



High Interest Easy Readers in Spanish



Creating a Bridge to Authentic Reading & Fluency with Language Learner Literature

Compiled by Bryce Hedstrom

Characteristics of these novels:
(Many have all 6 components)

• **Limited Vocabulary**
Comprehensible

• **Engaging Story**
Interesting

• **Life Lessons**
Relevant

• **Graphics**
Visual Support

• **Target Language Setting/References**
Cultural

• **Glossary**
Aids Comprehensibility

KEY: Books are listed from easier to more difficult reading levels based on: **1)** Unique word count, **2)** Main verb tenses in the text, **3)** Ideas in the text, **4)** Total word count, & **5)** General level of comprehensibility as reported by students—This can vary greatly by themes and student familiarity with the material.

Keep in mind that interest beats almost everything else. We have all seen students read books that were above their presumed reading level due to their interest in the material.

• Information in parentheses indicates: **UNIQUE WORD COUNT: Blue Print** MAIN VERB TENSES: Plain Print TOTAL WORD COUNT: *Italic Print*

• **Books are listed by independent student reading level in a TPRS class which focuses on high frequency verbs.** Books will be more comprehensible when guided by a teacher and read together with a class.
How many words will each of your students read in Spanish? 20,000? 50,000? 100,000? 500,000? 1 million? The more words they read, the more fluent they will become.

BEGINNER READERS / EARLY LEVEL 1

- **El capibara con botas**, Mira Canion (**50** present tense 2,100)
- **La Leyenda de La Llorona**, Bryce Hedstrom (**100** present tense—embedded rdg 1,700)
- **Brandon Brown dice la verdad**, Carol Gaab (**75** present tense 3,800)
- **Pobrecita Ana va uno por uno**, Blaine Ray (**100** present tense 3,800)
- **Brandon Brown quiere un perro**, Carol Gaab (**100** present tense 4,600)
- **Berto y sus buenos amigos**, Chris Stolz (**110** present/past tense 3,800)
- **Berto y sus buenas ideas**, Magaly Rodríguez (**200** present tense 2,500)
- **Las aventuras de Isabela**, Karen Rowan (**200** present tense 2,200)
- **Los niños detectives**, Patricia Verano (**100** present tense 3,000)
- **Daniel el detective**, Landor & Tottingham (**150** present tense 4,700)

MID LEVEL 1 / ADVANCED STUDENTS IN EARLY LEVEL 1

- **Agentes secretos**, Mira Canion (**100** present tense 4,700)
- **La clase de confesiones 1**, Alicia Quintero (**150** present tense 3,000)
- **La clase de confesiones 2: La bella mentira**, Alicia Quintero (**150** present 4,800)
- **Brandon Brown versus Yucatán**, Carol Gaab (**140** present/past tense 5,000 each side)
- **Fiesta fatal**, Mira Canion (**140** past tense 4,800)
- **El escape cubano**, Mira Canion (**140** present tense 3,000)
- **Isabela captura un congo**, Karen Rowan (**250** present tense 3,500)
- **Carl no quiere ir a México**, Karen Rowan (**250** present tense 5,000)
- **Ataques de hambre**, Eric Herman (**200** present tense 9,900)
- **La chica nueva**, Jennifer Degenhardt (**250** present tense 4,800)
- **Don Quijote, el último caballero**, Karen Rowan (**200** present/past 1,400 each part)
- **El nuevo Houdini**, Carol Gaab (**200** present/past tense 5,600 each side)
- **Tumba**, Mira Canion (**170** present tense 3,500)
- **Pobre Ana moderna**, Blaine Ray (**300** present tense 6,000)
- **Pobre Ana**, Blaine Ray (**300** present tense 6,000)

LATE LEVEL 1 / ADVANCED STUDENTS IN EARLY LEVEL 1

- **Piratas del Caribe y el mapa secreto**, Canion & Gaab (**200** present tense 6,800)
- **El Ekeko**, Katie Baker (**200** present tense 5,800)
- **Noches misteriosas en Granada**, Kristy Placido (**300** present/past tense 8,200)
- **Patricia va a California**, Blaine Ray (**400** present tense 6,400)
- **Casi se muere**, Blaine Ray (**400** present tense 5,800)
- **La vampirata**, Mira Canion (**240** past tense 5,600)
- **Piratas y el Triángulo...**, Carol Gaab (**280** past tense 9,900)
- **Superburguesas**, Mike Peto (**250** present tense, yo form 4,200)

