Frida Kahlo (1907-1954) is one of Mexico's greatest artists, a remarkable achievement for someone who spent most of her relatively short life racked with pain. Frida expressed her pain through her art, producing some 143 paintings, 55 of which were self-portraits. To this day, she remains an icon of strength, courage and audacity. This brief biography provides a glimpse into her turbulent life and her symbolic art.
Frida Kahlo

by

Kristy Placido

Cover Art by
Irene Jimenez Casasnovas

Illustrated by
Christianna Meggert

edited by
Carol Gaab
Nota de la autora

Admiro mucho a Frida Kahlo. Ha sido una de las artistas más importantes en el mundo, y uno de los personajes más célebres de México. Su vida es un ejemplo de cómo enfrentarse a las tragedias de la vida y vivir al máximo.

Frida revela su tragedia y su victoria a través de su arte. Era extremadamente humana y una persona extraordinaria a la vez. Espero que le guste su historia.
Note to the Reader

This biographical novel is based on approximately 150 high-frequency words. It contains a manageable amount of vocabulary and numerous cognates (words that are similar in two languages), making it an ideal first read for beginning language students.

All vocabulary is listed in the glossary at the back of the book. Keep in mind that many words are listed in the glossary more than once, as most appear throughout the book in various forms and/or tenses. (Ex.: he went, he goes; boy, boys, etc.) Vocabulary words and phrases that would be considered beyond a ‘novice’ level are footnoted within the text, and their meanings given at the bottom of the page where each occurs.

Frida Kahlo’s life was as interesting and passionate as her art. We hope you enjoy reading her story.
Índice

Capítulo 1: Guillermo ................................. 1
Capítulo 2: Dos familias ............................. 5
Capítulo 3: Monstruos ............................... 9
Capítulo 4: Pata de Palo ............................. 14
Capítulo 5: Frida, lieber Frida ....................... 18
Capítulo 6: Perspectivas diferentes .................. 22
Capítulo 7: Amigos especiales ....................... 26
Capítulo 8: Alejandro ................................. 31
Capítulo 9: El tranvía ................................. 35
Capítulo 10: El accidente terrible .................... 38
Capítulo 11: El arte y Diego ......................... 42
Capítulo 12: La China poblana ...................... 46
Capítulo 13: La vida con Diego ...................... 50
Epílogo .................................................. 56
Glosario ............................................... 59
Cognados .............................................. 65
Capítulo 1
Guillermo

En 1890, la vida de Wilhelm Kahlo, un joven alemán de 19 años, no iba muy bien. Wilhelm se cayó y sufrió un trauma cerebral que le causó ataques epilépticos. Su madre murió y su padre se casó con otra mujer. Wilhelm no se llevaba bien con su madrastra. Para Wilhelm, su madrastra no era una mujer atractiva y tenía una personalidad terrible. Su madrastra nunca estaba contenta.
Un día Wilhelm entró a su casa y oyó a su madrastra hablando con su padre. Ella gritaba «Ese joven no me respeta. ¡Tiene que respetarme porque soy su madrastra! ¡Necesita buscar un trabajo. ¡Necesita buscar a una esposa! ¡No puede ser un niño siempre! ¡Que se vaya ya! ¡No quiero que viva más en esta casa!». Su padre no le respondió y Wilhelm podía ver que su padre pensaba que su madrastra tenía razón.

Su padre decidió que el joven necesitaba irse. Le compró un pasaje de barco a México. Su padre le dijo «Hijo, esta es una gran oportunidad para ti. Tú vas a ver...»

Foto: Detroit Publishing Company 1890s
El barco, que se llamaba La Bretagne, tenía la capacidad de llevar casi 1.000 pasajeros.
el mundo. Cuando me vuelvas a ver, ¡me vas a decir ‘gracias’!». Lo que el padre no sabía era que no iba a volver a ver a su hijo. Wilhelm salió de Alemania en barco y llegó a México en 1891.


¹joyería - jewelry store
era fotógrafo.

Matilde pensó que Guillermo era un poco atractivo y cuando Matilde oyó su acento alemán, sintió emociones profundas. Al oír a Guillermo hablar con su acento alemán, Matilde sintió una avalancha de emociones. Guillermo vio tristeza en los ojos de Matilde pero no comprendió por qué. No tenía ni idea de la tragedia que había ocurrido en la vida de la muchacha: su novio, Wilfried, un joven alemán, se suicidó en su presencia. Fue una tragedia increíble en su vida.

