

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:

Nuestra América

Author:

Sabrina Vourvoulias

Date Started:

Date Finished:

Keep reading. Keep wondering.
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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.

How did the person you just read about help shape life in the United States? Describe one contribution and explain why it mattered.

Example answer: I learned that Sonia Sotomayor became the first Latina justice on the United States Supreme Court. Her work matters because the Court makes decisions about important laws and rights. I think her achievement also helps children picture themselves in jobs where they can make a difference.

How to Answer (continued)

Which seems more important in this person's story: talent, practice, courage, or support from others? Defend your choice with evidence.

Example answer: I would choose talent for Roberto Clemente because his baseball skills gave him a way to reach many people. He became an outstanding player, but his importance went beyond sports. I admire that he also helped others. His example makes me think that what we do with our talents matters as much as having them.

After this section, what do you hope another biography in Nuestra América will help you discover? Explain how your reading sparked that interest.

Example answer: After reading about Sonia Sotomayor, I want to discover how other Latino leaders found their interests. I wonder whether they knew what they wanted to do when they were children. Her achievements make me curious about the smaller steps that come before a big success. I will look for those steps as I keep reading.

Chapter 1

How did the person you just read about help shape life in the United States? Describe one contribution and explain why it mattered.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 30

After this section, what do you hope another biography in Nuestra América will help you discover? Explain how your reading sparked that interest.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 29

Imagine you could design a project honoring this person. What would you create, and which part of their life would it highlight?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 2

Which detail about this person's early life helped you understand them better? Explain the connection.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 3

What challenge did this person face, and how did they respond? Use a detail from your reading.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 28

What message about belonging or identity can you take from this section? Explain which details led you to that message.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 27

Which seems more important in this person's story: talent, practice, courage, or support from others? Defend your choice with evidence.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 4

Based on this person's interests or goals, what would you predict they might want to work on next? Explain your thinking.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 5

Which action best shows this person's character? Explain what that action tells you about them.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 26

How does the author help you understand why this person belongs in a book about people who shaped the United States?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 25

What might be different for a community if this person had not done their work? Base your thinking on the reading.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 6

What does this part of Nuestra América suggest about the importance of helping a community?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 7

Choose an unfamiliar word from your reading. What do you think it means, and which nearby words or details helped you?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 24

Find a word connected to this person's field of work. How does understanding that word help you understand their contribution?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 23

What does success seem to mean to this person? Support your answer with something they did or worked toward.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 8

Which achievement in this section impressed you most? Explain why you chose it.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 9

How did a place where this person lived, learned, or worked affect their life?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 22

Nuestra América features people such as Sonia Sotomayor and Roberto Clemente. How does the person you just read about add to your understanding of Latino achievement?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 21

What connection can you make between this person's experiences and something you have seen, learned, or experienced?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 10

What cause-and-effect connection can you find in this person's life? Explain how one event helped lead to another.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 11

What question would you ask this person about a choice they made? Explain why you want to know the answer.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 20

Which part of this person's life would you like to learn more about? Explain what made you curious.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 19

How would you explain this person's work to a younger student? Use clear words and an example from your reading.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 12

How does this biography show that there is more than one way to be a leader?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 13

Select a word that describes this person's work.
Explain its meaning and why it fits.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 18

What did you learn about Latino history or culture from this section that you did not know before?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 17

Who or what seems to have supported this person's efforts? Explain how that support mattered, or what support might have helped.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 14

Which detail would you include in a short introduction to this person? Explain why readers need to know it.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 15

What lesson from this person's experiences could help someone your age? Show how the reading supports your idea.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 16

If a young person followed this person's example, what might they try to do? Support your prediction with a detail.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?
