

From Salsa Stories

Aguinaldo

Pages (126 - 143)

# **Objectives:**

## **Students should be able to:**

- Discuss the Big Question.
- Watch a video related to the Big Question and discuss it.

**How are relationships with others important?**

**Page 126 S.B**

**There is an old saying that when you help someone, you are really helping yourself. What do you think that means? Do you think it is important to reach out to others? Discuss with a partner and recall a time when you helped someone else.**

**What does “Family” mean to you?**



## **Build Background**

**Page 126 S.B**

**In this section, you will read “Aguinaldo,” an excerpt from the novel Salsa Stories. It is about a young Puerto Rican girl named Marilia. Her class is going on a field trip to a nursing home where her classmates plan to deliver surprise Christmas gifts, or Aguinaldos, to the elderly people who live there. However, Marilia is afraid to participate; her only grandmother died in a nursing home the year before, and the thought of returning to one makes her sad. Currently, more than 1.5 million elderly in the U.S.A. live in nursing homes, or places where elderly people live. Some of them cannot care for themselves. They receive medical care, healthy meals, opportunities to participate in organized activities, and companionship. According to the United Nations, the number of elderly people around the world is growing quickly. As of 2015, one in eight people globally is older than 60, and by 2030 it is projected to be one in six people.**

# **Literary Words / Page 127**

# **Objectives:**

## **Students will be able to:**

- Recognize the meanings of the new words.
- Watch a video related to the new words and discuss it.
- Answer questions related to the new words.

# foreshadowing

What is Foreshadowing?



# foreshadowing

# foreshadowing

**Clues that hint at what might happen later in the story.**

When an author tells you at the beginning of a story that the main character will meet a bad end, and he does, that's foreshadowing.

## Foreshadowing

- **Definition** - A literary device in which a writer gives an advance hint of what is to come later in the story.

## **Foreshadowing**

is an author's use of clues to hint at what might happen later in a story. Writers use foreshadowing to engage readers in wondering about what might happen and to create suspense.

# Examples on foreshadowing

- The final graveyard flower is blooming, and its smell drifts through their house, speaking gently the names of their dead.

(Foreshadows death)

- In the middle of the night, the father hears the back door opening. He rushes to check on his kids, but a masked intruder is blocking the way with a knife.

(Foreshadows threat)

- Rainbow sparks with shining lights.

(Foreshadows optimism)

# Why do we use Foreshadowing?

- Creates *suspense*.
- Keeps reader *interested* in what will happen next.
- Uses hints at future events to *predict outcomes*

# Little Red Riding Hood

- Once upon a time, there was a little girl who lived with her mother. Her mother asked her to take her old and lonely grandmother some food. "Don't stop along the way. Go straight to your Grandma's house and back. Don't talk to any stranger and watch out for the wolf in the woods! Now get along!"



Foreshadowing

# Foreshadowing Example

- Even as a little kid, no one had to tell you that when Mrs. Rabbit told Peter, "Don't go into Mr. MacGregor's garden," he'd go – and get into trouble!



**A professionally dressed woman hurriedly leaves the house, slamming the front door. She searches for her keys in the bottom of a giant purse while balancing a briefcase under her other arm. She finds her keys, gets in the car and begins backing out of the driveway, and then slams on the brakes. “I feel like I’m forgetting something,” she says. She drives away.**



# Irony

# irony

**The difference between what happens  
and what is expected to happen in a story**

**If a character in a story tries to help a  
friend, and finds that when she does, the  
friend hates her for it instead of  
appreciating it, that's irony.**

# irony

- The difference between what happens and what is expected to happen in a story.
- The difference between what is *spoken or written* and what is *really meant*.

If a character in a story tries to help a friend, and finds that when she does, the friend hates her for it instead of appreciating it, that's irony.

# Example of irony

- You wake up have a terrible cold and feel awful—and you look like a mess! When you walk downstairs your mom greets you with, “Well, you look lovely this morning!”



## Literary Words / Page 127

**Irony** is the difference between what the reader expects to happen and what actually happens in a story. Writers include ironic situations in stories to create surprise and amusement. Read the example of irony below.

Jonathan didn't want to study in France, but his parents thought it would be beneficial for him to experience another culture. After saying good-bye to his parents at the airport, Jonathan made a mental list of all the reasons why he should not be flying to France: He didn't speak the language, none of his friends lived there, he didn't even like French food. \* \* \* Three months later, Jonathan decided to call his parents—it wouldn't hurt to ask. He was nervous as he listened to the phone ring. His mother answered. "Hi, Mom. Do you think I could stay here for the rest of the school year?"

# Examples on irony

- I posted a video on YouTube about how boring and useless YouTube is.
- The name of Britain's biggest dog was "Tiny."
- "Oh great! Now you have broken my new camera."
- The doctor is as kind hearted as a wolf.
- His friend's hand was as soft as a rock.

# Literary words / W.B. Page 65

Read the description of each situation. Write *irony* if it is an example of irony. Write *foreshadowing* if it is an example of foreshadowing.

Irony or foreshadowing?	Situation
foreshadowing	It was an unusually icy day when they began their car trip. The roads were slippery.
1.	Jeffrey drove for four straight days – only to end up back where he started.
2.	The policeman watched the customer with interest. Then he picked up his radio and said, “Chief, could you check on something for me?”
3.	Our team did well that day. But there were a lot of games left, and things didn’t go well for very long . . .



## Literary words / W.B. Page 65

**Read the passage. Underline the elements of foreshadowing in the story.**

Miles threw his shoes and shirt into the closet carelessly. He looked down at his desk. There was an unopened letter sitting there, but he tried not to look at it. He opened the window, then shut it again for no reason. The clock seemed to tick more loudly than before. He looked at the picture of his family hanging on the wall. *What if it's bad news? he thought. He went downstairs for a glass of water, but once he got to the kitchen he forgot to pour it.* He thought of his brother, and how much time had passed since his previous letter. Why would he write now? A moment passed.

"OK then," Miles said. He marched upstairs, ready for anything. Even bad news.

**4. What do you think happens next?**

# **1. Foreshadowing is:**

- a. what has happened in the past
- b. what is going on in the present
- c. a hint of what is going to happen in the future

2. Decide whether the sentences are an example of foreshadowing or irony.

Mike felt as confident when he started his boat engine that day. He noticed a few clouds gathering overhead, but did not worry about them.