Como Wilfried, Guillermo hablaba perfectamente español y tenía un acento alemán adorable. Al mirar a Guillermo y al escucharlo, Matilde recordaba a Wilfried...Veía la imagen de su cadáver. Aunque ya no podía estar con Wilfried, él vivía en su memoria. Matilde sentía una atracción por Guillermo, pero ella no sabía que Guillermo ya tenía novia.
Capítulo 2
Dos familias

Guillermo tenía novia, María Cardena. Se casó con ella y tuvieron una hija. Poco después, tuvieron una segunda hija. La segunda hija murió. Guillermo estaba muy triste pero trabajaba mucho para no pensar en su tristeza. Le gustaba su trabajo y le gustaba trabajar con Matilde. Ella era una joven inteligente y muy religiosa. Aunque había tristeza en sus ojos, cuando oía la voz de Guillermo, se sentía contenta. Ellos hablaban mucho durante los días de trabajo, pero Guillermo nunca hablaba con Matilde sobre su vida personal. Matilde no sabía que
Guillermo tenía familia. Ellos se llevaban bien y eran buenos amigos.

María y Guillermo tuvieron otra hija, pero María murió en el parto\(^1\). La noche que su esposa María murió y lo dejó solo con dos pequeñas hijas, Guillermo fue a hablar con Matilde Calderón. No le dijo que su esposa había muerto, le dijo que quería que se casara con él. Guillermo le dijo «Matilde, me gusta mucho trabajar contigo. Eres buena mujer. ¿Quieres casarte conmigo?». Ella no estaba enamorada de él, pero le gustaba. Había una atracción y también, ella quería tener hijos porque ya tenía 24 años... (En los años 1890s, 24 años era una edad\(^2\) avanzada para no tener esposo). Así que lo aceptó.

Poco tiempo después, Guillermo le dijo a Matilde que su esposa había muerto y que tenía dos hijas. ¡Ella

\(^1\)parto - delivery, childbirth  
\(^2\)edad - age

Guillermo no pensaba que era correcto abandonar a sus hijas, pero quería que Matilde se sintiera contenta. Así que las hijas de Guillermo y María se fueron a vivir en el convento y Guillermo empezó su nueva vida con Matilde.

Guillermo aprendió fotografía con la ayuda del padre de Matilde y empezó a trabajar como fotógrafo profesional. Trabajaba mucho para el gobierno mexicano y también fotografiaba la arquitectura de México. Guillermo era un artista muy talentoso. Aprendió a poner color a sus fotos. También le gustaba pintar y frecuentemente pasaba el día pintando en el parque.

Aunque Matilde y Guillermo no tenían un matrimonio ideal, Guillermo construyó una casa en Coyoacán, un suburbio de la Ciudad de México. La casa se llamaba ‘La Casa Azul’. En la Casa Azul, nacieron los cinco hijos

\(^3\) gobierno - government
de Matilde y Guillermo: Primero nacieron dos niñas, Matilde (Maty) y Adriana y luego nació un niño que murió a los pocos días.

En 1907, un año después de la muerte del bebé, nació Frida. Matilde todavía lloraba la muerte de su niño cuando nació Frida. Fue un tiempo muy difícil para la joven madre: Sufrió la muerte de un bebé, ya tenía tres niñas pequeñas y solo once (11) meses después, nació otra, Cristina. Matilde estaba muy triste y enferma y no podía cuidar a las niñas.

Frida no tuvo una relación buena con su madre porque su madre no la cuidó mucho durante su infancia. Sin embargo, Frida tenía muy buena relación con su hermana Cristina. Ella era su mejor amiga.

