



Cesar Chavez

• Reading Comprehension •

Activity 1 Stop and Think

Read the paragraphs.
Stop and think as you read.

Good readers are active readers.

Good readers stop and think about what they are reading. Active reading helps readers understand the ideas.

Cesar leaves school. He works in the fields for two years.

In 1944, Cesar joins the U.S. Navy. He wants to escape life in the fields.

Stop and think: Why do you think Cesar wants to escape life in the fields?

Cesar serves in the Navy for two years. He is only 17.

Stop and think: Think of your life at age 17. How was it different from Cesar's life at 17?

After the war, Cesar marries Helen. It is hard for Cesar to find work. He has little education. Cesar goes back to working in the fields.

Stop and think: Imagine you are Cesar. How do you feel going back to work in the fields?



Activity 2 Main Idea and Details



Check the details
that support each main idea.

The first one is an example.

Good readers can find
the main idea and details.

The main idea is the important idea.
The details support the main idea.

The details help you understand
and remember the main idea.

Main idea	Details
Cesar does not have an easy life as a child.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Cesar must quit school to work. ✓ Children call Cesar a “dirty Mexican.” Cesar’s family owns a farm.
1. Farm workers have a hard life.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) ___ Some farm workers live in shacks. (b) ___ Farm workers make little money. (c) ___ Many farm workers live in California.
2. Cesar helps the farm workers in many ways.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) ___ Cesar moves to Delano, California. (b) ___ Cesar forms a farm workers’ union. (c) ___ Cesar leads a grape boycott.

Activity 3 Invisible Messages



Read the writer’s words.
Figure out the invisible message.

Writers do not always explain everything.

Sometimes, writers expect readers to read
between the lines. Writers expect readers
to figure out the invisible messages.

The writer’s words	The invisible message
Cesar goes to more than 30 schools.	<i>Cesar’s family moves a lot.</i> <i>Cesar does not get a good education.</i>
1. Some migrant workers sleep under the stars.	
2. Cesar farms all day. He works for the civil rights group at night.	

Activity 4 Fact and Opinion



Read the sentences.

Write (F) for fact or (O) for opinion.

- The farm owners are afraid of the union. ____
Over 1,200 people join the farm workers' union. ____
- Cesar helps the farm workers. ____
Cesar is the most important Latino in history. ____
- The union's flag has bold colours. ____
The union's flag is red, white, and blue. ____

Good readers know the difference between facts and opinions.

Facts can be proven.

Opinions are ideas or beliefs.

Activity 5 The Table of Contents



Read each question.

Look at the Contents page in your book.

Which chapter has the answer to the question?

Write the name of the chapter.

Find the answer to the question. Write the answer.

Good readers use the Table of Contents.

The Table of Contents helps readers find information quickly.

Question	Chapter	Answer
Where does Cesar grow up?	Early Years	Arizona and California
1. When does Cesar join the Navy?		
2. Why does Cesar start a union?		
3. When does Cesar die?		

Activity 6 Make a Connection

Read the idea from the story.
Make a connection to your life.

Idea

Cesar forms a union.
The union unites the farmers.
The union gives them more power.



Your Life

What unions do you know?

Some people like unions.
Other people do not like unions.
How do unions help people?
How do unions cause problems?

Have you ever been in a union?
Talk about your experience.
How did the union help you?
Did the union cause problems for you in any way?

Reading is more than understanding the ideas on a page.

Good readers connect the ideas to their lives.



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• Writing •

Activity 1 Write Your Ideas

Complete these paragraphs about unions.
Use your ideas from page 28.

Your instructor will help you with spelling.

Paragraph 1

Some people like unions because _____

_____ .

Other people do not like unions because _____

_____ .

Paragraph 2

Personally, I _____ unions because

_____ .

Unions also _____ .

Good writers know that
writing is a process.

Good writers think of ideas
before they write.

Good writers check their writing.



Read each paragraph out loud.

Which paragraph do you like better?

