

How to print this booklet

Open the PDF, choose Print, and set these:

Paper size	US Letter (8.5 × 11 in)
Orientation	Landscape
Print on both sides	On (two-sided / duplex)
Flip on	Short edge
Scale	100% / Actual size — not “Fit to page”
Pages	All

THEN

1. Take the whole stack out of the printer. Keep the sheets in order.
2. Fold the stack in half, so this page is on the outside.
3. Staple twice along the fold.



Make another at didtheyreallyread.com

Reading Journal

My thoughts, chapter by chapter

Reader:

Book Title:

Esperanza Rising

Author:

Pam Muñoz Ryan

Date Started:

Date Finished:

Keep reading. Keep wondering.
Created by didtheyreallyread.com

How to Answer

Your answer does not have to be perfect. Just answer in complete thoughts and use details from the chapter.

How to structure your answer

A strong answer usually has a few parts. Try these steps:

1. **Answer the question.** Start with one sentence that answers the question directly.
2. **Give an example.** Add a detail or moment from the chapter that shows what you mean.
3. **Explain why.** Tell why it mattered, or how it made you think or feel.
4. **Wrap it up.** Finish with a closing thought, a question, or a prediction.

On the train, how does Esperanza's behavior toward other passengers show what she still needs to learn?

Example answer: I think Esperanza acts like she is still used to being rich and important. She does not always understand how hard life is for people who have less money. Her behavior shows that she needs to learn kindness and respect for everyone, not just people from her own class. This is one of the first steps in her changing as a character.

Chapter 19

By the end of the book, what does it mean for Esperanza to “rise”? How has she grown as a person?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

How to Answer (continued)

The crocheted blanket connects Esperanza to Abuelita. What might the blanket symbolize, or stand for, in the story?

Example answer: I think the blanket stands for family, memory, and hope. When Esperanza works on it, she can feel close to Abuelita even though they are far apart. The blanket also shows that life has ups and downs, like the stitches. To me, it reminds Esperanza to keep going even when things are hard.

By the end of the book, what does it mean for Esperanza to “rise”? How has she grown as a person?

Example answer: To me, Esperanza “rises” because she becomes stronger after many hard experiences. At first, she expects others to take care of her, but later she works, helps Mama, and cares about other people. She learns that her worth is not about money or fancy things. I think she grows into a braver and kinder person.

Chapter 1

In the opening chapter, what do you learn about Esperanza’s life on the ranch and her relationship with Papa?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 18

What prediction did you make when Miguel left, and how did the story’s events confirm or change your thinking?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 17

Why is Miguel frustrated about his future in the United States? How does this connect to the theme of hope?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 2

How does Esperanza’s relationship with Papa help you understand what is most important to her at the beginning of the story?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 3

After Papa dies, what choices do Mama and Esperanza have, and why are those choices so difficult?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 16

When Esperanza feels angry about unfairness, how does she handle her feelings? What advice would you give her?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 15

What happens during the immigration raid, and how does it affect the workers in the camp?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 4

What do Tío Luis and Tío Marco show about power and greed? Use events from this part of the story in your answer.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 5

Why does Mama decide to leave Mexico secretly, and how does Esperanza react to the plan?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 14

What do the strike and the fear of losing jobs teach Esperanza about courage and risk?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 13

How does Esperanza change when she begins working to earn money? What responsibilities does she take on?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 6

On the train, how does Esperanza’s behavior toward other passengers show what she still needs to learn?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 7

What are Esperanza’s first impressions of California and the camp? How are they different from what she expected?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 12

The crocheted blanket connects Esperanza to Abuelita. What might the blanket symbolize, or stand for, in the story?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 11

How does the dust storm change life for Mama and Esperanza? What details show that this event is serious?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 8

How does Isabel help Esperanza begin to adjust to her new life? What does Esperanza learn from her?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 9

Choose one word that describes Esperanza when she first tries camp chores, such as sweeping or caring for babies. Why does that word fit?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 10

What does Marta believe about the workers' situation, and why do some people agree or disagree with her?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?