\(^4\)su mejor - her best
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spanish Word</th>
<th>English Translation</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>aburrido</td>
<td>bored; boring</td>
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<tr>
<td>agarró</td>
<td>s/he grabbed</td>
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<tr>
<td>ahí</td>
<td>there</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>agua</td>
<td>water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>alemán</td>
<td>German</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alemania</td>
<td>Germany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>amiga</td>
<td>friend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>año</td>
<td>year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>aprendió</td>
<td>s/he learned</td>
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<tr>
<td>a través</td>
<td>through, across</td>
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<tr>
<td>aunque</td>
<td>although</td>
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<tr>
<td>ayuda</td>
<td>s/he helps</td>
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<tr>
<td>ayudaba</td>
<td>s/he helped; was helping</td>
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<tr>
<td>ayudar(le)</td>
<td>to help (him or her)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(que) ayudes</td>
<td>(that) you help (subjunctive)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ayudó</td>
<td>s/he helped</td>
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<tr>
<td>azul</td>
<td>blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>balero</td>
<td>a small wooden toy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>barco</td>
<td>boat</td>
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<tr>
<td>bien</td>
<td>well; good</td>
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<tr>
<td>bolígrafos</td>
<td>pens</td>
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<tr>
<td>bordadas</td>
<td>embroidered</td>
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<td>buen(a)</td>
<td>good</td>
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<td>burro</td>
<td>burro, donkey</td>
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<td>looking for</td>
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<td>buscar</td>
<td>to look for</td>
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<td>buscó</td>
<td>s/he looked for</td>
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<td>caja</td>
<td>box</td>
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<td>calcetines</td>
<td>socks</td>
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<td>cama</td>
<td>bed</td>
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<tr>
<td>cambió</td>
<td>s/he or it changed</td>
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<td>caminando</td>
<td>walking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>caminar</td>
<td>to walk</td>
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<tr>
<td>caminaron</td>
<td>they walked</td>
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<tr>
<td>cara</td>
<td>face</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>carta</td>
<td>letter</td>
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<tr>
<td>(que) cayera</td>
<td>(that) s/he fell</td>
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<tr>
<td>cayó</td>
<td>s/he fell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cerró</td>
<td>s/he or it closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chica</td>
<td>girl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chico</td>
<td>boy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chocó</td>
<td>s/he or it crashed</td>
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<tr>
<td>churros</td>
<td>long fried sweet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>bread similar to a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>doughnut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ciudad</td>
<td>city</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>comerciante</td>
<td>businessperson; trader</td>
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<tr>
<td>comían</td>
<td>they ate; were eating</td>
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<tr>
<td>comida</td>
<td>food</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Glosario

comieron - they ate
comió - s/he ate
comprar - to buy
compraron - they bought
(que) compre - (that) s/he buy
compró - s/he bought
(que) corra - (that) s/he run
(subjunctive)
correr - to run
corría - s/he was running;
used to run
corriendo - running
corrió - s/he ran
crees - you believe
creía - s/he believed
creo - I believe
cuates - friends
cuatro - four
cuidaba - s/he cared for
cuidado - care
cuidar - to care for
decir - to say/tell
deja - s/he leaves
dejaron - they left
dejó - s/he left
después - after; later
dijeron - they said
dijo - s/he said
dolor - pain
dormitorio - bedroom
edad - age
empezó - s/he or it began
enamorada - in love
encontraron - they found
encontró - s/he found
enferma - sick
enfermedad - disease/illness
entre - between
era - was
eran - were
eras - you were
eres - you are
esa - that
esas - those
escaleras - stairs
escribía - s/he was writing
escribían - they were writing
escribió - s/he wrote
escribir - to write
escuela(s) - school(s)
eso - that
esos - those
esta - this
estaba - was
estar - to be
estás - you are
este - this

60
estuviera - were (past subjunctive)
estuvo - was
éter - ether (a type of anesthesia)
exnovio - ex-boyfriend
faldas - skirts
fin - end
fue - was; went
fuego - fire
fuera - were; went
fueron - they went; they were
ganar dinero - to earn money
gente - people
gordo - fat
gracias - thanks
gran - great; large
grande - large
gritaba - s/he was shouting
gritó - s/he shouted
(le) gustaba - was pleasing(to him/her); s/he liked
(le) gustaban - were pleasing(to him/her); s/he liked
(le) gustó - pleased(him/her); s/he liked
había - there was; there were
hablaba - s/he was talking
hablaban - they were talking
hablando - talking
hablar - to talk
habló - s/he talked
hace - makes; does
hacer - to make; to do
hecho - made; done
herida - wound; injury
hicieron - they made; they did
hiciste - you made; you did
hijo(a)- son/daughter
hizo - s/he made; s/he did
hermana - sister
hombre - man
huesos - bones
iba - was going
iban - they were going
ir - to go
irse - to leave
jabón - soap
joven - young
juegue - play (subjunctive)
jueves - Thursday
jugaba - was playing
jugaban - they were playing
jugar - to play
Glosario