Copy the paragraph on the lines.

Check for capital letters and end punctuation.

Activity

2

Organize Ideas



Read the details for Idea Maps 1 and 2.

Are the details a cause or an effect?

Copy the details into the correct box.

Good writers know
that writing is a process.

Good writers organize their ideas
before they write.

One way to organize ideas
is to use cause and effect.

Idea Map 1

Details

People stop buying grapes.
Grape growers cut the workers' pay.

Cause



Effect

Cesar leads a grape
boycott.



Effect

Idea Map 2

Details

Union workers go on strike.
Working conditions get better.
People stop buying grapes.

Cause



Effect

Cesar and the grape
growers sign a contract.



Effect

Cause



Choose details from Idea Maps 1 and 2
to complete the answers.

1. Why does Cesar lead a grape boycott? *Because* _____
_____ .

2. Why do people stop buying grapes? *Because* _____ .

3. Why do the grape growers sign a contract with Cesar and the workers?

Because _____

and *because* _____ .

Activity 3 Use Capital Letters and Punctuation



Read these sentences.

Circle the capital letters and end punctuation.

1. The Chavez family moves to California.
2. Cesar speaks Spanish.
3. His family is Mexican-American.
4. Why does Cesar's family move so much?

Read these sentences.

Add capital letters and end punctuation.

5. cesar's family own a farm in arizona
6. why do the teachers hit cesar for speaking spanish
7. he marries helen fabela in 1948
8. cesar teaches latino people about their rights
9. cesar and helen move to delano, california
10. martin luther king is one of cesar's heroes

In this activity...

use capital letters

at the beginning of a sentence,
with names of people and places,
with names of languages, and
with names of groups of people.

use punctuation

at the end of a sentence.

• Word Attack Skills •

Activity

1

Predict the Word



Complete each paragraph.

Use the pictures to predict the word.

Readers see new words all the time.
They need to decode the new words.

Good readers decode words
in different ways.

They use pictures to predict words.
They use meaning clues to predict words.

These are two ways to decode words.

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Paragraph 1

This woman holds the union's _____.
The black _____ stands for the
workers' problems.

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Paragraph 2

A migrant worker's life is very
_____. Some migrant
workers live in _____.

Complete each sentence.

Use meaning clues to predict the word.

1. Cesar's father is in a car _____. He is hurt. He cannot work anymore.
2. It is hard to find clean _____ to drink.
3. Cesar does not believe in _____. He believes peaceful ways will bring change.

Activity 2 Find Common Patterns

Look at each word in the box.

Each word has a common pattern.

Group the words under the correct pattern.

<i>thing</i> ✓	<i>right</i>	<i>shack</i>	<i>black</i>
<i>stack</i>	<i>bring</i>	<i>back</i>	<i>fight</i>
<i>night</i>	<i>bright</i>	<i>during</i>	<i>spring</i>

Good readers look for common patterns in words.

This is another way to decode words.

ing

ight

ack

thing

Read the sentences in the box.

Circle the words that have one of these patterns:

ing ight ack

Many words have common patterns.

The patterns look and sound the same.