- a. foreshadowing
- b. flashback

### 3. Foreshadowing is...

- a. the main story of a literary work.
- b. a play about ridiculous and absurd situations.
- c. a cutting and often ironic remark
- d. clues that hint at events that will occur later in the plot

**4. Decide whether the sentences are an example of foreshadowing or irony.**

**In real life, an ambulance comes to a woman's house to take her to the hospital, hopefully to save her life. On the way to the hospital the ambulance is hit by a semi truck and everyone on board the ambulance is killed.**

- a. Foreshadowing
- b. Irony

**5. Irony is :**

- a. a difference between the surface meaning of something that is said and the underlying meaning.**
- b. clues that hint at events that will occur later in the plot.**

## **Academic Words / Page 128**

# Literary Words

- 1. Distributes** (V)
- 2. Positive** (adj)
- 3. Reluctant** (Adj)
- 4. Resident** (n)



# distributes

gives something to different people or places

**The usher distributes programs before the play.**



# Positive

good or useful

**Volunteering at the camp was a positive experience**



# reluctant

**Feeling uncomfortable about doing something.**

**Aliyah was reluctant about visiting the nursing home.**



# residents

**People who live a city or place.**

**The residents of the nursing home were happy to have visitors.**



## Practice / Page 128

Work with a partner to answer these questions. Try to include the purple word in your answer. Write the sentences in your notebook.

1. Is there a shelter in your area that distributes food or clothing to the needy? Have you ever volunteered to work there?

Yes, there is a shelter in our area that distributes food and clothing to the needy. I have never volunteered to work there.

2. Do you think volunteering is a positive use of your time? Why or why not?

Yes, I can learn to appreciate things my family does for me.

3. Have you ever been reluctant about the opportunity to volunteer? Explain.

I have never been reluctant about the opportunity to volunteer somewhere because I am excited about the opportunity.

4. What are some ways that the residents of your community volunteer to make it a better place to live?

Some residents volunteer to pick up trash in the park, and others work at the recycling center.

Fill in the blanks using the following words:  
reluctant / positive / distributes / residents

There is a non-profit organization in our town that distributes free lunches to the elderly. Volunteers bring the lunches to elderly residents' homes every day at noon. No elderly person who requests a free lunch is ever turned down, although some feel reluctant to ask for help. Both volunteers and the elderly find delivering and receiving free lunches a very positive experience.

## Academic words / W.B. Page 66

Write the letter of the correct definition next to each word.

Example:

- |                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| <u><b>b</b></u> reluctant      | a. gives something to different people or places |
| <u><b>d</b></u> 1. residents   | b. feeling uncomfortable about doing something   |
| <u><b>a</b></u> 2. distributes | c. good or useful                                |
| <u><b>c</b></u> 3. positive    | d. people who live in a place                    |

Use the Academic Words from the exercise above to complete the sentences.

4. Even though the situation was unpleasant, she tried to keep a **positive** attitude.
5. All the **residents** of the apartment building helped to keep the grounds clean.
6. He was **reluctant** to clear the table just in case people were not done eating.
7. Every Sunday, she **distributes** flyers to her neighbors to advertise her crafts store.

**Complete the sentences with your own ideas.**

**Example:** I had a very positive experience while volunteering at the soup kitchen.

**8. If I ask a friend to see a movie with me, I am reluctant to**

\_\_\_\_\_.

**9. I like the residents of my neighborhood because**

\_\_\_\_\_.

**10. Before each class, my teacher distributes**

\_\_\_\_\_.



## **Word Study: Spelling s-Blends**

A consonant blend in a word is made up of two or three consonant letters that stand for the sounds each letter stands for, blended together. Identifying blends that begin with s- can help you say and spell unfamiliar words with them. Read the s-blends and examples in the chart below

sw- /sw/	sp- /sp/	st- /st/	str- /str/
Swept	Special	Stay	Strange
Swim	Space	Stomach	Strong

### **Practice / Page 129**

Work with a partner. Read the sentences aloud. Complete the word in each sentence with the correct s- blend.

1. We are   **sp**  ending the day at the nursing home.
2. The building is across the   **str**  eeet.
3. The woman told me   **st**  ories about her childhood.
4. I   **sw**  allowed the juice.
5. She   **st**  ared at the card.

# Reading Strategy/ Page 129

**Recognizing the cultural context of a story or text helps you visualize and understand what's happening. Cultural context includes the beliefs, art, ideas, and values of a particular community. To recognize cultural context, follow these steps as you read:**

- Pay attention to the setting and to the characters and their backgrounds.**
- Think about what you already know about Puerto Rico and the people who live there.**
- Notice details about the main character's school, relationships between students and teachers, traditions for holidays, practices and leisure activities, meals, attitudes about others, and feelings about family.**
- Think about your background. How is it similar and different? How does comparing story details with your own life help you better appreciate the story?**

**As you read "Aguinaldo," think about why the story is called this. Consider the cultural context. Think about and compare the ideas and traditions to your own**

Tia

**Aunt**

**Tia Sara brought me an interesting gift.**



# infirm

**weak or sick**

**My grandfather is very old and infirm.**



# field trip

**A trip students take with their classmates and teacher.**

**Our teacher told us that there will be a field trip in April.**



**On New Year's Day, a neighbor gives Carmen Teresa a blank notebook. Although she is grateful for the gift, Carmen Teresa has no idea how to fill it. Her guests suggest she use it to record family stories. When she agrees, her family members eagerly share their childhood experiences. This excerpt is TíaMarilia's tale.**

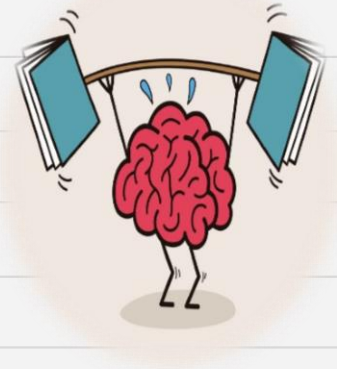
**When I was growing up in Puerto Rico, I went to a small, Catholic girls' school. Every December, Sister Antonia, our religion teacher, insisted that students visit the nursing home in Santurce. Bringing Christmas cheer to the old and infirm was an experience she felt all students should have. "I'm not going," I whispered to my friend Margarita. "You have to, Marilia," she said. "Everyone has to go." All of my classmates looked forward to the trip. But ever since my only grandma died in a nursing home, the thought of going back to one made me feel sad. I didn't want to go. As I sat at my desk making the Christmas card that I would give to a resident, I tried to figure out how I could skip this field trip.**

Maybe they would let me help at the library. Maybe I could write a special book report at school while they were out. Or better yet, I could wake up ill and stay home from school. As soon as the recess bell rang, I ran over to the library to try out my first plan. “Hola, Marilia,” Señora Collazo greeted me. “Hola, Señora Collazo,” I said, smiling sweetly. “I came to ask you if I could stay here tomorrow to help you paint posters for the book fair. I really don’t mind spending the whole day at the library.” “Aren’t you going on a field trip tomorrow?” Señora Collazo asked. “My class is going. But I could be excused if you need my help.” The librarian thanked me and said that if I wanted to help I could join the other students who had already volunteered to stay after school to do the posters. Biting my lip, I left the library in a hurry. It was time to try my second plan. I marched right back to my classroom. Sister Antonia was grading papers at her desk as I went in. “Sister Antonia,” I said softly. “Yes, Marilia,” Sister Antonia answered. I stared for a moment at the buckles of my shoes. Then without looking up, I took a deep breath, swept back my black curls, and asked, “May I stay in school tomorrow to do an extra book report?” “I’m afraid not, Marilia,” Sister Antonia said firmly. “Tomorrow is our trip to the nursing home. But if you want to do an extra book report, you can do it over the weekend.”



