



Name _____

History Behind Esperanza

Directions: Esperanza's story is set during the **Great Depression** (1930s) when many Mexican families became migrant workers in the United States. To understand the novel better, research the historical background and connect it to Esperanza's experiences.

Quick Research Questions: Answer in 1-2 complete sentences each.

1. What was the Great Depression and when did it occur?
2. Why did many Mexican families migrate to the United States during this time?
3. What kinds of jobs did migrant workers usually do?
4. What were living conditions like in migrant worker camps?
5. How did the Great Depression affect children and families in general?

Compare & Connect Chart

Historical Fact	Esperanza Rising Connection
Families lost jobs and homes during the Great Depression.	
Migrant workers lived in crowded labor camps with poor conditions.	
Strikes and protests were organized for better wages and working conditions.	