td>• citizen</td>
<td>Worker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Abraham Lincoln &amp; the Civil War</td>
<td></td>
<td>Letter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• September 16&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td></td>
<td>Desert</td>
</tr>
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</table>

#### Parts 3 and 4 (fall and late fall)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Possible Research Topics</th>
<th>Advanced Vocab</th>
<th>Beginner Vocab</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• <em>Día de los Muertos</em></td>
<td>• alms</td>
<td>dead</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Taurid meteor shower</td>
<td>• altar</td>
<td>mourning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Homeland Security</td>
<td>• beggars</td>
<td>dinner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• “La Golondrina”</td>
<td>• plot</td>
<td>constellations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Underground Railroad</td>
<td>• eavesdropping</td>
<td>worried</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• <em>Virgen de Guadalupe</em></td>
<td>• culpable</td>
<td>think</td>
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<tr>
<td>• coyotes</td>
<td>• reunited</td>
<td>alive</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• deported</td>
<td>Halloween</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Thanksgiving</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Old</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Hide</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Law</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Celebrate</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>trailer</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>respect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>reunite</td>
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</table>

#### Parts 5 and 6 (winter and no more winter)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Possible Research Topics</th>
<th>Advanced Vocab</th>
<th>Beginner Vocab</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Christmas Eve <em>posadas</em></td>
<td>• shunning</td>
<td>Christmas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Three Kings</td>
<td>• heavy-hearted</td>
<td>sad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• <em>Día de la Calenderia</em></td>
<td>• hemisphere</td>
<td>jail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Chiapas</td>
<td>• fugitive</td>
<td>phone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Town Meeting structure</td>
<td>• patriot</td>
<td>give</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>hero</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vermont granite quarries</td>
<td>injustice</td>
<td>loves</td>
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<td>-------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Pleiades</td>
<td>prejudice</td>
<td>girlfriend</td>
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<td>finds</td>
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<td></td>
<td>returns</td>
<td>photos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>trip</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Parts 7 and 8 (almost spring and spring)

#### Possible Research Topics
- Vietnam War Memorial
- ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement)
- Migrant Smuggling
- Operation Return to Sender

#### Advanced Vocab
- interrobang
- smugglers
- preoccupied
- twitter
- contradictory
- rain-check
- recommendation
- pending

#### Beginner Vocab
- surprise
- protest
- hostage
- ransom
- save
- bag
- buy
- travel
- cry
- wall
- star
- strict
- captured
- diary
- problems
- ran
- impressed

### Part 9 (summer again)

#### Possible Research Topics
- Hopi elders

#### Advanced Vocab
- elder
- farewell
- generations

#### Beginner Vocab
- lease
- church
- election
- party
- Swallows
Before Reading - Non Ell/Adv

1. Read the section at the END of the book called “Dear Readers/ “Queridos Lectores” (p.321).

2. Here are some vocabulary words that are introduced in “Dear Readers/ “Queridos Lectores” and will be used throughout this story. See if you can match the word to its definition. Use the lines provided.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>smugglers/cohotes</th>
<th>migrants</th>
<th>deportation</th>
<th>raid</th>
<th>swallow</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>la migra</td>
<td>casualties</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- victims; people who are hurt
- a bird that flies lives in North America
- people who sneak others into a country illegally
- an attack
- being sent away to another country
- people who move (migrate) from one place to another usually for work
- the Spanish word for “immigration police”

3. Complete the following on your own, then we will share.
One thing I learned is

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

One question I have is

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________
Before Reading - Beg/Int

1. Read the section at the END of the book called “Dear Readers/“Queridos Lectores” (p.321).

2. Here are some vocabulary words in “Dear Readers/ “Queridos Lectores”. Read the sentence and choose the correct word.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>smugglers/coyotes</th>
<th>migrants</th>
<th>deportation</th>
<th>raid</th>
<th>swallow</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>la migra</td>
<td>casualties</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1) people who are hurt: A) casualties  B) swallow
2) a bird that lives in North America: A) swallow  B) coyotes
3) people who bring others to a country: A) la migra  B) coyotes
4) an attack: A) raid  B) migrants
5) being sent back to your country: A) casualties  B) deportation
6) people who move for work: A) swallow  B) migrants
7) the Spanish word for “immigration police”: A) la migra  B) raid

3. One thing I learned is ____________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________

One question I have is ____________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
1. Morgan Spurlock, "Inside Man" from CNN
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NwWGzQ1A1HU (1:08 minutes)
Watch this short video about a man named Morgan. He works as a MIGRANT WORKER for a couple days. Pay attention to what you notice. Then, complete the listening guide below.