# Challenge Yourself- Buzz IN

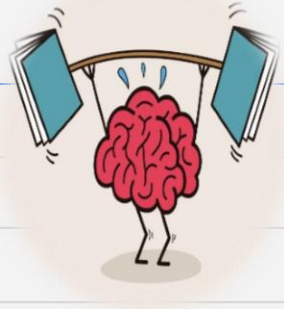
**Why is Marilia so determined to avoid going to the nursing home, and what does this reveal about her character?**



Marilia wants to avoid the visit because it reminds her of her grandmother's death, which makes her feel sad. Her determination to find excuses shows that she's emotional and sensitive, but also creative and resourceful in trying to find solutions. It also shows that she's struggling between doing what she feels and what is expected of her.



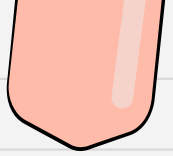
# Real Life Application



**How can Marilia's situation relate to real-life experiences when people must face something they don't want to do?**

In real life, we all face situations that bring back painful memories or make us uncomfortable, like visiting a hospital or helping someone in need. Marilia's story reminds us that sometimes we grow and find meaning when we push past our fears and do what's right, even when it's difficult.

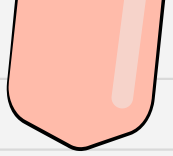




# Check Your Understanding - IRS

**1. What is the main reason Marilia doesn't want to go to the nursing home?**

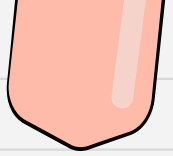
- A. She dislikes the elderly.
- B. She's afraid of Sister Antonia.
- C. It reminds her of her grandmother's death.
- D. She thinks the trip will be boring.



# Check Your Understanding - IRS

**2. What do Marilia's different excuses (library, book report, pretending to be sick) suggest about her personality?**

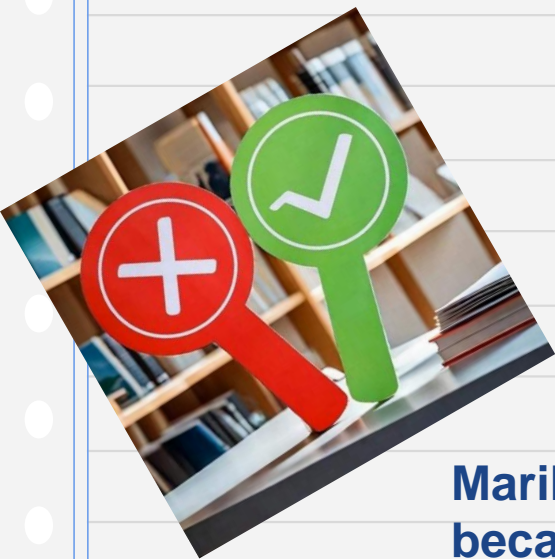
- A. She is lazy and doesn't want to work.
- B. She is imaginative and determined to avoid something painful.
- C. She is dishonest and unkind.
- D. She is easily persuaded by others.



# Check Your Understanding - IRS

**3. Why does Señora Collazo refuse Marilia's request to stay in the library?**

- A. She doesn't like Marilia.
- B. She already has enough volunteers after school.
- C. She wants Marilia to be punished.
- D. She doesn't believe Marilia is a good helper.



✓ True or ✗ False



**Marilia wanted to stay home from school because she felt sick.**

**SHAKE HAND**



**PINKY SHAKE**



**FIST BUMP**



**THUMBS UP**

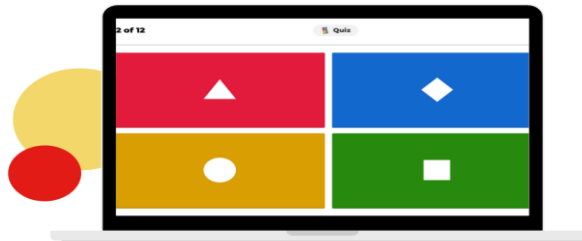


POSTASSESSMENT

# Kahoot!



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# Kahoot!



hola

hello

**Holla, dear friends.**



# Senora

## Mrs.

**Senora Mary started the meeting with a nice smile.**



**Before you go on ..**

**Page (131)**

1. **What do students have to do every December? How does Marilia react to this?**  
The students must visit a nursing home and cheer someone up. Marilia does not want to go because her grandmother recently died in a nursing home.
2. **What happens to the two plans Marilia comes up with to get out of going? What do you think will happen next?**  
Marilia's plans of helping teachers instead of going on the trip do not work. Accept predictions about what will happen next

**On Your Own From**

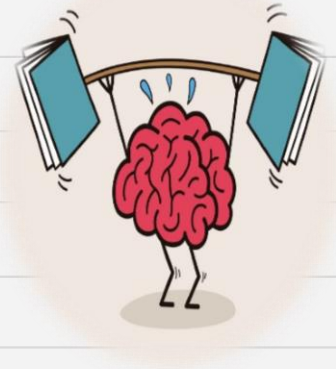
**From what you read or know, why do you think Marilia doesn't want to go? Explain.**

I glanced across the room to the trays of besitos de coco, the coconut sweets that my class had prepared to bring to the nursing-home residents as an aguinaldo. Aguinaldos, surprise Christmas gifts, were fun to receive. But still, I wasn't going, so it wasn't my concern. I whispered thank you to the sister, and left. That evening at dinnertime, I put my third plan into action. To my parents' surprise, I had two big helpings of rice and kidney beans, two helpings of dessert, and three glasses of mango juice. I never ate so much. I figured that with all this food, I was sure to get indigestion. I went to bed and waited. I tossed and turned. I waited for several hours expecting a stomachache any second, but instead, the heavy meal made me tired and I fell sound asleep. "Marilia, get dressed!" Mami called early the next morning. "We have to leave soon for school!" How unlucky. I woke up feeling quite well. There was only one thing left to do. I ran to the bathroom, let the hot water run, and drank a full glass of it. Then I went back to bed. "Marilia." Mami came in. "Get up! What is going on with you?" "I feel warm, Mami," I mumbled. Mami looked with concern. She touched my forehead and my neck. She left the room and in a few minutes came back with the thermometer in her hand. I opened my mouth and she slipped it under my tongue.

