

Name _____



Esperanza's Word Bank

Directions: Below are **eight key vocabulary words** from *Esperanza Rising*. Each word is shown in a sentence from or inspired by the novel (with some context clues). First, use the context clues in the sentence to **guess the meaning** of the word. Write a **short definition** in your own words and create an **original sentence** using the word correctly.

1. After the fire, Esperanza looked at the **smoldering** remains of her home, smoke still rising from the ashes.

Definition: _____

Sentence: _____

2. The workers gathered in a tense **strike**, determined not to return to the fields until conditions improved.

Definition: _____

Sentence: _____

3. Mama's illness from the dust storm left her looking weak and **frail**, unable to leave her bed for weeks.

Definition: _____

Sentence: _____

4. Esperanza tried to keep her **composure**, even though she was frightened by the challenges of her new life.

Definition: _____

Sentence: _____

5. Esperanza's once-smooth hands became rough and **calloused** after weeks of hard labor in the fields.

Definition: _____

Sentence: _____