Working in the fields is _________ because all of the trees have _______. It took Morgan ___ minutes to fill one bag of ______. The other workers tell him he should be able to fill his bag in ___ minutes. He is working very _______ compared to the Mexican workers. Some people think that Mexican workers are _______ for working so hard for _______ money. After working in the fields, Morgan will feel _______.

2. "Invisible America: The Migrant Story"
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l5QFmOqeAlk (6:56 minutes)
Watch this short video about migrant workers. It is made by students who want others to know how important migrant labor is to our everyday lives. Then, complete the listening guide below.

The students start by asking people if they know what a _______ camp is. Many fruits like ______ and _______ come from the United States. ______ workers pick the fruit. Working in agriculture is difficult. Migrant workers' work so hard that their lives are _______ than other Americans. Most of their children will not finish _______ _______. Migrant workers start in _______ and move _______ as the fruit ripens. Many farmers do not want _______ at the migrant camps. Many migrant workers live in _______ housing. ______ can spread quickly throughout a camp. Most workers cannot afford to go to the __________ even when they are sick. Farming is more dangerous than mining and the _______. Most migrant workers come from _______. Many work _______ hours per week. When Georgia deported many of its workers, _______ could not _______ enough people to take their place. The fruit _______ in the fields. _______ of Americans say that they would NOT work as in the fields and live in migrant camps even if they were _______. American _______ depends on migrant _______. It is _______ and _______. Migrant workers should not have to be _______. For things to _______, people must _______ about migrant workers and how they are treated. It should be _______ for migrant workers to get papers to _______ in the United States. Migrant workers are not _______; they are here to _______. The laws can be changed if we _______ to _______.

3. Reflection
Now I know that _______.

_________________________
Migrant Workers – beginner/intermediate

1. Morgan Spurlock, “Inside Man” from CNN
   https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NwWGzQIA1HU (1:08 minutes)
   Watch this short video.
   Morgan works as a MIGRANT WORKER for a couple days.
   After the video, answer the questions below.

   1) Working in the fields is: a) easy   b) difficult
   2) The trees have: a) thorns   b) flowers
   3) To pick one bag, it took Morgan: a) 1 hour   b) 15 minutes
   4) Morgan picked: a) oranges   b) grapes
   5) Workers need to fill one bag in: a) 10 minutes   b) 5 minutes
   6) Morgan works: a) fast    b) slow
   7) Migrant workers earn: a) a lot of money   b) a little money

2. “Invisible America: The Migrant Story”
   https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l5QFMoqeA1k (6:56 minutes)
   Watch this short video about migrant workers.
   Students made this video.
   After, answer the questions below.

   1) The video is about: a) sports camps   b) migrant camps
   2) One fruit migrant workers pick is: a) bananas   b) strawberries
   3) Most children of migrant workers: a) don’t finish high school   b) go to college
   4) Migrant workers start picking in: a) the south   b) the north
   5) Many migrant workers live in houses that are: a) beautiful   b) dirty
   6) Most workers cannot go to the ____________ when they are sick.
   7) Farming is more dangerous than: a) the military   b) sky diving
   8) Most migrant workers are from: a) Canada   b) Mexico
   9) How many hours a week do they work? a) 60-70   b) 40
   10) TRUE OR FALSE: Most Americans want to be migrant farmers.
   11) TRUE OR FALSE: American agriculture depends on migrant workers.
   12) TRUE OR FALSE: Migrant workers are criminals.

3. Reflection
I learned that ________________________________.
"Dear Mr. President"
(by P!nk feat. Indigo Girls)

Dear Mr. ________,
Come take a walk with me.
Let's pretend we're just two people and
You're not ________ than me.
I'd like to ask you some questions if we
can speak honestly.
What do you feel when you see all the
homeless on the ________?
Who do you pray for at night before
you go to ________?
What do you feel when you look in the
mirror?
Are you ________?
How do you sleep while the rest of us
_______?
How do you dream when a mother has
no chance to say ________?
How do you walk with your head held
high?
Can you even look me in the eye
And tell me why?
Dear Mr. President,
Were you a ________ boy?
Are you a lonely boy?
Are you a lonely boy?
How can you say
No ________ is left behind?
We're not dumb and we're not blind.
They're all sitting in your cells
While you pave the road to hell.