When the time was up, Mami pulled the thermometer out and read it. "One hundred and six degrees?" she exclaimed. "That's impossible. You look perfectly fine to me." After a little questioning, I confessed what I had done. I told Mami how much I didn't want to go on the field trip. "You know, Marilia," she advised, "you might enjoy yourself after all. Besides, I've already promised Sister Antonia two trays of temblequito to bring as an aguinaldo to the residents of the home." There was no way out. I had to go. In the big lobby of the nursing home, paper streamers hung from the tall windows. The residents were scattered everywhere. Sister Antonia took out her guitar and at the sound of the first bar we began to sing a medley of carols. Meanwhile, the residents clapped and sang along while a student passed around our cards for us to give to them later. As I watched how happy our music made the residents, memories of my grandma rushed to me, making me dizzy with sadness. Suddenly, I saw that everybody was visiting with their residents. I was alone. I didn't feel like joining one of the groups. Maybe I could quietly slip away until the visit was over. I hoped it would be soon. Then I noticed a chair against the yellow wall. I sat there still holding the card I had made.

# Challenge Yourself- Buzz IN

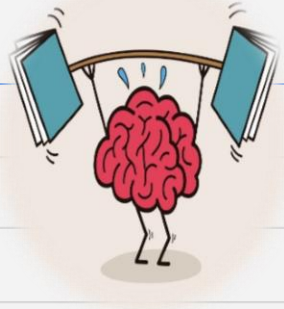
Marilia tries several ways to avoid going on the trip to the nursing home, but in the end, she's moved by the experience. What do her actions and change of attitude reveal about how our expectations can shape — or limit — the way we experience new situations?



Marilia's actions show that negative expectations can prevent us from seeing the potential good in new experiences. She assumes the trip will be boring or unpleasant, so she focuses all her energy on avoiding it—trying to get sick and pretending to have a fever. However, once she's there, she discovers that the visit brings joy to the nursing-home residents and stirs warm memories of her grandmother. Her change of heart shows that our expectations can blind us to meaningful moments, but being open-minded can lead to unexpected happiness and personal growth.



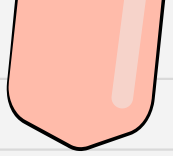
# Real Life Application



**Think of a time when you didn't want to do something — like attend an event, try a new activity, or meet new people — but ended up enjoying it or learning something valuable. How is your experience similar to Marilia's?**

Keeping an open mind allows us to discover value and joy in situations we might first think are uninteresting or uncomfortable. Like Marilia, we sometimes assume that something new will be unpleasant, so we resist it. But when we give experiences a fair chance, we often learn something unexpected — we might meet new people, develop empathy, or find satisfaction in helping others. For example, volunteering, joining a new club, or trying a new subject at school can all feel intimidating at first, but they can end up being rewarding. Marilia's experience reminds us that staying open-minded helps us grow and see the good in situations we might otherwise miss.





# Check Your Understanding - IRS

**1. Why did Marilia try to make herself sick the night before the trip?**

- A. She wanted to stay home and rest.
- B. She didn't want to go on the field trip to the nursing home.
- C. She was worried about her schoolwork.
- D. She wanted to surprise her mother.

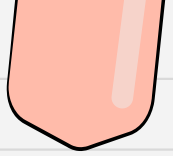




# Check Your Understanding - IRS

**What causes Marilia to change her attitude during the visit to the nursing home?**

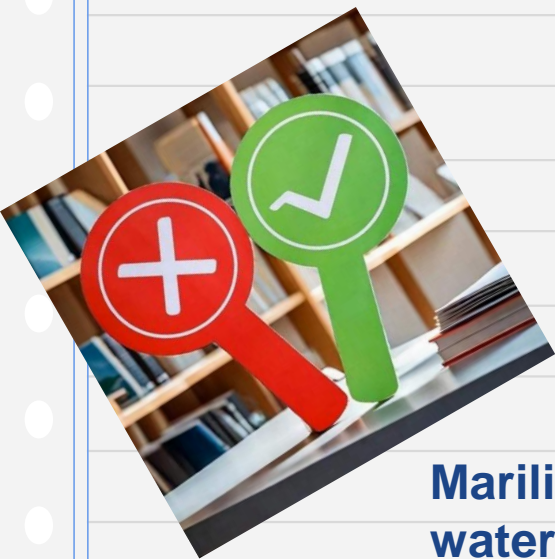
- A. She sees how happy the residents are when the students sing.
- B. She gets praised by her teacher.
- C. She receives a special gift from one of the residents.
- D. She remembers she forgot to fake her fever again.



# Check Your Understanding - IRS

**3. What lesson does Marilia learn by the end of the story?**

- A. It's better to stay home than to go on trips.
- B. Pretending to be sick always backfires.
- C. New experiences can be meaningful even if we don't expect them to be.
- D. Helping others is a waste of time.



☒ True or ☐ False



**Marilia tried to fake a fever by drinking hot water.**

**SHAKE HAND**



**PINKY SHAKE**



**FIST BUMP**



**THUMBS UP**

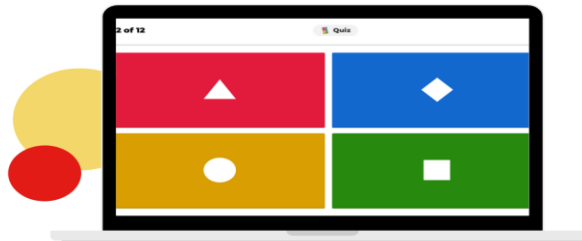


POSTASSESSMENT

# Kahoot!



<https://create.kahoot.it/share/aguinaldo-pages-130-132/9f686719-2fce-407b-8932-727f334177c0>



# Kahoot!

# Mango

**sweet tropical fruit.**

**I had a big dish of sushi with glass of mango.**



# indigestion

**stomach pains from eating too much food.**

**The patient complained of indigestion and nausea.**



# mumbled

**spoke quietly and unclearly.**

- He mumbled something and then left.**
- I can't understand you when you mumble.**





concern

worry

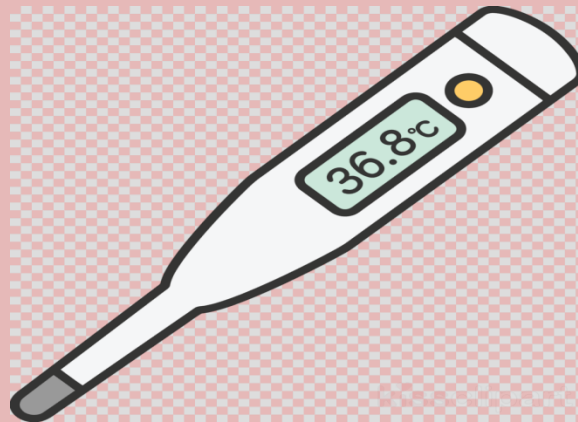
**The problem concerns us all.**



# Thermometer

**An instrument that measures the temperature of your body.**

**My mom confirmed that I had a fever when she measured my temperature with a thermometer.**



# tembleque

**A kind of dessert made from coconut milk.**

**She served a lot of tembleque and other desserts in her birthday.**



scattered

**spread out.**

**The scattered books in my table annoyed me, so I organized them.**



dizzy

unsteady.

