Esperanza Rising

A novel by Pam Munoz Ryan

Visual Text Support

• Historical & Cultural Context
• Vocabulary & Literary Terms
• Comprehension Questions & Answers

Over 130 Slides!

Thank A Teacher

Los Higos ~ Figs

white figs

Smothering - covering the mouth and nose to prevent breathing
Suffocate - to die from lack of air
Silhouette - a dark shape or outline against a lighter background
Smoldering- to burn slowly with smoke but no flame
Surviving- someone who lives through an event that could cause death

Notice all the "s" words when describing the fire. Could the author doing this on purpose? Why?

Lava rock mortar and pestle

Trunk with metal straps

Wrought iron chairs and table

Survey: to carefully examine and record

Salvage: to rescue usable items among rubble

Rubble: burnt remains of house

Cinders: partially burned pieces of coal or wood

Boarding School where children live away from their families
or
Field work, poverty, and debt (owing money to others)

MEXICAN REPATRIATION

The Immigration Acts of the 1920s limited European immigration, but it didn't limit immigrants from Mexico.

Mexican immigrants were allowed to enter the U.S.A. as long as they passed a medical exam and a literacy test (given in Spanish) and paid a small fee.
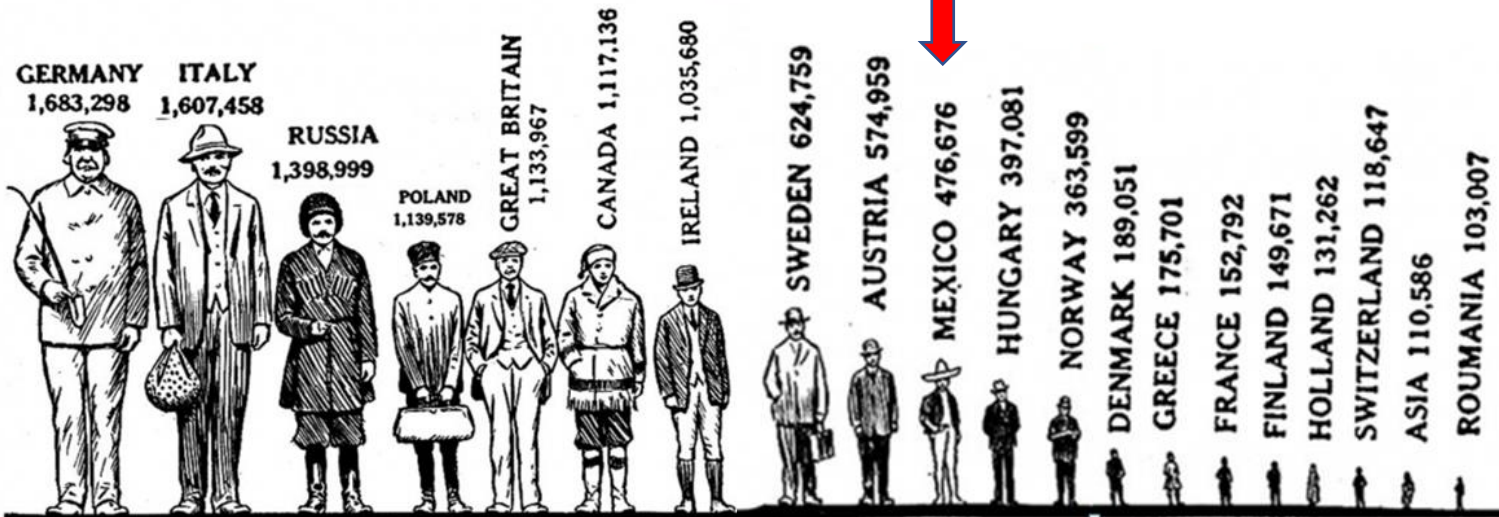
Most had left Mexico because of the Mexican Revolution and came to the U.S.A. to work at back-breaking low paying jobs.

Back in the 1920s it would have been far easier to use false or forged, copied or duplicated documents to get across the U.S./Mexican border than it would be today. Any guesses why?

What happened to Mama and Esperanza's visas? How will they manage to get across the border without them?

FOREIGN-BORN POPULATION IN THE UNITED STATES IN 1920.

