

Name: _____

Use with the book:
Esperanza Rising
by Pam Muñoz Ryan

Esperanza Rising: Chapters 1–3

1. In chapter 1, Papa lies down on the ground on his stomach and tells Esperanza to do the same. Why does he do this? What is he trying to teach her?



2. What is the significance of Esperanza cutting the first cluster of grapes?
- a. It is Esperanza's birthday, and grapes are her favorite fruit. She cuts the grapes every year for her birthday.
 - b. It is the beginning of the harvest. Once Esperanza cuts the first cluster of grapes, the field-workers will begin to harvest the grapes.
 - c. Esperanza is now old enough to learn how to make wine. She cuts the grapes and will turn them into wine.
 - d. Papa only trusts Esperanza to cut the grapes. She always shows the workers how to do it.
3. How old will Esperanza turn on her next birthday? _____
4. What year is it in chapter 2, and why is it important?
- a. 1930; the revolution in Mexico ended ten years ago, but there is still resentment against the large landowners.
 - b. 1930; it is the end of the revolution in Mexico, and many workers have been given land.
 - c. 1920; it is the end of the revolution in Mexico, and many workers have been given land.
 - d. 1924; the revolution in Mexico ended ten years ago, but there is still resentment against the large landowners.

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5. In chapter 2, Abuelita tells Esperanza, "There is no rose without thorns."

What does she mean when she says this?

- a. Roses are dangerous plants.
- b. Esperanza should avoid the rose garden.
- c. There is no life without difficulties.
- d. Wealth guarantees happiness.

6. In chapter 2, Esperanza says a "deep river" runs between her and Miguel.

What does she mean by this? How does Miguel react when she tells him this?

7. In chapter 2, Tío Luis and Tío Marco give Papa's silver belt buckle to Mama.

What does this foreshadow?

- a. Something bad has happened to Papa.
- b. Something bad has happened to Alfonso and Miguel.
- c. Papa will bring Esperanza gifts.
- d. Tío Luis and Tío Marco are moving.

8. How did Papa die?

9. The title of chapter 3 is "Las Papayas: Papayas." What is the significance of this title?

Why are papayas important in this chapter?

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10. What was the last gift Esperanza received from Papa?

- a. a white purse with a rosary
- b. the book *Don Quijote*
- c. an embroidered dresser scarf
- d. a porcelain doll

11. What does Tío Luis ask Mama to do in chapter 3? What is Mama's answer and how does Tío Luis respond?

12. How does Papa's death affect Hortensia, Alfonso, and Miguel?

- a. They are worried that Esperanza's uncles will treat them poorly, so they want to find work on a different ranch in Mexico.
- b. They are worried that Esperanza's uncles will treat them poorly, so they want to find work in the United States.
- c. They think Esperanza's uncles will treat them better than Papa, so they will stay at the ranch.
- d. They think Esperanza's uncles will treat them better than Papa, so they will ask for a better house to live in.

Esperanza Rising: Chapters 1–3

1. In chapter 1, Papa lies down on the ground on his stomach and tells Esperanza to do the same. Why does he do this? What is he trying to teach her?

He has Esperanza lie on the ground so that she can feel and hear the earth's heartbeat. He is trying to teach her that the whole valley is alive.



2. What is the significance of Esperanza cutting the first cluster of grapes?

a. It is Esperanza's birthday, and grapes are her favorite fruit. She cuts the grapes every year for her birthday.

b. It is the beginning of the harvest. Once Esperanza cuts the first cluster of grapes, the field-workers will begin to harvest the grapes.

c. Esperanza is now old enough to learn how to make wine. She cuts the grapes and will turn them into wine.

d. Papa only trusts Esperanza to cut the grapes. She always shows the workers how to do it.

3. How old will Esperanza turn on her next birthday?

thirteen

4. What year is it in chapter 2, and why is it important?

a. 1930; the revolution in Mexico ended ten years ago, but there is still resentment against the large landowners.

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c. 1920; it is the end of the revolution in Mexico, and many workers have been given land.

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5. In chapter 2, Abuelita tells Esperanza, “There is no rose without thorns.” What does she mean when she says this?

- a. Roses are dangerous plants.
- b. Esperanza should avoid the rose garden.
- c. There is no life without difficulties.**
- d. Wealth guarantees happiness.

6. In chapter 2, Esperanza says a “deep river” runs between her and Miguel. What does she mean by this? How does Miguel react when she tells him this?

She means that she and Miguel are from two very different social classes and that they would not be able to marry. Esperanza is a ranch owner's daughter, and Miguel is a housekeeper's son. Miguel stops teasing and laughing with Esperanza and only speaks a few words to her.

7. In chapter 2, Tío Luis and Tío Marco give Papa's silver belt buckle to Mama. What does this foreshadow?

- a. Something bad has happened to Papa.**
- b. Something bad has happened to Alfonso and Miguel.
- c. Papa will bring Esperanza gifts.
- d. Tío Luis and Tío Marco are moving.

8. How did Papa die?

Papa and his vaqueros were ambushed and killed by bandits while fixing a fence on the ranch.

9. The title of chapter 3 is “Las Papayas: Papayas.” What is the significance of this title? Why are papayas important in this chapter?

Señor Rodríguez delivers the papayas for Esperanza's birthday, and Esperanza has to tell him that her father died. Papa had ordered the papayas so Hortensia could make Esperanza's favorite papaya, coconut, and lime salad. Esperanza starts sobbing when she realizes that Papa had ordered the papayas for her.

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- b. the book *Don Quijote*
- c. an embroidered dresser scarf
- d. a porcelain doll**

11. What does Tío Luis ask Mama to do in chapter 3? What is Mama's answer and how does Tío Luis respond?

Tío Luis asks Mama to marry him. Mama tells him that she has no desire to marry him and says that his offer offends her. Tío Luis says that she will regret her decision.

12. How does Papa's death affect Hortensia, Alfonso, and Miguel?

- a. They are worried that Esperanza's uncles will treat them poorly, so they want to find work on a different ranch in Mexico.
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