**Complex math problems make me dizzy.**

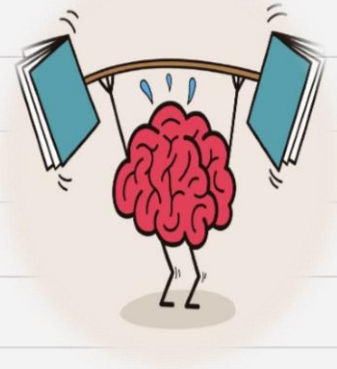


Across the room there was a frail old lady in a wheelchair. She was alone, too. I looked at my card again. It was rather pretty. I had painted it with shades of blue and gold. Maybe I could just hand it to her and leave. It might brighten her day. So gingerly, I crossed the lobby and stood next to her. "Who is there?" the old lady asked as she coquettishly fixed her silver bun with the light touch of her manicured hand. "My name is Marilia," I said. "I brought you a card." "Dios te bendiga," the old woman said. "God bless you." She reached for the card but her hand was nowhere near it. Her gaze was lost in the distance, and I knelt down to place the card in her hand. It was then that I saw the big clouds in her eyes. She was blind. What was the use of a card if you couldn't see it? I felt cheated. I stood up to go back to my chair. "My name is Elenita," she said as I tried to slip away. "Tell me, Marilia, what does your card look like?" I knelt down beside her and, in as vivid detail as I could, described the three wise men I had drawn. Then, Elenita's curious fingers caressed every inch of the card. She couldn't have enjoyed it more if she had seen it.

When the coconut sweets were passed around, she mischievously asked for two. "I bet you are not supposed to eat one of these," she giggled. "No," I replied. "Sister Antonia told us that the sweets were just for residents." "Well," she whispered. "Nobody said I couldn't give you one of mine." I liked Elenita. I placed the besito de coco in my mouth and relished it even more. Especially since I wasn't supposed to have it. I enjoyed being her partner in mischief. After all, she asked me if I liked music and if I knew how to dance. "Ay," I said, "I love to listen to music and dance." Then she told me how, when she was young, she had been a great dancer. "I used to dance so well that men would line up for a chance to dance with me. I had many, many suitors at one time," she said. "I had suitors that serenaded me in the evening and others that brought me flowers. But I didn't go out with all of them. You have to be selective, you know." Too soon we were interrupted by Sister Antonia. It was time to get on the bus and return to school. I didn't want to leave.

# Challenge Yourself- Buzz IN

Why does Marilia feel differently about her card after talking with Elenita?

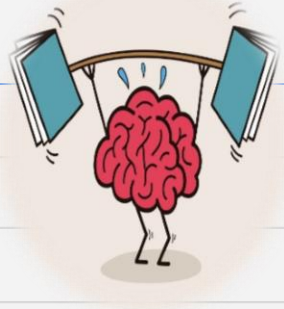


At first, Marilia thinks her card is useless because Elenita can't see it. But after describing it and seeing how happy Elenita is to touch it, Marilia realizes the card is special because it shows kindness and friendship, not just because it looks pretty.





# Real Life Application



How can Marilia's experience with Elenita be applied to real life?

Marilia's experience shows that kindness and caring mean more than how something looks or how much it costs. In real life, we can apply this by remembering that small, thoughtful actions — like spending time with someone, listening, or helping — can make others feel valued, even more than giving them fancy gifts.





# Check Your Understanding - IRS

**1. Why did Marilia decide to give her card to the old lady?**

- A. She wanted to win a prize for her artwork.
- B. She thought it might brighten the old lady's day.
- C. Sister Antonia told her to give it away.
- D. She was told the old lady was her relative.

# Check Your Understanding - IRS

**2. What made Marilia feel disappointed after giving Elenita the card?**

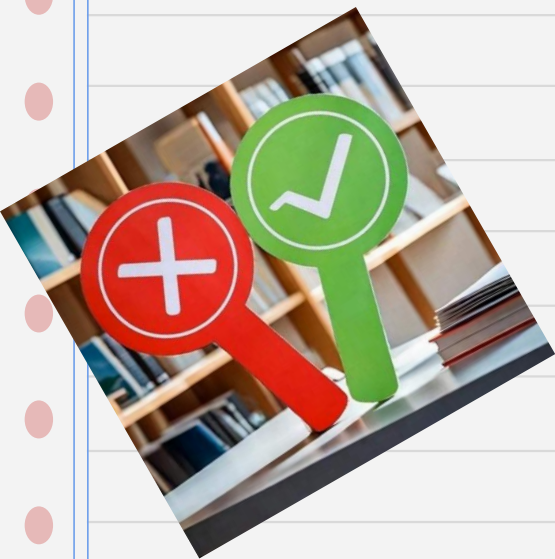
- A. Elenita didn't thank her.
- B. The card was damaged.
- C. Elenita was blind and couldn't see it.
- D. Sister Antonia scolded her.



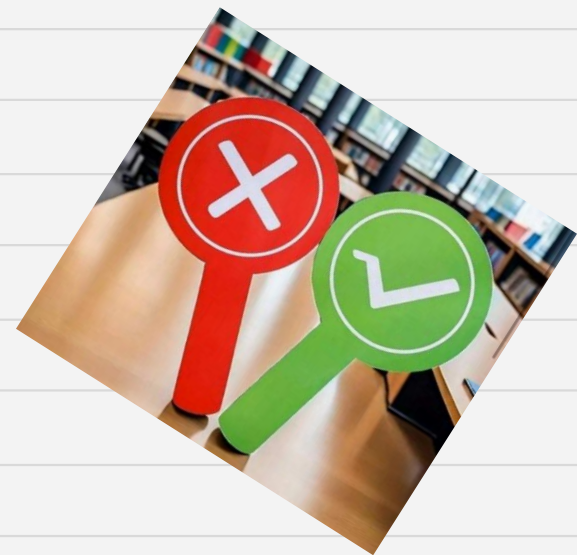
# Check Your Understanding - IRS

**3. What lesson does Marilia learn from her time with Elenita?**

- A. Rules should always be followed.
- B. Beauty only matters if it can be seen.
- C. Kindness and sharing are more important than appearances.
- D. Old people don't appreciate gifts.