What kind of father would take his own
daughter's ________ away?
And what kind of father might hate his
own daughter if she were ________?
I can only imagine what the first lady
has to say
You've come a long way from whiskey
and ________.
How do you sleep while the rest of us
cry?
How do you dream when a mother has
no chance to say goodbye?
How do you walk with your head held
high?
Can you even look me in the eye?
Let me tell you 'bout hard ________
Minimum wage with a baby on the way
Let me tell you 'bout hard work
Rebuilding your ________ after the
bombs took them away
Let me tell you 'bout hard work
Building a ________ out of a
cardboard box
Let me tell you 'bout hard work
Hard work
You don't know nothing 'bout hard work
Hard work
Hard work
How do you ________ at night?
How do you walk with your head held
high?
Dear Mr. President,
You'd never take a ________ with me.
Would you?
**Former President George W. Bush**

Return to Sender’s setting is during the presidency of George W. Bush. He was very different from President Obama. Many people had strong feelings about him. Some people put those feelings into words (like Mari does in the novel). Below is a song written by a famous singer about President Bush. You can watch the video of the song and hear it at this link: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wOt1YKpJKvE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wOt1YKpJKvE)

After you listen, let’s see what we can learn from this person’s point of view about President Bush.

"Dear Mr. President"
(by P!nk feat. Indigo Girls)

Dear Mr. President,
Come take a walk with me.
Let’s pretend we’re just two people and
You’re not better than me.
I’d like to ask you some questions if we can speak honestly.

What do you feel when you see all the homeless on the street?
Who do you pray for at night before you go to sleep?
What do you feel when you look in the mirror?
Are you proud?

How do you sleep while the rest of us cry?
How do you dream when a mother has no chance to say goodbye?
How do you walk with your head held high?
Can you even look me in the eye
And tell me why?

Dear Mr. President,
Were you a lonely boy?
Are you a lonely boy?
Are you a lonely boy?
How can you say
No child is left behind?
We’re not dumb and we’re not blind.
They’re all sitting in your cells
While you pave the road to hell.

What kind of father would take his own daughter’s rights away?

And what kind of father might hate his own daughter if she were gay?
I can only imagine what the first lady has to say
You’ve come a long way from whiskey and cocaine.

How do you sleep while the rest of us cry?
How do you dream when a mother has no chance to say goodbye?
How do you walk with your head held high?
Can you even look me in the eye?

Let me tell you ‘bout hard work
Minimum wage with a baby on the way
Let me tell you ‘bout hard work
Rebuilding your house after the bombs took them away
Let me tell you ‘bout hard work
Building a bed out of a cardboard box
Let me tell you ‘bout hard work
Hard work
Hard work
You don’t know nothing ‘bout hard work
Hard work
Hard work
Oh
How do you sleep at night?
How do you walk with your head held high?
Dear Mr. President,
You’d never take a walk with me.
Would you?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Write a line that catches your attention...</th>
<th>What does it show us?</th>
<th>Is this a FACT or an OPINION?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Field Trip to Yale Planetarium – Non Ell/Advanced

Leitner Family Observatory and Planetarium
@ Yale University

We will be taking a field trip to the planetarium where we will be able to look through telescopes, just like Tyler does in Return to Sender! You will use this sheet to help you keep track of what you learn while you are at the planetarium. There are 16 boxes; fill in YOUR CHOICE of any 13 boxes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vocabulary I Recognize</th>
<th>New Vocabulary I See/Hear</th>
<th>Questions I Have</th>
<th>Things I Observed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1)</td>
<td>2)</td>
<td>3)</td>
<td>4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5)</td>
<td>6)</td>
<td>7)</td>
<td>8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9)</td>
<td>10)</td>
<td>11)</td>
<td>12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13)</td>
<td>14)</td>
<td>15)</td>
<td>16)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Field Trip to Yale Planetarium - Beginner/Intermediate

