

## Years 3-5

### PART 1. Cultural references and background

Some words from the lists below are related in one way or another in Ana's story. Group them together and explain the relation, according to what you saw in the film.

*High School*

*Sweatshop*

*Bilingual*

*Seamstress*

*Latino*

*Self-statement*

*Graduate*

*Sewing*

*Clothing factory*

*Co-workers*

*The following are recurring topics in films; but they are also present in everyday life. What can you say about the relevance the following issues in the film and in your own culture? Use your own knowledge or information from the film*

*Beliefs / superstitions*

*Generational gap*

*Bilingualism*

### PART 2. Character description:

Here are a few words and expressions they use to describe Ana. Try to say who used the expression and what they meant by that.

Quote	Said by...	Context
<i><b>Desagradecida</b> (ungrateful)</i>		
<i>She's so <b>arrogant</b></i>		
<i>Look at here, the <b>Mrs. Know-it-all</b>.</i>		
<i>I'm proud of what I do. You little <b>brat</b>.</i>		

How would you describe the following characters:

Estela

Mr. García

Mrs. García

### PART 3. Discussion questions

1. Do you think Ana is a strong person? Why or why not?

2. Are Americans too obsessed with being thin? Or, in fact, are Americans actually too fat? In your opinion, is Ana too fat, or as Jimmy said, is she beautiful?

3. Is Estela's little factory really a sweat shop? Do you agree that selling a dress for \$18 which later sells at Bloomingdales for \$600 is "just not right"?

4. What did you like and not like about this movie?

Years 1-2.

**Part I. Comprehension** (*Adapted from © K. Reyes, 2004*)

**Choose the best answer for each question.**

1. Where do Ana and her family live?

- A. Carlsbad, CA
- B. San Antonio, Texas
- C. Mexico City
- D. East Los Angeles, CA

2. Where is Ana's family from originally?

- A. New Mexico
- B. Colombia
- C. El Salvador
- D. Mexico

3. It is Ana's last day of high school. What does Carmen, Ana's mother, do?

- A. She gets up early and prepares breakfast for Ana.
- B. She yells at Ana because Ana is late for school.
- C. She pretends to be sick.
- D. She encourages Ana to graduate.

4. Where does Ana go to high school?

- A. in her neighborhood
- B. in another, richer neighborhood (Beverly Hills)
- C. at a private school
- D. in New York

5. How does Ana get to school?

- A. Her father drives her.
- B. She walks.
- C. She gets a ride with a friend.
- D. She takes the bus.

6. On the last day of school, the students talk about their plans for the summer. What does Ana say she will do?

- A. work with her sister
- B. travel around Europe
- C. help her father with his work
- D. go to summer school

7. Ana quits her after-school job. Where did she work?

- A. in a fancy restaurant
- B. in a daycare center
- C. at her school
- D. in a fast food restaurant

8. What is her father's occupation?

- A. factory owner
- B. gardener / landscaper
- C. cook
- D. tailor

9. What is Estela's (Ana's sister's) occupation?

- A. model
- B. cook
- C. seamstress
- D. dressmaker

10. Ana's mother, Carmen, tells Ana that she is pregnant. Why?

- A. She wants to have another child.
- B. She wants Ana to stay home from college and help her.
- C. She wants Ana to have a baby, too.
- D. She wants the family to be happy.

11. Some women seamstresses who are sisters quit working at the dress shop. Why?

- A. They do not like working there.
- B. They find better jobs.
- C. They go back to Mexico.
- D. They retire.

12. What does Ana do to help her sister, Estela, with her financial difficulties?

- A. She helps her steam dresses at the dress shop.
- B. She asks her father for a loan.
- C. She goes with her to talk to the contractor.
- D. All of the above.

13. Carmen places a saint figurine in the kitchen first for Estela and then for Ana. Why?

- A. She prays to the saint that they will get married.
- B. She wants the saint to protect her daughters.
- C. She wants her daughters to go to the university.
- D. She wants her daughters to pray to the saint.

14. Who visits Ana's parents to tell them about Ana's scholarship and to convince them to permit her to go to college?

- A. her teacher
- B. her counselor
- C. the university president
- D. her high school principal

15. Ana receives a full scholarship to which university?

- A. UCLA
- B. MiraCosta College
- C. Columbia University
- D. UCSD

16. In which city is Ana's university?

- A. New York
- B. New Orleans
- C. San Francisco
- D. Los Angeles

17. What subject does Ana want to major in?

- A. chemistry
- B. business
- C. fashion design
- D. teaching

## Part II. Vocabulary

Match each word with its definition by writing the letter of the correct definition.

___ 1. gossip	A. the main subject you study at college or university
___ 2. guilty	B. a daily dramatic television program
___ 3. major	C. to join pieces of cloth with a needle and thread
___ 4. scholarship	D. a factory where people work hard in bad conditions for little money
___ 5. seamstress	E. money given to a person by an organization to help the person pay for education
___ 6. sew	F. ashamed and sad because you did something you know is wrong
___ 7. soap opera	G. money you pay for classes, especially in college
___ 8. stuck up	H. conversation about other people's behavior or private lives, often including untrue or unkind remarks
___ 9. sweatshop	I. a woman who makes clothes
___ 10. tuition	J. proud and unfriendly because you think that you are better than other people