jugara - play (past subjunctive)
leer - to read
leía - was reading
lenta - slow
lentamente - slowly
leyó - s/he read
libro - book
llamaba - s/he called
llamaban - they called
llamada - call (noun)
llámame - call me
llegaron - they arrived
llegó - s/he arrived
llevaba - was wearing; carrying
llevaban - they were wearing; carrying
(se) llevaban bien - they got along well
llevó - s/he wore; carried
lloraba - was crying
llorando - crying
loca - crazy
madrasta - stepmother
malo(a) - bad
mato - I kill
mató - s/he killed
meses - months
miedo - fear
mientras - while
mija (mi hija) - my daughter
mira - s/he looks; watches
miraron - they looked; watched
miró - s/he looked; watched
misa - Mass (Catholic church service)
montar - to ride
montaba - was riding
monta - s/he rides
morir(se) - to die
muchacho(a) - boy/girl
muerte - death
mujer - woman
mundo - world
murió - s/he died
nacieron - they were born
nació - s/he was born
Navidad - Christmas
negro - black
niño(a) - child
noche - night
novio(a) - boyfriend/girlfriend
nueva(s)/nuevo(s) - new
oía - heard
oír - to hear
ojos - eyes
otro(a) - another
oyera - hear (past subjunctive)
oyó - s/he heard
padre - father
padres - parents
palabras - words
paraguas - umbrella
(se) paró - s/he stopped; s/he stood
parto - birth
pata de palo - pegleg
pensaba - was thinking
pensar - to think
pequeño(a) - small
periódico - newspaper
pero - but
perro - dog
pidió - s/he asked for
pie - foot
pierna - leg
poblano - person from the Mexican state of Puebla
pobre - poor
poco(s) - little; few
podemos - we can
podía - could
podían - they could
posada - a Christmas celebration
prendieron - they lit
primera comunión - first communion
puede - s/he can
qué - what
quería - wanted
querían - they wanted
quiere - s/he wants
quiero - I want
quince - fifteen
rara - strange
reunirse - to reunite; to meet
(de) repente - suddenly
rompió - s/he broke
ropa - clothes
sabía - knew
sacar - to take (out)
sacó - s/he took (out)
salga - leave
salían - they were leaving
saliera - leave (past subjunctive)
salió - s/he left
salir - to leave
sangre - blood
se casó - s/he got married
Glosario

segundo - second
seis - six
señor - sir; Mr.; man
señora - madame; Mrs.; woman
sentía - felt
sentido - feeling (noun)
sentir - to feel
ser - to be
sería - would be
(había) sido - (had) been
siempre - always
(lo) siento - I feel (sorry); I’m sorry
siete - seven
sin embargo - however; nevertheless
sintió - s/he felt
sitio - place, site
sobre - about; envelope
solo(a) - only; alone; lonely
son - they are
soy - I am
sueño - dream
(por) supuesto - of course
también - also
tan - so
tarde - afternoon; late
tendría - would have
tenemos - we have
tener - to have
tengo - I have
tenía - had; used to have
tenían - they had; used to have
todavía - still; yet
todo(a) - all
tomaba - was taking
tomar - to take
tomó - s/he took
¡No toques! - don’t touch
trabajaba - used to work
trabajar - to work
trabajara - worked
trabajo - work
tranvía - tram; streetcar
tres - three
triste - sad
tristeza - sadness
tuviera - had (past subjunctive)
tuvieron - they had
tuvo - s/he had
vamos - we go
van - they go
vas - you go
veía - saw
vender - to sell
**Glosario**

*ver* - to see  
*viajar* - to travel  
*viaje* - trip, voyage  
*vida* - life  
*viera* - see (*past subjunctive*)  
*vieron* - they saw  
*vio* - s/he saw  
*vivía* - lived  
*vivir* - to live  
*vivos* - alive  
*volver* - to return; to do again  
*volvieron* - they returned  
*volvió* - s/he returned  
*voy* - I go  
*vuelvas* - you return (*sub-*  
  *junctive*)  
*yeso* - cast