Leitner Family Observatory and Planetarium
@ Yale University

We are going to the planetarium. We will look through telescopes like Tyler in *Return to Sender*! Write what you learn at the planetarium in the boxes. Do at least 10 boxes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vocabulary I Know</th>
<th>New Vocabulary</th>
<th>Questions</th>
<th>Things I See</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1)</td>
<td>2)</td>
<td>3)</td>
<td>4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5)</td>
<td>6)</td>
<td>7)</td>
<td>8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9)</td>
<td>10)</td>
<td>11)</td>
<td>12)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4 WAYS TO HELP IMMIGRANTS

ASK THE PRESIDENT TO STOP DEPORTATION
Many organizations want deportation to stop.
The president is deporting too many people.

TELL I.C.E. TO KEEP JOSE’S FAMILY TOGETHER
José Maria Islas lived in New Haven.
He was arrested.
He is not guilty.
Important people do not want him deported.
He is in jail.

SUPPORT BETTER LAWS FOR IMMIGRANTS
Congress wants to close our borders.
We need to give residency to immigrants.
Write to your congressperson.

ASK FOR WORKERS’ RIGHTS
Unidad Latina en Accion is an immigrant organization in New Haven.
Our members have had problems at work.
We want job equality for immigrants.
Join us to help.

1. Who is deporting too many people?
2. Where did José Maria Islas live?
3. Where is he now?
4. What is happening to our borders?
5. What is Unidad Latina en Accion?
6. What do the members share in common?
7. What does Unidad Latina en Accion want?
8. Who can you write to to help immigrants?
Immigration Policy

Unidad Latina en Accion is a group here in New Haven that works for fair treatment of immigrants and workers’ rights. They created the sheet to the left. Read over it, and try to answer the questions below.

1) You can ask the president to “cease” or ___________ deportations. (What is a synonym for the word “cease”?)

2) The name of the campaign to stop deportations is called ___________

3) Why does the campaign name make sense?

4) ___________ is a New Haven community member who is being ___________
   The mayor and senators have asked ___________ to stop his ___________
   But ___________ is still in jail. Unidad Latina en Accion wants people to know his ___________

5) Immigration can be “humane”. What do you think “humane” means?

6) Unidad Latina en Accion has been around since ___________. The members of Unidad Latina en Accion are people who have ___________. They are fighting for ___________.

7) EXTENSION: Go to the website for Unidad Latina en Accion at www.ualaccion.org. Look at the photos, captions, articles and posts. Write down 5 things that you learned that you think the rest of the class should know. Be prepared to share with the class!
Border Crossing

Read the story. Then, fill in the blanks.

"Border Crossing by the Numbers"

Juan Manuel lived in the United States for 15 years. Then, he was deported to Mexico. His children were in the USA. He tried to cross the border again. He died.

This happens to many poor people. They want to improve their lives. They decide to go to the United States. Many die in the desert.

Less people are crossing the border. But more people are dying. Here is some information:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>miles</th>
<th>night</th>
<th>died</th>
<th>opportunities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>parents</td>
<td>dangerous</td>
<td>border</td>
<td>high</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- In 2000, the police captured 1,636,883 Mexican citizens trying to cross the U.S. ________.
- In 2011, 375 people died crossing the border. In 2012, 477 ________.
- Many children with no ________ cross the border. In 2008, the police captured 8,041 children without parents. In 2012, they captured 24,481.
- The U.S.-Mexico border is 1,954 ________ long.
- On the border, temperatures are as ________ as 118°F. The temperatures can change to 50°F in the ________.
- The desert is very ________
- People continue to cross the border for more ________

I learned

______________________________________

______________________________________

______________________________________

A woman holds up a photo of a missing family memb. (Photo by Marco William)
Border Crossing

Use the context of the following passage to choose the best word from the boxes below.

Excerpted and Adapted from “Border Crossing by the Numbers”

Juan Manuel lived in the United States more than 15 years. Eventually, he was ___________ to Mexico, away from his children. He ___________ crossing the U.S. border to see his kids again.

Juan Manuel’s story is common for people that come from ___________ families. They look to ___________ their lives by learning. They decide to go to the United States in search of something more. Instead they find themselves ___________ in the desert.

