

Book Club Focus Assessment and Rubric

Name: _____

Esperanza Rising
Book Club Focus Assessment

Determining Theme

Directions: Use what you know about *Esperanza Rising* to answer each of the following questions.

Which of the following is not a theme of *Esperanza Rising*?

(A) War clarifies our values
(B) Overcoming challenges
(C) Learning to appreciate the good in life

What was the main conflict in the story?

(A) The main conflict is finding a way to save Papa's life.
(B) The main conflict is for Mama and Esperanza to find a way home to Mexico.
(C) The main conflict is Esperanza must deal with the challenges of survival.
(D) The main conflict is in getting good treatment for the farm workers.

Tell about one challenge Mama faced and how she overcame that challenge.

Tell about one challenge Esperanza faced and how she overcame that challenge.

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Focus Assessment for Determining Theme

Answer Key

Esperanza Rising
Book Club Focus Assessment

Determining Theme

Directions: Use what you know about *Esperanza Rising* to answer each of the following questions.

Which of the following is NOT a challenge faced by Miguel?

(A) Miguel faced the challenge of losing the job as a mechanic.
(B) Miguel faced the challenge of organizing the harvest after Papa's death.
(C) Miguel faced the challenge of keeping the roses alive on the trip out of Mexico.
(D) Miguel faced the challenge of bringing Abuelita out of Mexico.

Write a 4-6 sentence summary of *Esperanza Rising* in which you explain the theme.

Possible Answer: *Esperanza Rising* is a book with the theme of overcoming challenges. In the story, different characters face challenges and overcome them. For example, Mama's husband is killed so she is suddenly poor. She overcomes this challenge by leaving her home country of Mexico and going to work in the United States. She goes to work in fields, gets sick, but eventually gets better. This showed the theme of overcoming challenges.

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Answer Key

Determining Theme Focus Assessment Rubric

Student: _____ Date: _____

CCSS Reading Literature Standard 5.2
Determine a theme of a story, drama, or poem from details in the text; including how characters in a story or drama respond to challenges or how the speaker in a poem reflects upon a topic; summarize the text.

Levels	Beginning	Developing	Proficient	Secure
Correct Answers	0 – 1 Correct	2 – 3 Correct	4 – 5 Correct	6 Correct
Specific Skill: Determining Theme	Was not able to or is beginning to determine the theme in a text.	Is able to determine the theme in a text some of the time.	Is able to determine the theme in a text most of the time.	Is able to determine the theme in a text all of the time.

If student is less than secure, he or she needs to work on the following

- ☐ Identify universal themes in stories
- ☐ Identify the topics in the writing
- ☐ Locate details that support the theme
- ☐ Understand that characters respond to challenges in different ways, such as internally and externally
- ☐ Understand that reflection is an inner process

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Rubric with Optional Common Core Alignment