**Cognados**

*accidente* - accident  
*acento* - accent  
*acompañó* - accompanied  
*adoptivos* - adoptive  
*adora* - adores  
*adorable* - adorable  
*affectaba* - s/he, it affected  
*affectuosa* - affectionate  
*afortunadamente* - fortu-  
  nately  
*agresivo* - aggressive  
*alcohol* - alcohol  
*amputaron* - they amputated  
*animal* - animal  
*apareció* - s/he appeared  
*arquitectura* - arquitecture  
*arruinando* - ruined  
*artista* - artist  
*atacaba* - was attacking  
*atacar(la)* - to attack (her)  
*atacó* - s/he attacked  
*ataque* - attack  
*autobuses* - buses  
*avalancha* - avalanche  
*bebé* - baby  
*cadáver* - cadaver; dead  
  body  
*católica* - Catholic  
*cerebral* - cerebral; of the  
  brain  
*chofer* - driver; chauffer  
*científicos* - scientists  
*clase* - class  
*collar* - collar

65
Cognados

colores - colors
columna - column
comentarios - comments
comisionó - s/he commissioned
completar - to complete
comprendió - s/he understood/ comprehended
comunión - communion
conmoción - commotion
consideraba - s/he considered
consideró - s/he considered
construyó - s/he constructed
contagioso - contagious
contenta - happy; content
continuó - s/he continued
controlarla - to control(her)
convento - convent
corredores - corridors; hallways
corsé - corset (garment worn around abdomen and chest area)
costa - coast
cuarentena - quarantine
decidió - s/he decided
dedicado - dedicated
dedicó - s/he dedicated
desformada - deformed
desapareció - s/he, it disappeared
desconexión - disconnection
desconsoladamente - inconsolably
destroyó - s/he destroyed
deterioró - s/he, it deteriorated
diciembre - December
diferente - different
director - director
distinta - distinct; different
distraída - distracted
división - division
doctora - doctor
durante - during; for a time
educación - education; manners
ejercicio - exercise
elegante - elegant
empleado - employee
enfrente - in front
entrar - to enter
entró - s/he entered
epilépticos - epileptic
equivalente - equivalent
escapaban - they used to escape
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Spanish</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>escapar</td>
<td>español -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>escamó</td>
<td>- to escape</td>
</tr>
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<td>espacio</td>
<td>- space</td>
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<tr>
<td>español</td>
<td>- Spanish; Spanish</td>
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<tr>
<td>española</td>
<td>- Spanish</td>
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<td>especial</td>
<td>- special</td>
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<td>especialmente</td>
<td>- especially</td>
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<td>esposa</td>
<td>- wife</td>
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<td>- style</td>
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<td>estómago</td>
<td>- stomach</td>
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<td>estrangular</td>
<td>- to strangle</td>
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<td>estudiaban</td>
<td>- they studied</td>
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<td>estudiantes</td>
<td>- students</td>
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<td>estudiar</td>
<td>- to study</td>
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<td>famoso</td>
<td>- famous</td>
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<td>fantástica</td>
<td>- fantastic</td>
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<td>favorita</td>
<td>- favorite</td>
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<tr>
<td>feroces</td>
<td>- ferocious</td>
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<td>fuerza</td>
<td>- force; strength</td>
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<td>- grave; serious</td>
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<td>idiota</td>
<td>- idiot</td>
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Cognados

imagen - image
imaginaba - s/he imagined
imaginación - imagination
imaginaria - imaginary
(le) importaba - was important (to him/her); mattered (to him/her)
importante - important
incompetentes - incompetent
independencia - independence
indígena - indigenous
informó - s/he informed
insistió - s/he insisted
instante - instant
insultos - insults
inteligente - intelligent
(le) interesaba - was interesting (to him/her)
interfirió - s/he interfered
investigó - s/he investigated
irritación - irritation
irritado - irritated
jardín - garden; yard
kínder - kindergarten
lección - lesson
leyenda - legend
límites - limits
literatura - literature
localizaba - it was located
mamá - mom
matemáticos - mathematicians
matrimonio - marriage
mayoría - majority
medicina - medicine
médico - doctor
memoria - memory
mercado - market
mexicano - Mexican
minutos - minutes
modelo - model
momento - moment
monstruo - monster
monstruosidad - monstrosity
monumento - monument
moverse - to move
mural - mural
museo - museum
necesita - s/he needs
necesitaba - s/he needed
necesito - I need
nervioso - nervous
noviembre - November
nunca - never
observaba - s/he was observing
observar - to observe
observó - s/he observed
ocasión - occasion
ocurrió - occurred
operaron - they operated
opinión - opinion
oportunidad - opportunity
paciencia - patience
pánico - panic
papá - papa; dad
papel - paper
parque - park
parte - part
pasaba - passed; were spending
pasado - past
pasaje (de barco) - passage or ticket (on a ship)
pasamos - we pass; we spend
pasar - to pass; to spend
pasó - passed
patio - patio
paz - peace
pelvis - pelvis
perfectamente - perfectly
perforado - perforated; pierced
perforó - s/he perforated; pierced
permisible - permissible
permitía - s/he permitted; allowed
permitió - s/he permitted; allowed
personal - personal
personalidad - personality
personas - persons, people
pintaba - s/he painted
pintando - painting
pintar - to paint
pintora - painter
pipi - pee; urine
piratas - pirates
planeaban - they planned; they were planning
planear - to plan
planearon - they planned
polio - polio
política - politics; political
posesiones - possessions
posibilidad - possibility
práctica - practice; practical
precio - price
preciosa - precious
prefería - s/he preferred
preparaba - s/he prepared; s/he was preparing
presidente - president
princesa - princess
Cognados