Juan Manuel is not alone. Even though attempts to ___________ into the United States have dropped, deaths have risen. Here are some statistics about border-crossing:

- In 2000, the Border Patrol captured 1,636,883 Mexican citizens trying to cross the U.S. ___________ illegally.
- The number of border-crossing deaths rose from 375 deaths in 2011 to ___________ in 2012, the second-highest number in over a decade.
- The number of ___________ children crossing the border has ___________. In 2008, Border Patrol intercepted 8,041 unsupervised minors. By 2012, that number skyrocketed to 24,481.
- The U.S.-Mexico border is 1,954 ___________ long.
- In some places along the border, ___________ reach as high as 118°F. After a summer rain, the temperature could suddenly drop to 50°F.
- The land along the desert includes some of the most ___________ stretches of land on the planet.
- Economic ___________ and dreams of a better life continue to encourage people to take the ___________ of crossing the border.

After reading this, I’m thinking


A woman holds up a photo of a missing family member (Photo by Marco William)
People move to other countries for many reasons. Migrants without papers move for a better life. They move for their families. They look for work. They escape from a bad life. Many migrants don't have money to move legally. Criminals help the migrants cross borders. The criminals are called migrant smugglers (coyotes). They work in secret. The criminals make a lot of money. It is expensive to cross the border. The criminals have a lot of power. The migrants have no power. Crossing the border is dangerous. Migrants can die in the desert or the sea. Migrants eat bad food and water. Migrants sleep in the heat and cold. Some migrants are abandoned. The trip is safer with more money. Poor migrants have a more difficult trip.

1. Why do migrants move to a new country?
2. Why do they move illegally?
3. Who helps the migrants cross the border?
4. Why is crossing the border dangerous?
Migrant Smuggling

Read the passage below, then use the graphic organizer to sort out the text's meaning.

"Smuggling of Migrants: A Harsh Search for a Better Life"
Adapted and Excerpted from Transnational Organized Crime’s website

People move to other countries for many reasons, but for undocumented migrants it is nearly always for a better life. This may be for themselves or for their families. They may be looking for work or escaping from poverty, natural disasters, violence, and wars.

Many of these immigrants do not have the resources to get into a country legally. Criminals who want to make money smuggle migrants across borders internationally. These criminals are not often caught because they work in secret, or “underground”. There is a large number of migrants who are willing to take risks in search of a better life. Migrant smugglers take advantage of them by charging very high prices for their services. The criminals have tremendous power, while the migrants are left vulnerable.

Many migrants are abused or die on the way to their destination. Their safety and even their lives are often put at risk; they may suffocate in containers, perish in deserts or drown at sea while being smuggled by criminals who treat them like products instead of people. In many cases, migrants are mistreated during the smuggling process. Additionally, they must eat, sleep and live in conditions that are unhealthy and dangerous. Many others are abandoned on the journey without any food, water or money. Crossing borders is especially dangerous for unaccompanied minors and pregnant women.

There are different ways of smuggling migrants. The more money you are able to pay, the safer the trip will be. But most migrants are so poor that they pay a little bit at a time for different parts of the journey to different smugglers. These migrants are more likely to become stranded and be vulnerable to abuse.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic: Migrant Smuggling</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Who?</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Migrant smugglers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The criminals who move migrants across borders are called</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **What?**                   |
| Smugglers are able to take advantage of migrants because the migrants are vulnerable. |
| Many migrants die on their way to their destination. They can perish in different ways at sea or die in the desert. |

| **Why?**                        |
| There are different ways to smuggle immigrants. |
| Migrants often live in unhealthy conditions that are different. |
| Smugglers do this work because they can make a lot of money. |

| **How?**                         |
| Many migrants get stranded when they run out of money to pay the smugglers. |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>unhealthy</th>
<th>migrant smugglers</th>
<th>underground</th>
<th>advantage</th>
<th>money</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>migrant</td>
<td>die</td>
<td>vulnerable</td>
<td>drown</td>
<td>money</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>containers</td>
<td>different</td>
<td>poor</td>
<td>smugglers</td>
<td>life</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Map for Return to Sender

Notice the locations that are marked on the map. They will help you as we read.
Final Project - Non Ell/Advanced

Congratulations on finishing the novel, Return to Sender! We have read about several different topics in this story. This sheet will help you create a short, 5-slide PowerPoint presentation about one of those topics that has interested you. You will have a few days to research, organize your thoughts and put your presentation together. Then, you will present to the class! Your grade will be determined by a combination of you, your group members and me. After your teacher puts you in a group, use the steps below to help you create your project.

