

Painting the Southwest

by *Ladislao Gutierrez*



Genre	Build Background	Access Content	Extend Language
Realistic Fiction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The American Southwest • Land and People • Art 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Captions • Labels • Map • Dialogue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spanish-English Cognates • Words That Describe

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Question of the Week

What can we discover in the landscape of the Southwest?

High Frequency Words

art	drive
ideas	nature
next	different

Concept Words

artist	desert
paintings	cattle
cowboys	bright

Learning Goals

- The Southwest is mostly desert land.
- Norton Williams painted pictures of the Southwest.
- Native American pueblos are in the Southwest.

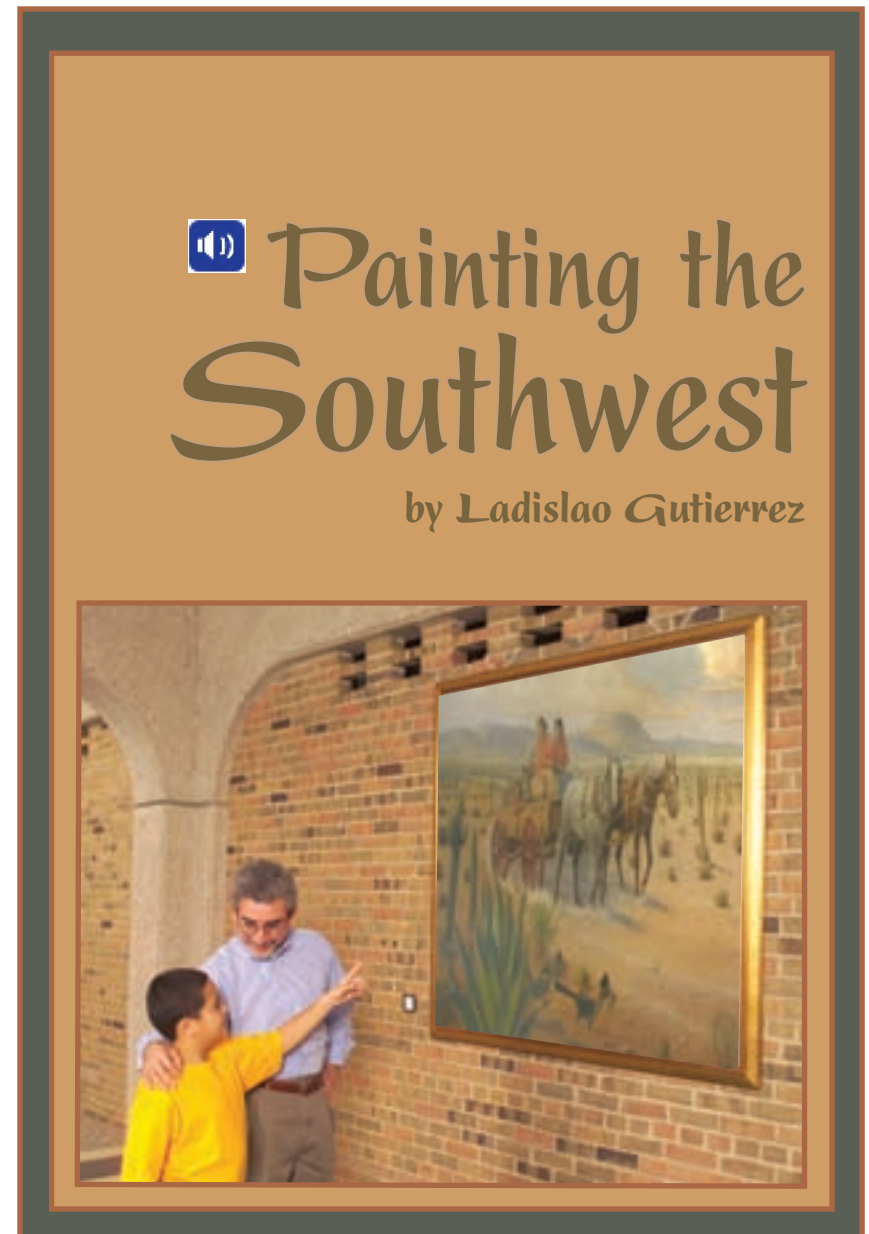
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Glenview, Illinois • Boston, Massachusetts • Chandler, Arizona
Upper Saddle River, New Jersey



 My grandfather is an artist. He lives in Arizona. I visit him. We go to art galleries. These are places that show paintings and other art. Grandpa tells me about the artists.


Grandpa says, "Artists talk to us. They share their ideas. They do this with their art."

