

## Structure of *Esperanza Rising* Anchor Chart

(Example, for Teacher Reference)

Key:	
<b>Exposition</b>	Beginning of the story, describing how things are before the action begins
<b>Rising action</b>	Series of conflicts and crises in the story that build toward the climax
<b>Climax</b>	The turning point, when something important happens that changes the direction of the story
<b>Falling Action</b>	The action that happens after the climax and starts to guide the story toward the resolution
<b>Resolution</b>	Tying everything together

Chapter	How does the chapter fit into the overall structure of the story? Why?
Pages 1–3:	Exposition: Introduces Esperanza and her father and Aguascalientes, Mexico.
Las Uvas Pages 4–22	Rising Action: Esperanza’s father is killed. This means that things are going to change for Esperanza’s family, and we wonder what Esperanza and her mama will do now.
Las Papayas Pages 23–38	Rising Action: Esperanza’s uncle now owns the land their house is on and wants to marry her mama. We know that things are going to continue to change for the family, and we wonder what they will decide to do next.
Los Higos Pages 39–57	Rising Action: Esperanza’s uncles burned their house down, so Esperanza and her mother are going to move to the United States. This means a significant change for the family. We wonder how this will change their lives.

Chapter	How does the chapter fit into the overall structure of the story? Why?
Las Guayabas Pages 58–80	Rising Action: Esperanza and her mama leave secretly for the United States. Already their life is different, and it is only going to change more. We wonder what life will be like for them in the United States.
Los Melones Pages 81–99	Rising Action: Esperanza and her mother cross the border into the United States, where they meet Miguel’s family members, who take them onward. We know that more things are likely to happen to Esperanza and her mother because they have only just arrived in the United States. There hasn’t been a turning point yet.
Las Cebollas Pages 100–121	Rising Action: Esperanza and her mama arrive in the camp. Mama begins work while Esperanza learns how to look after the babies. Things are continuing to get more and more challenging for Esperanza. We wonder when this will change.
Las Almendras Pages 121–138	Rising Action: They all go to the party, where there is trouble when Marta and her friends talk about a strike. Things might change for Esperanza and Mama if the workers do strike because it could affect whether they have work.
Las Ciruelas Pages 139–157	Rising Action: After a big dust storm, Mama becomes very sick with valley fever. Things are continuing to get more challenging for Esperanza as she now has to look after herself and Mama.
Las Papas Pages 158–178	Rising Action: Mama goes to the hospital, and Esperanza begins to work. Things are getting worse for Esperanza. Now she has to worry about paying medical bills all by herself.
Las Aguacates Pages 179–198	Rising Action: Mama gets pneumonia, and Esperanza and Miguel go to the market, taking a detour on the way back to pick up Marta to take her to the strikers’ camp. Although she has started to accept her life a little more, things still haven’t improved for Esperanza and there is the threat of a strike, which could make things much worse.

<b>Chapter</b>	<b>How does the chapter fit into the overall structure of the story? Why?</b>
Los Espárragos Pages 199–213	Rising Action: Esperanza and the other workers are put in danger by the strikers, but immigration officials come and take the strikers away to deport them back to Mexico. Things still haven't gotten any better for Esperanza yet.
Los Duraznos Pages 214–233	<b>Rising Action: Isabel wants to be Queen of the May, but she doesn't get chosen because she is Mexican, and Miguel loses his job working on the engines and has to dig ditches because he is Mexican. Mama comes home from the hospital, and Miguel runs away with Esperanza's money. Things are starting to look better for Esperanza, but there still hasn't been an event that really turns it around.</b>
Las Uvas Pages 234–253	<b>Climax: The turning point comes when Abuelita arrives because it makes Esperanza and Mama happy.</b> <b>Falling action: The falling action is when Abuelita tells her story and the day before Esperanza's birthday when she hears the heartbeat of the earth with Miguel.</b> <b>Resolution: Esperanza's birthday, a full year after the events of her previous birthday, when everyone is back together.</b>