1) Choose one of the topics from the list at the side. It’s the same one you were given at the beginning of this novel study.

2) Use the chart below to guide your research:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer from Research</th>
<th>A picture that could go with this...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What is it?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What does it do?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When did/does it happen?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where is this topic?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Why is this topic important?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3) Plan out your slides.
   Slide 1: Title of Topic
   Slide 2: Definition of your topic with a picture
   Slide 3: “When/Where” of your topic with a picture
   Slide 4: Why your topic is important with a picture
   Slide 5: Write 2-5 sentences about WHAT INTERESTED YOU MOST IN YOUR RESEARCH AND WHY.

4) Create your slides.
5) Use the evaluation form to grade yourself.
Final Project - Beginner/Intermediate

Congratulations on finishing the novel, Return to Sender! We read about different topics in this story. You will create a presentation about one topic in a group. You have 3 days to organize, research, and create together. Then, you will present to the class! You, your class, and the teacher will evaluate your project. The teacher will pick your group. These steps will help you with the project.

In your group:
1) Choose a topic from the list on the left.

2) Use this chart to help your research:

| Question               | Answer from Research | A picture that could go with this...
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What is it?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What does it do?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When did/does it happen?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where is this topic?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Why is this topic important?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3) Plan out your slides.
   Slide 1: Title of Topic
   Slide 2: Definition of your topic with a picture
   Slide 3: “When/Where” of your topic with a picture
   Slide 4: Why your topic is important with a picture
   Slide 5: Write 2-5 sentences - WHAT INTERESTED YOU MOST AND WHY.

4) Create your slides.
5) Use the evaluation form to grade yourself.
# Return to Sender PowerPoint Evaluation - Beginner

**Student Name:** __________________________  **Date:** __________________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPECTATION</th>
<th>SELF Score</th>
<th>PARTNER Score</th>
<th>PARTNER COMMENTS</th>
<th>TEACHER Score</th>
<th>TEACHER COMMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Slide 1</strong> = the name of the topic</td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There is a picture</td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Slide 2</strong> = the definition of your topic</td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Slide 3</strong></td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>When?</em></td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Where?</em></td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There is a picture</td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Slide 4</strong> = why your topic is important.</td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There is a picture</td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Slide 5</strong> = interesting information about your topic in 2-5 sentences.</td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital letters</td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
<td></td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End punctuation</td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
<td></td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I tried hard everyday</td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
<td></td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I worked with my group</td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
<td></td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL POINTS:**

____/13= _____/4= _____/13= ____________%  ____________%  ____________%
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>EXPECTATION</strong></th>
<th><strong>SELF SCORE</strong></th>
<th><strong>STUDENT COMMENTS</strong></th>
<th><strong>PARTNER SCORE</strong></th>
<th><strong>PARTNER COMMENTS</strong></th>
<th><strong>TEACHER SCORE</strong></th>
<th><strong>TEACHER COMMENTS</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Slide 1</strong> has the name of the topic.</td>
<td>__/3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Slide 2</strong> has the definition of your topic.</td>
<td>__/3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The picture GOES WITH the definition.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Slide 3</strong> answers the questions <strong>When?</strong> and <strong>Where?</strong> for your topic.</td>
<td>__/3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The picture <strong>MAKES SENSE</strong> with the words.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Slide 4</strong> tells why your topic is important.</td>
<td>__/3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The picture <strong>MAKES SENSE</strong> with the words.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Slide 5</strong> has 2-5 sentences about what interested you most in your research and tells why.</td>
<td>__/3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My slides have capital letters and end punctuation.</td>
<td>__/3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>__/3</td>
<td></td>
<td>__/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I was COMPLETELY focused on completing this assignment.</td>
<td>__/3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>__/3</td>
<td></td>
<td>__/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I contributed to the assignment with my group.</td>
<td>__/3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>__/3</td>
<td></td>
<td>__/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL POINTS:</strong></td>
<td>__/24=</td>
<td></td>
<td>__/9=</td>
<td></td>
<td>__/24=</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>__%</td>
<td></td>
<td>__%</td>
<td></td>
<td>__%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Return to Sender by Julia Alvarez Evaluation*