 I want to be an artist some day.

Today we are looking at Norton Williams's paintings. He lived in the Southwest in the 1900s. He was a painter for the United States Navy.

Later, he moved to Arizona. He saw cowboys and Native Americans. He spent time in the desert. He made beautiful paintings of the Southwest.




 *Winter Wood*, by Norton Williams

 "Mr. Williams tells stories in his art," I say.

"Yes," Grandpa says. "He tells about life long ago in the Southwest."

I look at the painting. "I see snow on the ground. I thought the Southwest was desert."


Grandpa says, "It can snow in the desert. A desert gets little rain. In the mountains, there is high desert. There are pine trees. It can even snow."

 We look at the next painting. I ask, "What is behind the woman?"

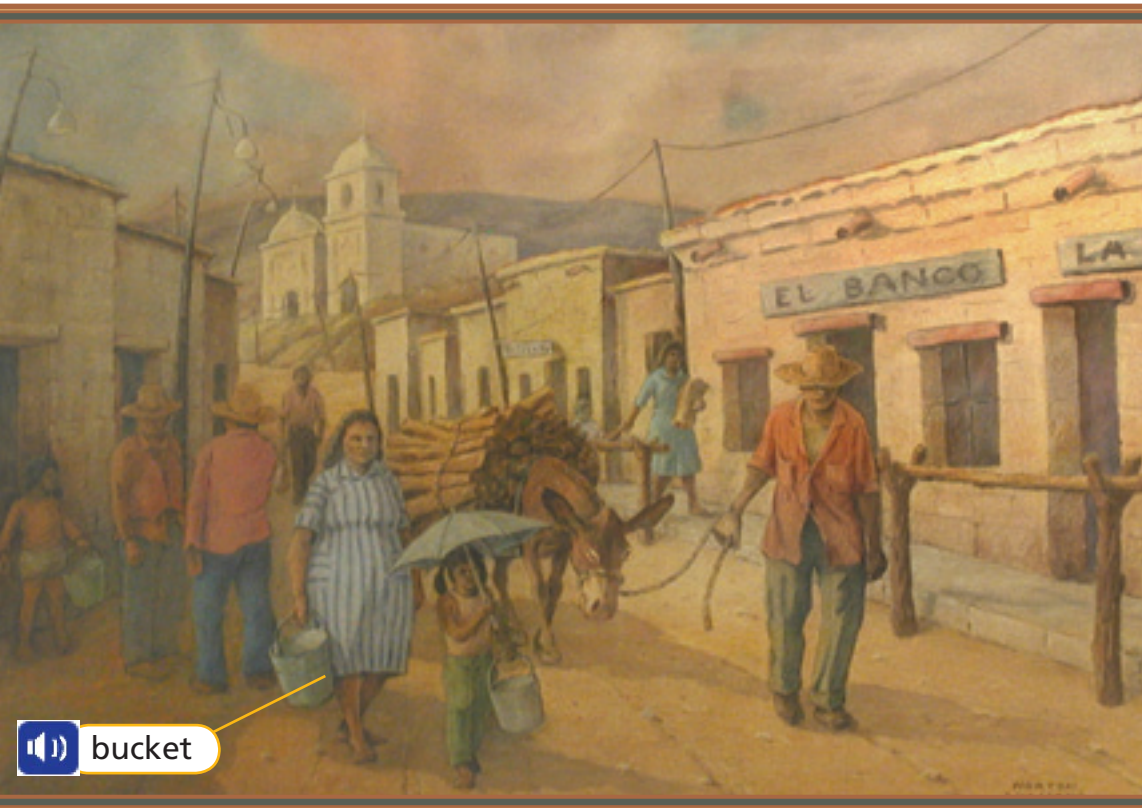
Grandpa tells me it is a town. Many Native Americans lived in small towns called pueblos. Some pueblos were built on the tops of cliffs. Cliffs are tall walls of rock.




 *A Stroll with the Twins*, by Norton Williams


 The next painting shows an old town. The people in it look like me. They are Hispanic. That means they are from Spain or Latin America.

Grandpa says Hispanic people came here long ago. They came from Mexico. The Southwest used to be part of Mexico.



 bucket

 *South of the Border*, by Norton Williams

 Grandpa tells me Hispanic people built towns too. Some people lived in town. Others lived outside of town. They did not go to town often.

Long ago, people made the things they needed. But they could not make everything. They bought those things in town.


I look at the painting. I see a bucket. "I think the woman bought that bucket in town," I say.



