ELA Reading and Writing Workbook — Grade 6

English Language Arts Workbook for Middle School — Complete Course Practice

Cuaderno de Lectura y Escritura (ELA) — 6.º grado

Cuaderno de lengua y literatura para escuela intermedia — Práctica completa del curso

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How to Use This Workbook

(En español: Cómo usar este cuaderno)

Welcome to the **ELA Reading and Writing Workbook — Grade 6**! This workbook is designed for students in Florida and Puerto Rico to build strong English Language Arts skills with clear English instruction and supportive Spanish translations.

(En español: ¡Te damos la bienvenida al cuaderno de Lectura y Escritura de 6.º grado! Este cuaderno está diseñado para estudiantes de Florida y Puerto Rico. Ofrece instrucción clara en inglés con apoyo en español para fortalecer tus destrezas lingüísticas.**)**

What is inside this workbook? / ¿Qué contiene este cuaderno?

- **6 Core Units / 6 unidades principales:** Covering central idea, context clues, plot structure, text organization, argumentative writing, and grammar.
- **Mini-Lessons with Functional Diagrams / Mini-lecciones con diagramas funcionales:** Clear explanations supported by visual charts to organize key ideas.
- **2 Worked Examples per Unit / 2 ejemplos resueltos por unidad:** Step-by-step guidance showing how to analyze questions and reach solved answers.
- **Guided & Independent Practice / Práctica guiada e independiente:** 10 open-ended practice questions per unit to test your reading and writing skills.
- **Unit Mini-Quizzes / Mini-quizzes por unidad:** 4 multiple-choice items per unit to prepare for state assessments.
- **Cumulative Final Exam / Examen final acumulativo:** A 20-item review exam at the end of the workbook.
- **Bilingual Glossary / Glosario bilingüe:** 30 essential academic terms translated and defined.
- **Complete Answer Key / Clave de respuestas completa:** Step-by-step solutions and explanations for all items.

Meet your guide, **Gilda the heron** (Gilda la garza)! Gilda will appear in texts and examples throughout the workbook to offer helpful strategies and reading tips.

Course Map

(En español: Mapa del curso)

Below is the complete sequence of units included in this 6th-grade ELA workbook:

1. **Unit 1: Reading for Meaning: Main Idea and Details**

(En español: Unidad 1: Leer para comprender: idea principal y detalles)

2. **Unit 2: Words in Context and Word Parts**

(En español: Unidad 2: Palabras en contexto y partes de la palabra)

3. **Unit 3: Story Elements and Point of View**

(En español: Unidad 3: Elementos del cuento y punto de vista)

4. **Unit 4: Informational Text and Text Structure**

(En español: Unidad 4: Texto informativo y su estructura)

5. **Unit 5: Writing with a Plan: Narratives and Essays**

(En español: Unidad 5: Escribir con un plan: narraciones y ensayos)

6. **Unit 6: Grammar and Language Use**

(En español: Unidad 6: Gramática y uso del lenguaje)

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Starter Mini-Lesson

(En español: Mini-lección de arranque)

Active reading means thinking while you read. Good readers do not just look at words on a page; they ask questions, underline key facts, and look for context clues.

Gilda says: "Greetings, reader! I am Gilda the heron. When I hunt for fish in the wetlands, I stay calm, focused, and patient. Treat reading the same way! Pause at the end of each paragraph to ask yourself: What was the main point of what I just read?"

Key Active Reading Strategies / Estrategias clave de lectura activa:

1. **Preview the Text / Previsualizar el texto:** Read the title, subheadings, and bold words first.

2. **Annotate / Anotar:** Circle unfamiliar words and highlight central ideas.

3. **Ask Questions / Hacer preguntas:** Ask Who? What? Where? Why? How? as you move through the text.

4. **Summarize / Resumir:** State the main idea in one clear sentence using your own words.

Starter activity:

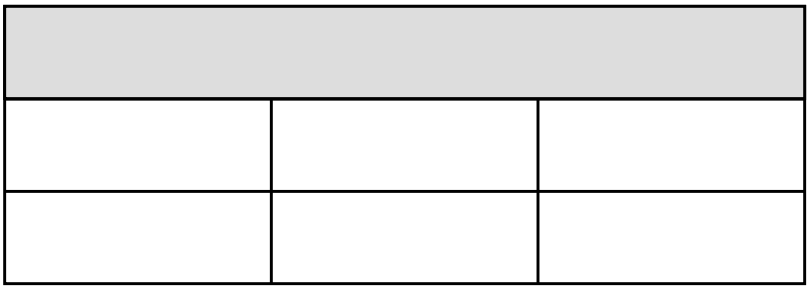
Read the short message below. Underline the main sentence that explains what Gilda does, and write one question you have about coastal wetlands.

Message: "Coastal wetlands in Florida and Puerto Rico protect shoreline towns from storm surges. Gilda the heron rests in these shallow waters, hunting for small fish among the roots."

UNIT 1: Reading for Meaning: Main Idea and Details

(En español: Unidad 1: Leer para comprender: idea principal y detalles)

Mini-Lesson



1. Central Idea and Details

The **central idea** (or main idea) is the primary point an author wants to communicate about a topic. **Supporting details** are facts, evidence, examples, and descriptions that explain or prove the central idea.

To identify the central idea:

- Ask: What is the text mostly about?
- Look for repeated topics or key terms in the first and last paragraphs.
- Make sure the central idea covers the entire passage, not just one small paragraph.

2. Summarizing and Asking Questions

A **summary** is a brief statement that expresses the main points of a passage in your own words without adding personal opinions. Asking questions while reading helps readers stay focused and monitor their comprehension.

Reading Passage: "The Coastal Sentinel"

"The Great Blue Heron is a tall wading bird found in coastal wetlands throughout Florida and Puerto Rico. Standing up to four feet high with a six-foot wingspan, this bird is an expert fisher. It stands perfectly still in shallow water, waiting patiently until a small fish swims near. With a sudden thrust of its sharp beak, the heron catches its prey. Beyond hunting, herons play a critical role in their ecosystems by helping control populations of small fish and insects. Wetland conservation efforts protect these birds and preserve the shallow waters they rely on for survival."

Worked Examples