principalmente - principally; mainly
problema - problem
proceso - process
productos - products
profesional - professional
profesor - profesor; teacher
promesa - promise
ranchero - rancher; farmer
rápidamente - rapidly; quickly
rata - rat
realmente - really
rebeldes - rebels; rebellious
rebelión - rebellion
recuperaba - s/he was recuperating; s/he was recovering
recuperar(se) - to recuperate; to recover
recuperó - s/he recuperated; recovered
reflexionar - to reflect; to think about
relación - relationship
religión - religion
religiosa - religious
rentaba - s/he was renting;
s/he used to rent
respetar - to respect
respeto - respect
respondió - s/he responded
respuesta - response
restaurante - restaurant
revelar - to reveal
revolución - revolution
robaba - s/he was stealing;
s/he used to steal
robar - to steal; to rob
roca - rock
romántica - romantic
románticamente - romantically
secreto - secret
septiembre - September
seria - serious
silenciosa - silent
simplemente - simply
solitarios - solitary; alone
sonido - sound
sorprendente - surprising
suburbio - suburb
sufría - s/he was suffering
sufrió - s/he suffered
suicidó - s/he committed suicide
talento - talented
terrible - terrible
tiempo - time
tortillas - tortillas
tragedia - tragedy
trauma - trauma
unidos - united; close
universidad - university
usaba - s/he was using; used
to use
(que) usara - (that) s/he use
(past subjunctive)
usarlos - to use them
varias - various; several
venganza - vengeance; re-
venge
vertebral - vertebral; relating
to the spine
virus - virus
visitaba - was visiting; used
to visit
visitaban - they were visiting;
they used to visit
visitar - to visit
visitaron - they visited
visitó - s/he visited
voz - voice
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**NEW TITLES**

**Leyendas Impactantes**
Novice and Intermediate versions
(Two versions under one cover!)

6 traditional legends, from 6 different Latin American cultures, each told twice to make them accessible for both novice and intermediate students! Students will enjoy tales of love, mystery, intrigue, deception, helpful and dangerous dieties, demons and curses!

*Available July 2018!*

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**Edi el elefante**

Perfect picture book for beginners!

*Present & Past Tense - 55 unique words*

Edi is a talented elephant, but he is very small. Edi does not want to be talented or small; he wants to be BIG! One day, Edi discovers that a small animal can solve a big problem and that being small is not so horrible after all.
Brandon Brown Series

**Brandon Brown dice la verdad**
*Present Tense - 75 unique words*
Brandon quickly discovers that not telling the truth can create big problems and a lot of stress! Will he win in the end, or will he decide that honesty is the best policy? (Also available in French)

**Brandon Brown quiere un perro**
*Present Tense - 103 unique words*
Determined to get a dog, Brandon will do almost anything, but will he do everything it takes to keep one… a secret? (Also available in French, Italian, Latin, Chinese & German)

**Brandon Brown versus Yucatán**
*Past & Present Tense - 140 unique words (Two versions under one cover!)*
In Mexico, bad decisions and careless mischief can bring much more trouble than a 12-year-old boy can handle alone. Will he and his new friend, outwit their parents? (Also available in French)

**El nuevo Houdini**
*Past & Present Tense - 200 unique words (Two versions under one cover!)*
Brandon is dying to drive his father's T-bird while his parents are on vacation. Will he fool his parents and win the girl of his dreams in the process? (Also available in French & Russian)
Additional Titles

**El Ekeko: Un misterio boliviano**
*Present Tense - 190 unique words*

Paco is disappointed when his mother suggests that he replace his worn out shoes with his grandfather’s old boots. He reluctantly goes to the closet and gradually realizes that the closet holds much more than his grandfather’s old boots and a box of letters. Hidden among his grandfather’s possessions is a gift that has potential to bring some startling surprises and unexpected consequences.