☒ True or ☐ False



1. Elenita could see the card clearly and admired the colors.
2. The story shows that kindness and friendship can be shared in many ways, not just through gifts.

**SHAKE HAND**



**PINKY SHAKE**



**FIST BUMP**



**THUMBS UP**

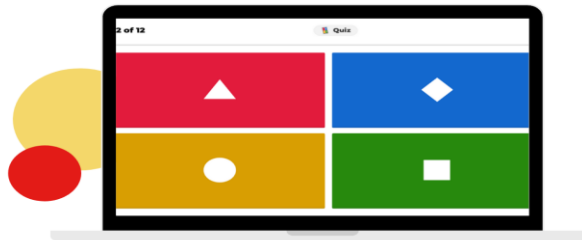


POSTASSESSMENT

# Kahoot!



<https://create.kahoot.it/share/aguinaldo-pages-133-134/66d5b0f6-067a-4219-b44a-267d00a7fac8>



# Kahoot!

gingerly

cautiously.

**You should drive very gingerly in snow.**





# coquettishly

in a feminine way.

**She wiped her mouth coquettishly after she finished eating.**



manicured

**professionally cared for.**

**Her garden is manicured in an attractive way.**



vivid

clear , specific.

**This book includes many vivid descriptions.**



# wise men

A man with usual learning judgment, or insight.

Wise men visited us to negotiate about the fight with our neighbors.



caressed

felt in a gentle way.

**The mother's warm hands caressed her baby.**



# mischievously

## playfully

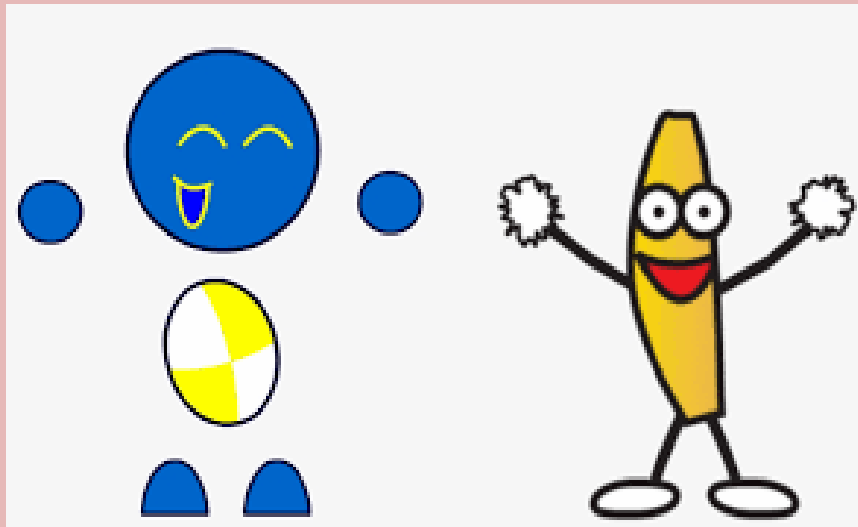
The girl was punished because she acted mischievously during our visit to our neighbors.



relished

enjoyed

**I highly relished the taste of the cake in her birthday.**



# suitors

**men who want to marry a woman.**

**When the suitor came, she finally agreed to marry him.**



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com



serenaded

sang a romantic song to.

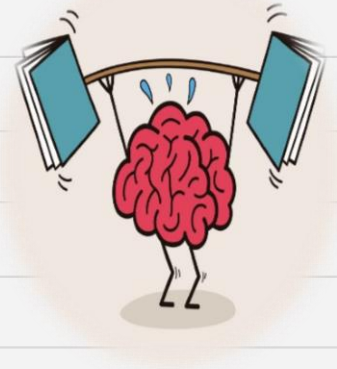
**He serenaded in the garden below a tree.**



**“Thank you for the card, Marilia,” Elenita said. She opened her hand and gestured for me to give her mine. “I’ll keep this card to remember you by.” “I’m sorry you can’t see it,” I said as I squeezed her hand. For a moment it felt as warm and giving as my own grandma’s. “I wish I had brought you a better aguinaldo.” “The best aguinaldo,” Elenita said, “was your visit, Marilia.” As I left, I felt light and warm and peaceful. On the bus ride back, I told my friend Margarita all about our visit. I couldn’t wait to come back next year. I already knew what I would bring Elenita. I would make her a collage. That way she would be able to feel the many textures of my picture, even if she couldn’t see it. And maybe I could make a picture of her dancing. I knew she had been very pretty when she was young. “Are you going to wait until next Christmas to give her your collage?” Margarita asked. I thought for a moment. “Maybe Mami could bring me back sooner,” I said. As I looked out the window, I remembered how good Elenita’s hand felt to touch. It’s funny how sometimes things change unexpectedly. Just that morning I didn’t want to go at all. But then, I couldn’t wait to visit my new friend again. We had gone to the nursing home to give aguinaldos. And what a very special Aguinaldo I had been given—Elenita’s friendship**

# Challenge Yourself- Buzz IN

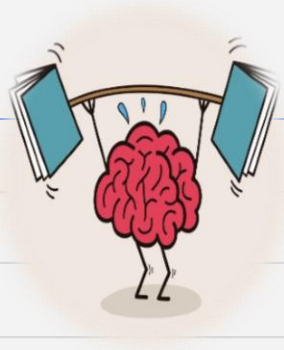
In your opinion, why does Marilia feel happy and peaceful after visiting Elenita?



Marilia feels happy because she realizes that giving isn't just about gifts — it's about making a real connection with someone. Elenita's kindness and gratitude make Marilia feel that her visit mattered more than the card itself.



# Real Life Application



How can Marilia's experience help us understand the true meaning of giving?

It shows that the best gifts come from the heart. In real life, spending time, showing care, and forming friendships can be more meaningful than material presents.





