



JOHN MARSHALL FUNDAMENTAL SECONDARY SCHOOL

May 2022

Dear 10th grade Puentistas:

The required summer reading and assignments are a part of your commitment to our Puente program as a 10th grader. You will be assessed on all of the material that you are expected to cover over the summer. Incomplete summer work will negatively affect your Puente English grade for the first semester.

Complete the following assignments prior to the first day of school:

1. Read all of [*Bless Me, Ultima*](#).

- Complete the attached [reading journal](#). Be prepared to discuss and write on this novel upon returning to school in August.

2. Prepare for our memoir unit first quarter.

A) Interview an older relative (parent, grandparent, uncle, aunt) about the journey that your family undertook to live in California. You may, of course, interview more than one relative in order to get as many details regarding the journey as possible. Some questions you might ask are:

- Why did the people involved move to the United States?
- When did the move to the United States happen?
- How did the move to the United States happen?
- What obstacles were there throughout the journey?
- Who was/were the key figures in your family's history?
- What were some specific events that happened throughout the journey?
 - Describe these events....what were some specific sights, sounds, smells, tastes, and/or physical feelings that your interviewee can remember about these events?
- How did the journey change the people involved?

- What qualities or skills enabled the people involved to succeed?
- How did life turn out for the people involved?
- What did the people involved learn from the journey?

→ Naturally, you'll want to ask lots of follow-up questions as well, such as, "Why?" or "Tell me more about that." If you're talking to the actual person who made the journey, consider asking, "How do you feel about that now?" or "How do you feel about the decision to make the journey?"

B) After conducting your interview, write a biological narrative **rough draft** of your family's journey. You can give a summary of major events or experiences, **but try to focus on at least one or two important moments**. Try to use sensory detail and descriptive language as much as possible. Your biographical paper should be about **1½ -2 pages double spaced**.