**Frida Kahlo**
*Past Tense - 160 unique words*

Frida Kahlo (1907-1954) is one of Mexico's greatest artists, a remarkable achievement for someone who spent most of her relatively short life wracked with pain. Frida expressed her pain through her art, producing some 143 paintings, 55 of which were self-portraits. To this day, she remains an icon of strength, courage and audacity. This brief biography provides a glimpse into her turbulent life and her symbolic art.

**Bianca Nieves y los 7 toritos**
*Past Tense - 150 unique words*

Bullfighting is a dangerous sport, and there is nothing more menacing than facing a raging bull in the middle of the ring. All eyes are on the great torero, ‘El Juli,’ as he faces off against the most ferocious bull in the land, but nobody, aside from his daughter, Bianca, seems to notice that his greatest threat walks on two legs, not four. In her attempt to warn and save her father, Bianca soon realizes that fighting an angry bull is much safer than battling greed and deception.
**Piratas del Caribe y el mapa secreto**  
*Present Tense - 180 unique words*

The tumultuous, pirate-infested seas of the 1600's serve as the historical backdrop for this fictitious story of adventure, suspense and deception. Rumors of a secret map abound in the Caribbean, and Henry Morgan (*François Granmont, French version*) will stop at nothing to find it. (Also available in French)

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**Felipe Alou: Desde los valles a las montañas**  
*Past Tense - 150 unique words*

This is the true story of one of Major League Baseball’s greatest players and managers, Felipe Rojas Alou. When Felipe left the Dominican Republic in 1955 to play professional baseball in the United States, he had no idea that making it to the ‘Big League’ would require much more than athleticism and talent. He soon discovers that language barriers, discrimination and a host of other obstacles would prove to be the most menacing threats to his success. (Also available in English & French; unique word count approximately 300.)

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**Esperanza**  
*Present Tense, 1st person - 200 unique words*

This is the true story of a family caught in the middle of political corruption during Guatemala's 36-year civil war. Tired of watching city workers endure countless human rights violations, Alberto organizes a union. When he and his co-workers go on strike, Alberto’s family is added to the government's "extermination" list. The violent situation leaves Alberto separated from his family and forces them all to flee for their lives. Will their will to survive be enough to help them escape and reunite?
**Piratas del Caribe y el Triángulo de las Bermudas**

*Past Tense - 280 unique words*

When Tito and his father set sail from Florida to Maryland, they have no idea that their decision to pass through the Bermuda Triangle could completely change the course of their voyage, not to mention the course of their entire lives!

**Noches misteriosas en Granada**

*Present Tense - Fewer than 300 unique words*

Kevin leaves for a summer in Spain, and his life seems anything but perfect. He escapes into a book and enters a world of long-ago adventures. As the boundaries between his two worlds begin to blur, he discovers that nothing is as it appears...especially at night! (Also available in French)

**Robo en la noche  (Prequel to Noche de Oro)**

*Past & Present Tense - 380 unique words*

Fifteen-year-old Makenna Parker had reservations about moving to Costa Rica, but didn’t know that missing her home would be the least of her worries. She finds herself in the middle of an illegal scheme, and it’s a race against time to save the treasured macaws. (Present tense version available in French)

**Noche de oro**

*Past Tense - 290 unique words*

Now a college student, Makenna Parker returns to Costa Rica as a volunteer and finds unexpected romance that lands her in the middle of a perilous scheme. Does Martín really have good intentions, and what are he and his stepfather up to? Will Makenna discover the truth before it’s too late?’
**Vidas impactantes**  
*Past tense - 250 unique words*

Explore the fascinating stories of six influential and inspirational Spanish-speakers whose lives have been impactful. A baseball star who gave his life helping others, a Cuban exile turned superstar, a mother who never gave up the search for her missing son, a paralyzed soccer star who fought his way to the top in a new profession, a woman who revealed the secrets of history, and a shift supervisor in a mine who didn’t realize his shift would last 70 days! You may have heard of these impactful individuals, but after reading their stories you are sure to feel inspired.

