



# The Pearl

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## While reading

### Chapter 1

- 1 Use books or the Internet to learn more about scorpions, where they can be found and how dangerous their bite is.

More than one thousand Mexican people die from scorpion bites every year.

- 2 Compare Kino's people and the doctor's people. Write your answers.

	Kino's people	The doctor's people
skin	dark	
food	corn-cakes	
language	old language	
houses	wooden houses	

### Chapters 2–3

- 3 Use books or the Internet to learn more about Mexico and its history.

On page 6 we are told that "The doctor's people came to Mexico from Spain ... and they hit and robbed and laughed at Kino's people." What can you learn about Mexico's history?

- 4 Kino was very probably taught to fish for pearls by his father. Put his father's words in the right order. Write the numbers, 1–7.

- a  Move slowly for the water to stay clear.
- b  Use a heavy rock to carry you to the bottom of the sea.
- c  Throw the open oysters back into the water.
- d  Pull the oysters from the ocean floor and put them into your bag.
- e  Put the canoe above the oyster bed.
- f  Open the oysters with a strong knife.
- g  Stay under the water for less than three minutes.

- 5 Imagine that the priest who goes to visit Kino and Juana wants to help them. In pairs, write down the conversation between the priest and Kino.

### Chapters 4–5

- 6 Complete these sentences. The answers are all numbers.

- a Strangers from Spain had come to the land of Kino's people ..... years before.
- b At the beginning the first buyer offered Kino ..... pesos.
- c Kino thought that the pearl was worth ..... pesos.
- d The third buyer offered Kino ..... pesos.
- e The first buyer then offered him ..... pesos.

### Chapter 6

- 7 With another student, write for a newspaper about how Kino was attacked at the door of his house. Write when, where, how, and why it happened.

### Chapters 7–8

- 8 Put these sentences in the right order. Write the numbers, 1–7.

- a  Kino hit Juana.
- b  Juana tried to throw the pearl back into the sea.
- c  Kino killed the man who tried to steal the pearl from him.
- d  Kino saw a great hole in the bottom of his canoe.
- e  Kino and Juana left their town.
- f  Kino and his family hid in Juan Tomás and Apolonia's house.
- g  Kino and Juana saw that their house was on fire.

- 9 Compare what Kino saw in the pearl when he found it (pages 16–19) and what he now sees in the pearl (page 59).

What Kino saw in the pearl	What Kino sees in the pearl now
A gun	
He and Juana marrying in the great church	
Coyotito learning to read	

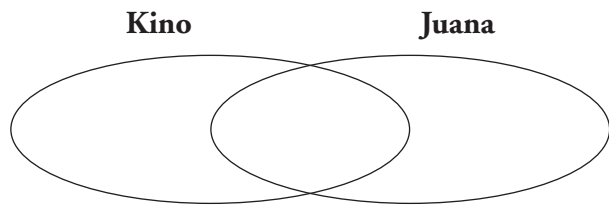


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10 With another student, compare Kino and Juana using the words in the box. There may be some words that don't fit either of them.

honest kind patient brave funny  
lazy polite proud shy silent skilful  
strong wise



## Chapter 9

11 Make a poster. Kino has killed a man. What does Kino look like? What he has done? How much money will they give to the person who finds him?



12 Match the words and the names.

- Kino Juana the watcher
- a "There is a way." .....
  - b "But they will kill you." .....
  - c "They will see your white clothes in the starlight." .....
  - d "When they have gone away, go to Loreto." .....
  - e "Go with God." .....
  - f "It sounded like a cry, almost like a baby." .....

13 Kino, Juana and their neighbors walk into the town together at three different moments in the story. Write information on when and why they do so.

	When	Why
First time		
Second time		
Third time		

## After reading

14 Write your answers.

In Chapter 5 Kino says that the priest has told them that to sell the pearls in another town is against religion (page 33). With another student, write down what the priest will say in church now that Kino and Juana have returned to the town with their dead baby.

15 Write a new ending.

Imagine that after killing the three trackers Kino, Juana and Coyotito are able to reach Loreto and sell the pearl for a better price than in their town. Write down another ending for the story and then share it with the class.



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## Chapter 1

### 1 Are these sentences right (✓) or wrong (X)?

- a Kino and Juana lived in a stone house.
- b Juana woke up early and built the fire.
- c She took her daughter out of the hanging box and cleaned her.
- d Juana ate before Kino.
- e They loved to talk after breakfast.
- f Juana and Kino saw a scorpion on the floor.
- g When Kino saw the scorpion he started to hear the Song of Evil.
- h Coyotito shook the rope and the scorpion fell.

## Chapters 2–3

### 2 Complete these sentences.

- a ..... bought the canoe and then he gave it to Kino's grandfather
- b ..... were as good as the doctor's medicine.
- c ..... was leaving Coyotito's body.
- d ..... saw something shine inside the oyster.
- e ..... told Kino to open the oyster.
- f ..... in the other boats looked up when they heard Kino's scream.
- g ..... travels quickly: everyone in town knew about the Pearl of the World.
- h .....; thought of repairs that the church needed.
- i ..... worked for a greedy man who kept his workers in different offices.

## Chapters 4–5

### 3 Complete the sentences with words from the box.

alone	smooth	white	beautiful	angry
terrible	soft	dark	silent	mean
black				

- a Kino felt ..... and unprotected.
- b The pearl was warm and ..... against Kino's skin.
- c Kino was ..... with the doctor, but he also felt afraid.
- d From his bag the doctor took a little bottle of ..... medicine.
- e The neighbors talked about how ..... the pearl was.
- f They said that good luck brings ..... friends.

- g From the corner of Kino's house came a ..... sound, a touch of a foot on the earth.
- h Kino knew the ..... thing was listening.
- i The pearl shone on the ..... cloth.
- j The buyer's eyes were ..... but the rest of his face smiled.

## Chapter 6

### 4 What happened? Complete with one word.

- a Juana watched Kino while he ..... his pearl in the ground.
- b Juana ..... Coyotito in her arms and sang the Song of the Family to him.
- c Juana ..... a sudden fight and ran outside.
- d Kino ..... on the ground, trying to get up.
- e Juana ..... him water to drink.
- f She ..... the cut on his face.

## Chapters 7–8

### 5 Complete the sentences with the right names.

- a ..... saw ..... get up, take the pearl from its hiding place, and leave the house.
- b ..... 's arm was up to throw the pearl into the sea.
- c ..... heard a sound, and hit at someone.
- d ..... saw the shining great pearl in the path behind a rock.
- e ..... knew that a wooden house burns down quickly.
- f ..... told ..... not to travel by the coast.
- g ..... carried ..... on her back.
- h ..... told ..... to stop ..... from crying.

## Chapter 9

### 6 Are these sentences right (✓) or wrong (X)?

- a Kino's white skin could protect him better than his clothes.
- b Kino attacked the trackers before the moon was out.
- c The third tracker escaped.
- d When they returned to their town Kino walked in front of Juana.
- e The pearl was now gray and ugly.
- f Juana threw the pearl as hard as she could into the sea.