# Check Your Understanding - IRS

1. What did Elenita say was the best *aguinaldo*?
  - A. The painted card
  - B. The coconut sweets
  - C. Marilia's visit
  - D. The collage

# Check Your Understanding - IRS

2. What did Marilia plan to make for Elenita next time?

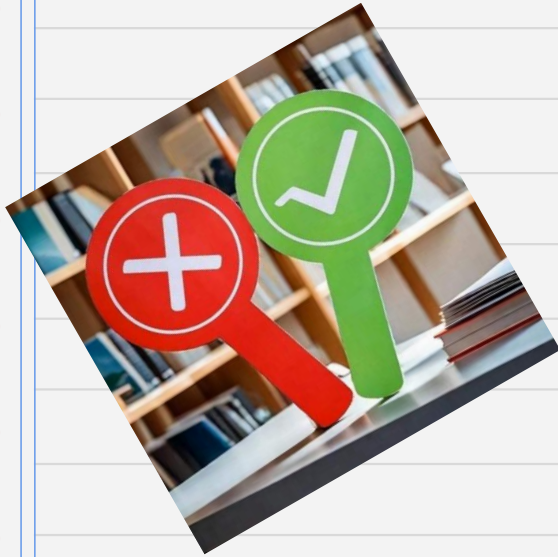
- A. Another painted card
- B. A collage with different textures
- C. A necklace
- D. A photo album



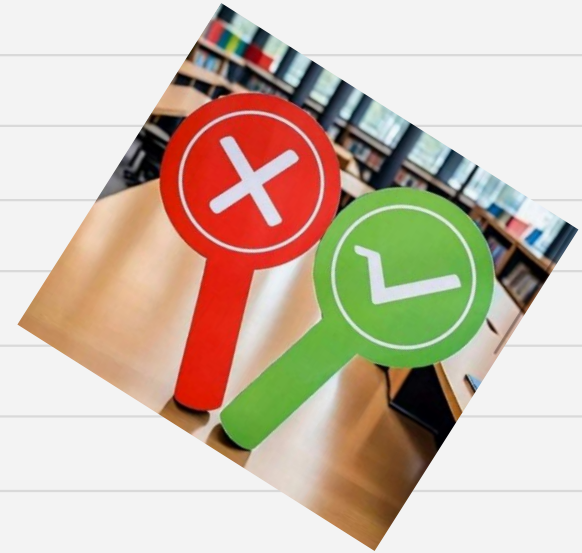
# Check Your Understanding - IRS

3. How did Marilia's attitude change from the beginning to the end of the visit?

- A. She became tired and wanted to leave.
- B. She didn't care about Elenita anymore.
- C. She started happy but ended sad.
- D. She went from not wanting to go to wanting to visit again.



✓ True or ✗ False



1. Marilia felt sad and disappointed after leaving the nursing home.
2. The story teaches that friendship can be the most special gift of all.



**SHAKE HAND**



**PINKY SHAKE**



**FIST BUMP**



**THUMBS UP**

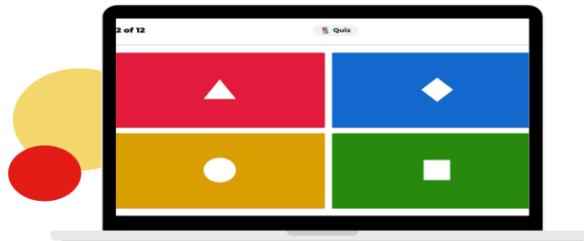


POSTASSESSMENT

# Kahoot!



<https://create.kahoot.it/share/aguinaldo-136-137/4f45ccba-81d5-4e8f-bff9-e723ee2b772b>

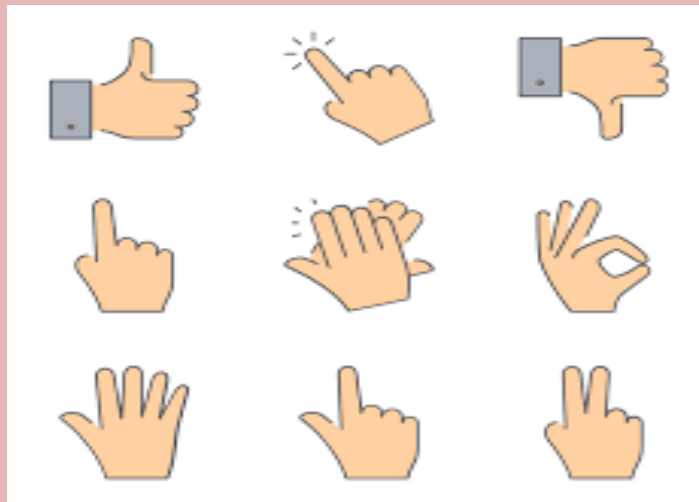


# Kahoot!

gestured

**made a motion.**

**The singer gestured at his audience.**



# collage

**work of art made by sticking pictures,  
photographs, cloth, etc. onto a surface**

**Some collage paintings are just what you need for  
decorating the wall of this room.**



## **Marilia's Besitos de Coco**

**(Coconut Kisses)**

**3¼ cups fresh frozen grated coconut, firmly packed 1 cup brown sugar, firmly packed**

**8 tbs.all-purpose flour**

**¼ tsp.salt**

**4 tbs. butter, at room temperature**

**3 lg.egg yolks**

**½ tsp. vanilla**

**Preheat oven to 350°F. Place grated coconut in a bowl. Add brown sugar, flour, salt, butter, yolks, and vanilla. Mix well. Grease a 9- by 13-inch glass baking dish. Take mixture by the tablespoon, shape into balls, and arrange in baking dish. Bake for about 35 minutes or until golden. Let cool in baking dish for 10 minutes. With a small spatula, remove besitos carefully and place upside down onto platter. Let cool completely and turn over.**

**Makes about 35.**

tbs

short for **tablespoon**, which is a large spoon used for measuring food

**8 tbs. all-purpose flour is enough for making cookies.**



tsp

short for teaspoon, which is a small spoon  
used for measuring food.

**I put 1 tsp. of salt in this pot.**



lg

large

**To make this cake, you need 3 lg eggs.**





**1. What gift did Carmen Teresa receive, and what did her family suggest she do with it?**

**Answer:** She received a blank notebook, and her family suggested she use it to record family stories.

**2. Where did Marilia go to school, and what was unique about it?**

**Answer:** She went to a small Catholic girls' school in Puerto Rico.

**3. Why did Sister Antonia want the students to visit the nursing home?**

**Answer:** She wanted them to bring Christmas cheer to the old and infirm, as a valuable learning experience.

**4. How did Marilia feel about the field trip, and why?**

**Answer:** She felt sad and didn't want to go because her only grandmother had died in a nursing home.

**5. What were Marilia's first two plans to avoid the trip? Were they successful?**

**Answer:** 1. Stay in the library to help with posters (not successful).  
2. Stay at school to do a book report (not successful).

**6. What was Marilia's third plan to avoid going to the nursing home?**

**Answer:** She ate a very large dinner and drank a glass of hot water, hoping to get sick.

**7. Did Marilia's plan to get sick work? What happened instead?**

**Answer:** No, she didn't get sick; she felt tired and fell asleep instead.

**8. How did Marilia's mother react when she thought Marilia was sick?**

**Answer:** She checked Marilia's temperature and was concerned, then explained that she should go because she had promised Sister Antonia trays of sweets for the residents.