**Santana**  
*Past tense - 210 unique words*

Carlos Santana is a legendary Mexican American musician. He started out as a poor child in a tiny Mexican village and transformed himself into an icon of Rock ‘n’ Roll. His story illustrates the ups and downs inherent in any journey of success and the power of perseverance. Whether or not you are a fan of Santana, his story will leave you inspired!

**Problemas en Paraíso**  
*Past Tense - 250 unique words*

Victoria Andalucci and her 16-year-old son are enjoying a fun-filled vacation in Mexico. A typical teenager, Tyler spends his days on the beach with the other teens from Club Chévere, while his mother attends a conference and explores Mexico. Her quest for adventure is definitely quenched, as she ventures out of the resort and finds herself alone and in a perilous fight for her life! Will anyone be able to save her? (Also available in French)
**La Llorona de Mazatlán**  
*Past Tense - Fewer than 300 unique words*

Laney Morales’ dream of playing soccer in Mexico soon turns into a nightmare, as she discovers that the spine-chilling legends of old may actually be modern mysteries. Why does no one else seem to hear or see the weeping woman in the long white dress? Laney must stop the dreadful visits, even if it means coming face to face with...La Llorona.

**Rebeldes de Tejas**  
*Past Tense - Fewer than 280 unique words*

When Mexican dictator, Santa Anna, discovers that thousands of U.S. citizens have spilled into the Mexican state of Texas and seized the Alamo, he is determined to expel or kill all of them. What will happen when Mexican Juan Seguín finds himself fighting for Texas and against his country’s dictator?

**Los Baker van a Perú**  
*375 unique words*  
*(Past & Present Tense - 2 versions under one cover!)*

Are the Baker family’s unfortunate mishaps brought on by bad luck or by the curse of the shrunk head? Join the Bakers as they travel through Peru and experience a host of cultural (mis)adventures that are full of fun, excitement and suspense!

**La maldición de la cabeza reducida**  
*375 unique words*

Hailey and Jason think they have rid themselves of the cursed shrunk head now that they are back home from their family trip to Peru. Their relief quickly gives way to shock, as they realize that their ordeal has only just begun. Returning the head and appeasing the Jívaro tribe become a matter of life and death! Will Hailey and Jason beat the odds?
**Hasta la sepultura**

*Past tense - Fewer than 400 unique words*

In 1500, Queen Isabella issued an official decree permanently closing the secret passageways that lie below the city of Salamanca... Nico and Adriana decided to explore them and it will prove more dangerous than either imagined. They discover that the legendary evil that lurks below Salamanca is not so mythical after all...

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**Vector**

*Past tense - Fewer than 400 unique words*

A vector of venom infects Antonio, a Panamanian teenager, with an illness that has far-reaching consequences. He is transported back in time to work on the construction of the Panama Canal. Is his eerie displacement reversible or will he finish his life working on one of the most dangerous construction sites in history?

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**La hija del sastre**

*Past tense - Fewer than 500 unique words*

Growing up in a Republican family during Franco's fascist rule of Spain, Emilia Matamoros discovers just how important keeping a secret can be! After her father, a former captain in the Republican army, goes into hiding, Emilia not only must work as a seamstress to support her family, she must work to guard a secret that will protect her father and save her family from certain death. Will her innocence be lost and will she succumb to the violent tactics of Franco's fascist regime?
**Vida y muerte en La Mara Salvatrucha**  
*Past tense - Fewer than 400 unique words*

This compelling drama recounts life (and death) in one of the most violent and well-known gangs in Los Angeles, La Mara Salvatrucha 13. This is a gripping story of one gang member’s struggle to find freedom.

**La Calaca Alegre**  
*Past tense - Fewer than 425 unique words*

Does Carlos really suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder, or are his strange sensations and life-like nightmares much more real than anyone, including Carlos, believes? Determined to solve the mystery of his mother’s disappearance, Carlos decides to return to Chicago to face his fears and find his mother, even if it means living out his nightmares in real life. As he uncovers the mystery, he discovers the truth is much more complex and evil than he ever imagined.

**La Guerra Sucia**  
*Past tense - Fewer than 600 unique words*

American Journalist and single mother, Leslie Corrales travels to Argentina to investigate the suspicious disappearance of ‘Raúl,’ the son of Magdalena Casasnovas. When Leslie discovers that Raúl, along with 10’s of thousands of other suspected dissidents, has suffered horrific atrocities at the hands of the Argentine government, she finds herself in a life-altering series of events. Will she escape with her life and with the information she needs to help the Argentine people?