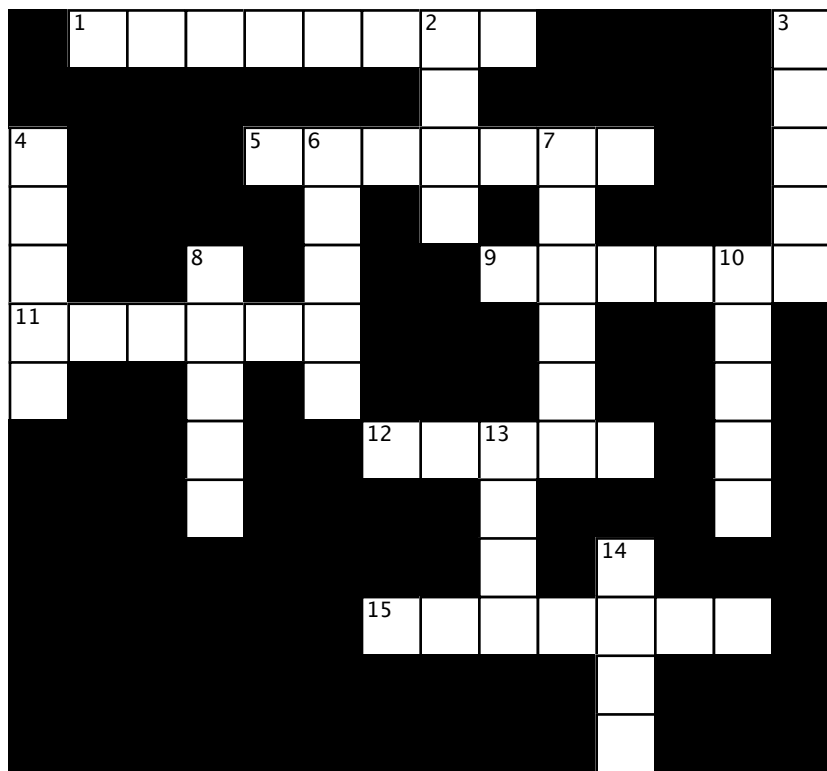
Find the Common Patterns



1. The Chavez family pick beans in spring.
2. They pick different things during the year.
3. Cesar works for the civil rights group at night.
4. He shows Latino people how to fight for rights.
5. Many migrant farmers live in shacks.
6. Cesar has to go back to the fields.

•Crossword•

Cesar Chavez



Crossword Clues

All the answers to the clues are from Cesar Chavez's biography.

ACROSS

1. people who move from place to place
5. Mexicans speak this language
9. we use this fruit to make wine
11. make something different
12. dollars and cents
15. refuse to use or buy

DOWN

2. people sleep in this when they camp
3. spinach, lettuce, beans, cotton (rhymes with hops)
4. poor, little house made from wood
6. unions give this to people (rhymes with flower)
7. workers go on this to bring change
8. this group forms in the workplace; it helps the workers
10. a big bird that eats fish
13. sailors are in this (not the army)
14. we do this on election day

Cesar Chavez



1. **Main Idea and Details:** (1) a, b (2) b, c
2. **Invisible Messages*:** (1) The workers are poor. The workers have no place to sleep. (2) Cesar works hard to help the farm workers. He is serious about helping people.
3. **Fact and Opinion:** (1) O/F (2) F/O (3) O/F
4. **Table of Contents:** (1) Cesar Joins the Work Force / 1944 (2) Union Leader / to give his people hope; to see change (3) A Hero Dies / 1993
5. **Organize Ideas: Idea Map 1: Cause:** Grape growers cut the workers' pay. **Effect:** People stop buying grapes. **Idea Map 2: Cause:** Union workers go on strike. **Effect:** People stop buying grapes. **Effect:** Working conditions get better. (1) grape growers cut the workers' pay (2) Cesar leads a grape boycott (3) union workers go on strike / people stop buying grapes
6. **Use Capital Letters and Punctuation:** (1) The Chavez family move to California. (2) Cesar speaks Spanish. (3) They are Mexican American. (4) Why does Cesar's family move so much? (5) Cesar's family owns a farm in Arizona. (6) Why do the teachers hit Cesar for speaking Spanish? (7) He marries Helen Fabela in 1948. (8) Cesar teaches Latino people about their rights. (9) Cesar and Helen move to Delano, California. (10) Martin Luther King is one of Cesar's heroes.
7. **Predict the Word*:** Paragraph 1: flag / eagle; symbol Paragraph 2: hard; difficult / tents (1) accident; crash (2) water (3) violence; fighting
8. **Find Common Patterns:** (1) spring (2) things / during (3) rights / night (4) fight / rights (5) shacks (6) back

*Accept any answer that makes sense.

Crossword Solution