EARLY LEVEL 2 / ADVANCED STUDENTS IN LATE LEVEL 1

- **Robo en la noche**, Kristy Placido (**380** present/past tense 8,400 each side)
- **Bianca Nieves y los 7 toritos**, Carrie Toth (**150** past tense 6,400)
- **Pobre Ana bailó tango**, Blaine Ray (**300** past tense 9,100)

- **Los Baker van a Perú**, Nathaniel Kirby (**375** past/present tense 7,300)
- **Noche de oro**, Kristy Placido (**290** past tense 9,000)
- **El viaje de su vida**, (**400** present tense 6,400)

LEVEL 2 / ADVANCED STUDENTS IN LATE LEVEL 1

- **Conexiones**, Bryce Hedstrom (**300** non-fiction, present/past tense 22,300 words total
Part 1: 5,000 Part 2: 9,300 Cultural Dictionary: 8,000)
- **El silbón de Venezuela**, Craig Klein Dexemple (present tense)
- **Felipe Alou**, Carol Gaab (**150** past tense 6,000)
- **Rival**, Mira Canion (**270** past tense 5,400)
- **Mi propio auto**, Blaine Ray (**250** present tense 8,500)
- **Las Lágrimas de Xóchitl**, Virginia Hildebrandt (**300** present tense 7,000)
- **Las Sueños de Xóchitl**, Virginia Hildebrandt (**300** present tense 6,900)
- **Rebeldes de Tejas**, Mira Canion (**400** past tense 10,700)
- **Pío Pista**, Michael Miller (**400** present tense 9,900)
- **¿Dónde está Eduardo?**, Blaine Ray (**350** past tense 8,600)
- **El viaje perdido**, Blaine Ray (**350** past tense 8,900)
- **¡Viva el toro!**, Blaine Ray (**350** past tense 8,000)
- **Esperanza**, Carol Gaab (**200** present tense, yo form 6,500)
- **Frida Kahlo**, Kristy Placido (**150** past tense 7,200)
- **Soy Lorenzo**, Virginia Hildebrandt (**400** past tense 7,600)

LEVEL 3

- **La Llorona de Mazatlán**, Katie Baker (**300** past tense 10,000)
- **Frida Kahlo**, Kristy Placido (**150** past tense 7,200)
- **Problemas en paraíso**, Carol Gaab (**250** past tense 9,000)
- **Rival**, Mira Canion (**270** past tense 4,000)
- **La maldición de la cabeza reducida**, Nathaniel Kirby (**400** past tense 7,200)
- **Los ojos de Carmen**, Verónica Moscoso (**450** past tense 7,500)
- **Todo lo que brilla**, Chris Mercer (past tense)
- **Vida o muerte en Cusco**, Lisa Ray Turner (**500** past tense/subjunctive 10,000)
- **Casa dividida**, Chris Mercer (past tense)

LEVEL 4

- **Vector**, Carrie Toth (**400** past tense 7,100)
- **Vida y muerte en la Mara Salvatruchas**, Autor Anónimo (**400** past tense 7,600)
- **La calaca alegre**, Carrie Toth (**425** past tense/subjunctive 9,900)
- **La hija del sastrero**, Carrie Toth (**500** past tense/subjunctive 12,400)
- **La corza blanca**, Gustavo Bécquer, Santillana Press (**500** mostly past tense 3,400)
- **La cruz del diablo**, Gustavo Bécquer, Santillana Press (**700** past tense/subj 3,600)
- **La guerra sucia**, Nathaniel Kirby (**600** past tense/subjunctive 12,400)
- **En busca del monstruo**, Pablo Ortega López (**600** past tense/subjunctive 10,000)
- **Hasta la sepultura**, Kristy Placido (**400** past tense 12,000)