Extend Language Cognates

Words in one language can look like words in another language. If they mean the same thing, they are *cognates*. *Cognates* can help you learn a new language. Here are some English-Spanish cognates:

English	Spanish
bank	banco
desert	desierto
mountain	montaña

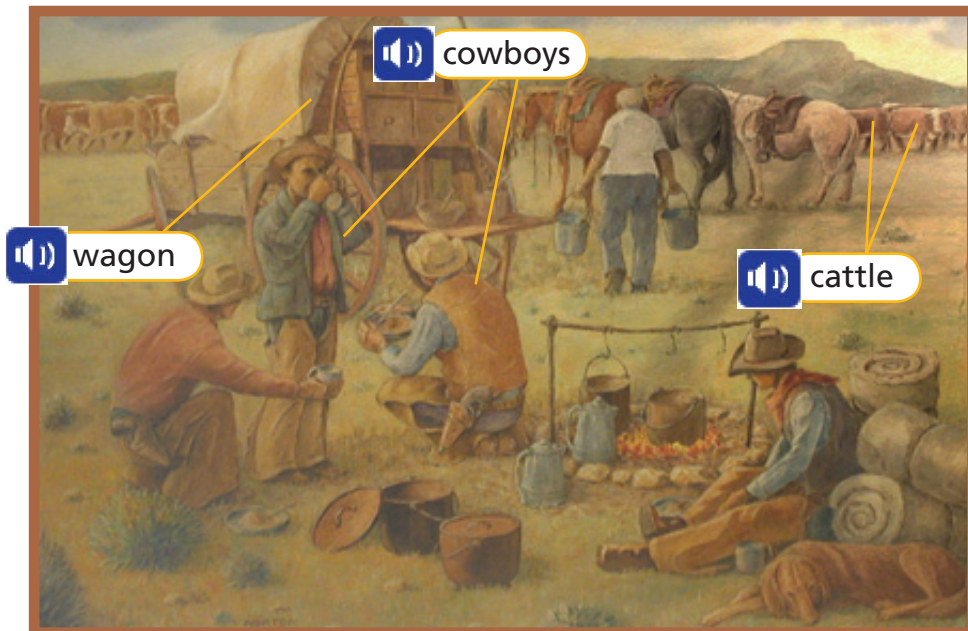
 We see a painting of cowboys. Cowboys moved cattle across the Southwest.

The cattle were moved across different kinds of land. Some were flat areas with a lot of grass. The cattle ate the grass there. Other areas were dry. There was a lot of sand there.


Grandpa points to a wagon. A cook kept pots and pans in the wagon. Each night, the cowboys stopped. The cook made dinner over a fire.



 *Heading in*, by Norton Williams




 *Beans and Coffee*, by Norton Williams

 Another painting shows the cowboys on horses. There is nothing around them. There are no towns.

Grandpa says, "I think cowboys liked a lot of land around them."


Grandpa lives far from other people. Many people in the Southwest do. I think they like having lots of land around them too.



 We drive on a bumpy road. The truck shakes. I say, "Things were softer long ago."

Grandpa asks, "What do you mean?"

"Mr. Williams painted with soft colors. Times must have been softer back then," I say.

 Grandpa smiles. "Life was hard then," he says. "People worked very hard. But there were fewer towns. People spent more time in nature."

"The paintings we saw today looked quiet. Mr. Williams used soft colors," I say. "He did not use bright colors."



Talk About It

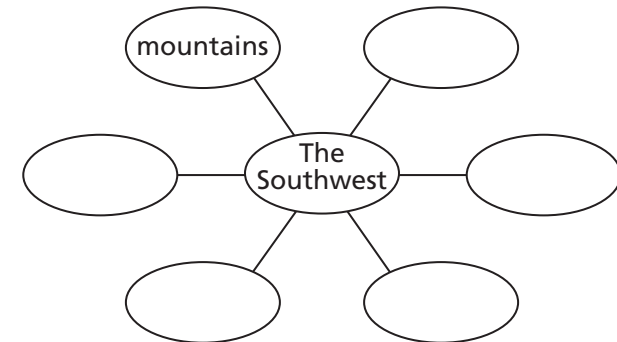
1. How is Grandpa's way of painting different from Mr. Williams's way?


Write About It

2. Choose a painting in this book. Make a list of things you see in the painting.

Extend Language

On a sheet of paper, make a word web about the Southwest. Write words in the circles that describe the Southwest.



 At Grandpa's house, I watch him paint. He uses bright colors.

"Your paintings are different from Mr. Williams's paintings," I tell Grandpa.

Grandpa says, "Artists have their own ways of painting. I wonder how you will paint."

"Me too!" I say.

Photographs

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