**9. How did Marilia feel when she first arrived at the nursing home?**

**Answer:** She felt sad, alone, and didn't want to join the other students.

**10. Who did Marilia notice sitting alone, and what did she do?**

**Answer:** She noticed a frail old lady in a wheelchair, named Elenita, and gave her the Christmas card she had made.

**11. Why couldn't Elenita see the card, and how did Marilia help her enjoy it?**

**Answer:** Elenita was blind, so Marilia described the card in vivid detail so Elenita could imagine it and feel it with her hands.

**12. What did Marilia and Elenita do together besides sharing the card?**

**Answer:** They shared besitos de coco (coconut sweets), talked, and enjoyed music and dancing.

**13. How did Marilia feel about the visit when it was time to leave?**

**Answer:** She felt happy, warm, peaceful, and grateful for her new friendship with Elenita.

**14. What did Elenita say was the best aguinaldo she received?**

**Answer:** She said Marilia's visit and friendship were the best gift.

**15. What did Marilia plan to do the next time she visited Elenita?**

**Answer:** She planned to make her a collage that Elenita could feel, and maybe a picture of her dancing.

**16. What lesson did Marilia learn from her experience at the nursing home?**

**Answer:** She learned that helping others can be rewarding, and that personal connections and kindness are more meaningful than material gifts.

### 1. How does Marilia's attempt to skip the field trip highlight her creativity and problem-solving skills?

**Answer:** Marilia comes up with multiple clever strategies—asking to help in the library, doing a special book report, and attempting to make herself sick—which shows she thinks creatively to solve problems, even if the solutions are mischievous.

### 2. What role does humor play in the story, particularly in Marilia's schemes?

**Answer:** Humor makes Marilia's attempts to avoid the trip entertaining and relatable, balancing the story's emotional moments and allowing the reader to connect with her personality.

### 3. How does Marilia's relationship with her friend Margarita influence her actions?

**Answer:** Margarita encourages Marilia to participate in the field trip and serves as a social mirror, showing Marilia the expectations of her peers and gently pushing her toward engagement.

#### **4. Why is Marilia's observation of the residents at the nursing home significant for her character development?**

Noticing that many residents are alone allows Marilia to empathize, notice someone in need (Elenita), and take initiative, marking a turning point in her emotional growth.

#### **5. How does the author use contrast between Marilia's expectations and reality to develop the story's message?**

Marilia expects the visit to be boring or sad, but the joyful interactions and her friendship with Elenita reveal that reality can be far more rewarding, reinforcing the story's lesson about openness and empathy.

#### **6. In what ways does Elenita's personality help Marilia feel comfortable and valued during their interaction?**

Elenita's playful, curious, and warm behavior—asking about music, sharing sweets, and recounting her past—encourages Marilia to engage and feel appreciated, deepening their connection.

## **7. How does the story show the importance of non-verbal communication and physical interaction?**

Through touch—Elenita feeling the card and holding Marilia's hand—the story emphasizes that emotional connection does not require sight or words alone.

## **8. How does the story illustrate the idea that small actions can have a significant impact?**

Marilia's simple act of giving her card, describing it, and sharing sweets creates joy and a meaningful bond, showing that even minor gestures can deeply affect others.

## **9. What is the significance of Marilia planning to make a tactile collage for Elenita?**

It demonstrates that Marilia has learned to consider others' needs and preferences, showing growth in empathy, creativity, and thoughtfulness.

## **10. How does the narrative convey that personal growth often comes from challenging experiences?**

Marilia initially avoids the trip, but facing her discomfort allows her to connect with Elenita, gain perspective, and experience joy, illustrating that growth arises from stepping outside one's comfort zone.

## **11. How does the story use Marilia's emotional responses to highlight themes of loss and remembrance?**

Marilia's memories of her grandmother surface during the visit, connecting her grief to acts of kindness, which shows how past experiences can shape compassion and empathy.

## **12. Why is music included in the story, and how does it affect both Marilia and the residents?**

Music creates a lively, joyful atmosphere that encourages participation, lifts spirits, and fosters connection, helping Marilia and the residents share a moment of communal happiness.



### **13. How does the author show that friendship can develop in unexpected ways?**

The bond between Marilia and Elenita forms spontaneously through shared attention, creativity, and playfulness, emphasizing that meaningful relationships can begin in surprising circumstances.

### **14. How do Marilia's feelings at the end of the story demonstrate her internal transformation?**

She feels light, warm, and eager to return, showing that she has shifted from avoidance and reluctance to empathy, joy, and appreciation for helping others.

### **15. How does Elenita's response to Marilia's card challenge conventional ideas of gift-giving?**

Elenita treasures the card not for its visual beauty but for Marilia's attention and care, showing that the emotional value of a gift can be greater than its physical form.

## Comprehension

1. In what area of the world do the story characters live?
2. What reason does Marilia give for what she's going to bring next year?
3. How do you know that Marilia is reluctant to go on the field trip?
4. How do you know that Marilia changed her mind about the field trip?
5. Why does the school have this field trip every year, and why does Sister Antonia think it is a positive experience? Use details from the story to explain.
6. Why do you think Marilia chose this experience to put in Carmen Teresa's notebook? What did she want to share with her family about the nursing home residents?
7. Do you have elderly friends? How are they important to you?
8. Describe a special recipe that you like to share with friends

## ANSWERS

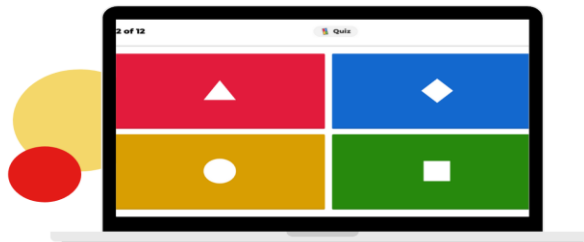
1. **Puerto Rico**
2. **Marilia says she will bring a collage because although Elenita is blind, she can feel the textures.**
3. **Marilia tries to skip the field trip by offering to help the librarian, taking an extra assignment, and pretending to be sick.**
4. **Marilia began having fun with Elenita and enjoyed visiting her.**
5. **The school feels it is important to share Christmas with old and sick people because they may not experience a pleasant Christmas very often. Sister Antonia wants students to understand how others live.**
6. **The students' visit cheers up the residents, and in Marilia's case, helps develop a new friendship.**
7. **Answers will vary.**
8. **Answers will vary.**

POSTASSESSMENT

# Kahoot!



<https://create.kahoot.it/share/c-aguinaldo/2d3b61cb-a9cb-4728-bd41-d325a4702023>



# Kahoot!

<https://create.kahoot.it/share/c-aguinaldo/2d3b61cb-a9cb-4728-bd41-d325a4702023>