GERMANY 1,683,298

ITALY 1,607,458

RUSSIA 1,398,999

POLAND 1,139,578

GREAT BRITAIN 1,133,967

CANADA 1,117,136

IRELAND 1,035,680

SWEDEN 624,759

AUSTRIA 574,959

MEXICO 476,676

HUNGARY 397,081

NORWAY 363,599

DENMARK 189,051

GREECE 175,701

FRANCE 152,792

FINLAND 149,671

HOLLAND 131,262

SWITZERLAND 118,647
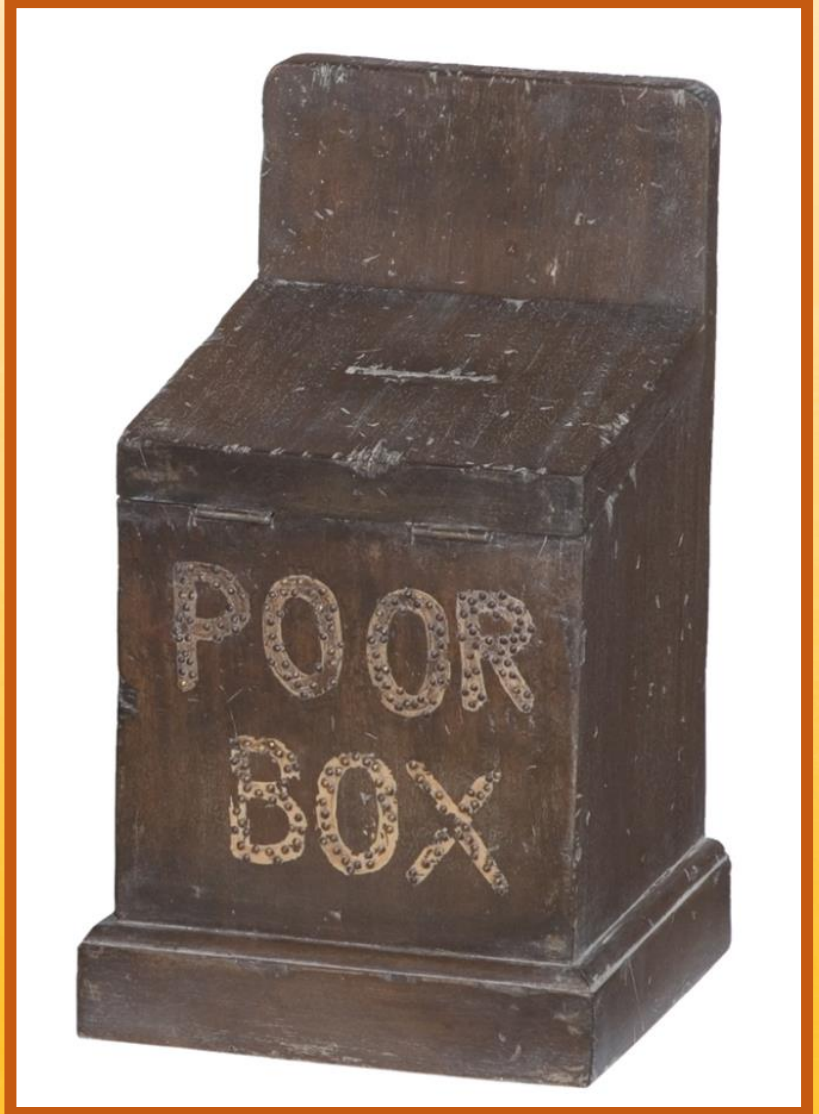
ASIA 110,586

ROUMANIA 103,007
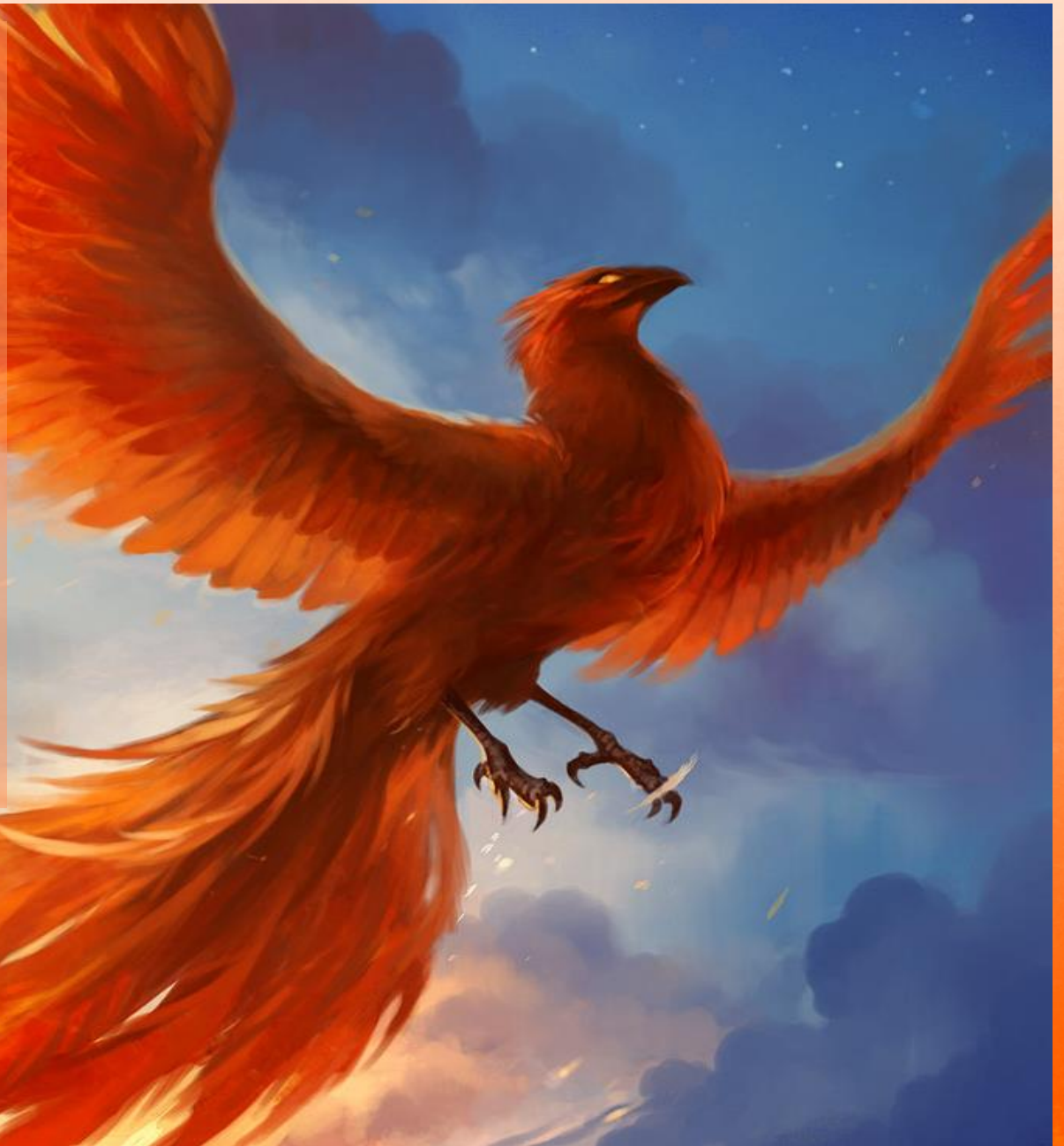
Convent: a building where nuns live

Nuns: members of a female religious group

A poor box can be a box of donated clothing for the poor to wear or a box for cash donations to help the poor.

Ancient legend paints a picture of a magical bird, radiant and shimmering, which lives for several hundred years before it dies by bursting into flames. It is then reborn from the ashes, to start a new, long life. So powerful is the symbolism that it is a motif and image that is still used commonly today in popular culture and folklore.

(from www.ancient-origins.net)

"...they could see the outlines of the twisted and charred trunks, the burnt-out vines rolling in parallel lines toward the mountains. It looked as if someone had taken a giant comb, dipped it in black paint, and gently swirled it across a huge canvas."

- Correspondence – letters by mail
- In due time – at the right time
- Stature – social position in society
- Waif – a poor, dirty ragged child
- Indebted – to owe something to someone
- Tamales – Mexican dish of seasoned meat in cornmeal dough and cooked in corn husks
- Shawl – a fabric wrap used like a sweater

Comprehension Questions – Los Higos Figs

1. What was happening while Esperanza was dreaming of being attacked by a bear?

2. How do you think the fire started? Why?

3. Were there any survivors from the fire?

4. What are Ramona's two options after the fire?

5. Why must Esperanza and her mother act in a sneaky manner?

6. What happens to Abuelita?

7. Find an example of a simile (comparison using like or as) on page 56 or elsewhere in the chapter. Why do you think authors use figurative language like similes?