

LECTURA

RICARDO AND HIS FAMILY

RICARDO Y SU FAMILIA

By Paul Rogers

Based on my translation of:

“Easy Spanish Reader”, by Raymond

Grismer, Longmans, Green and Co.,

1946

Lesson 1

RICARDO AND HIS FAMILY RICARDO Y SU FAMILIA

Ricardo is a Mexican-American boy. He lives in Santa Barbara, California. He lives in a brown house.

Ricardo has a sister and two brothers. Maria is his sister. Miguel and Pablo are his brothers. Ricardo's father's name is Juan and his mother's name is Teresa.

Ricardo studies* in school. He studies* history*, geography*, mathematics, science*, English and art*. Ricardo thinks that geography* is interesting*. In school, Ricardo learns the capitals* of the Latin American countries.

***COGNADOS - palabras que están iguales o parecidas en inglés y español.**

VOCABULARIO - VOCABULARY

HIS	su, de el	father's	del padre
FAMILY	familia	name	nombre
is	es	and	y
a	un, una	his	su (de el)
boy	muchacho	mother's	de la madre
lives	vive	study	estudiar
in	en	studies	estudia
brown	café	school	escuela
house	casa	thinks	piensa
has	tiene	that	que
sister	hermana	interesting	interesante
two	dos	of	de
brothers	hermanos	learns	aprende
are	son	countries	paises

LESSON 2

Ricardo's family consists of five persons: Juan, the father; Teresa, the mother; Maria, the daughter; and Pablo, Miguel and Ricardo, the sons. Maria is eighteen years old, Pablo is twenty-five, Miguel is twenty and Ricardo is sixteen.

They have some cousins who live with their parents on a big ranch. Occasionally, Maria and her brothers visit their aunt and uncle at the ranch. They like to ride the horses and swim in the river. They especially like to visit the ranch when there is a rodeo.

VOCABULARIO

consists of	consista de	their	su (de ellos)
five	cinco	Occasionally	ocasionalmente
persons	personas	aunt	tía
daughter	hija	uncle	tío
eighteen	dieciocho	like	gustarse
twenty-five	veinticinco	ride	montar
twenty	veinte	horses	caballos
sixteen	dieciseis	swim	nadar
cousins	primos	river	rio
who	quien /-es	especially	especialmente
		rodeo	rodeo

Lesson 3

Ricardo's house is big. The roof of the house is red. In front of the house there is a pretty garden. The garden is small. Behind the house there is a garage.

The house has two floors. On the lower floor there is a living room, a dining (daining) room, a kitchen and a patio. On the upper floor there are bedrooms and a bathroom.

Every morning Ricardo goes to school. He studies English, Spanish, history, geography and math. He learns the names of the capitals of the countries of Latin America. He knows that business between the U.S. and the other countries of Latin America is very important.

Vocabulary

big	grande	On	en
small	chica / o	lower	bajo
roof	techo	living room	sala
red	rojo	dining room	comedor
In front	En frente	(daining rum)	
of	de	kitchen	cocina
there is	hay	upper	de arriba
pretty	bonita	bedrooms	recámaras
garden	jardin	bathroom	cuarto de baño
Behind	Detras de	business	negocio
floors	pisos	between	entre
		other	otro / a

Lesson 4

Ricardo goes to school. His first class of the day is history class. This morning Ricardo goes to the blackboard and writes the names of the countries of Central America: Panama, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala.

He knows that there are six countries in Central America.

The class also studies the Antilles. Cuba is the largest island in the Antilles.

After his last class, Ricardo goes home. As he arrives home, his mother is working in the garden. When his mother sees Ricardo, she enters the house and prepares lunch in the kitchen.

VOCABULARIO

this	esta	last	último
blackboard	pizarón	as he arrives	al llegar
writes	escribe	is working	está trabajando
also	también	when	cuando
largest	la más grande	sees	ve
island	isla	enters	entra
after	despues de	prepares	prepara
		lunch	lonche

LESSON 5

Ricardo's father has many friends. They work in the city and on the farms, too. Some speak Spanish. Some speak English, too. Ricardo studies both English and Spanish in school.

One of Ricardo's brothers, Pablo, is a businesssman. He imports and exports many things. Many times he visits other countries, such as Colombia, Costa Rica and Mexico.

At night the family meets in the living room. Ricardo and Maria study. Their father reads the afternoon newspaper.

VOCABULARY

many	muchos / as	exports	exporta
friends	amigos	things	cosas
They	Ellos	times	veces
work	trabajan	visits	visita
city	ciudad	such as	tales como
farms	Granjas	at	en, por
too	también	night	noche
speak	hablar, hablan	meets	encontra
Some	Algunos	Their	Su (de ellos)
others	otros	reads	lee
businessman-comerciante		afternoon	tarde
imports	importa	newspaper	periódico

Lesson 6

Maria gets up and turns on the television. They watch and soon they hear a voice that announces, in Spanish, the news of the day.

"What station is it?" Ricardo asks his sister.

"It's a Mexican station," she replies.

"Pablo writes that he is going to speak on one of the Mexican networks," Maria says.

Soon they hear a man speaking in English.

"It's Pablo!" everyone exclaims.

Vocabulary

gets up	se levanta	station	estación
turns on	prende	asks	pregunta
watch	mirar, miran	replies	responde
soon	pronto	to speak	hablar
hear	oir, oyen	networks	redes
voice	voz	conditions	condiciones
announces	anuncia	world	mundo
news	noticias	exclaims	exclama
day	día		

Lesson 7

Ricardo eats breakfast in the dining room with the family. Generally, he drinks a glass of milk and eats eggs and toast. At noon he eats lunch in the restaurant at school.

Sometimes the family eats a meal in a cafe. Their favorite restaurant is in the center of town. It is called "The Blue House." The food is always very good. The waiters are very attentive. After eating in this restaurant, the family returns to the house.

Often they go to the movies. Sometimes they go to the theater, where they see a new comedy.

Ricardo's brother Pablo is in Mexico City. He writes to Ricardo and to Maria that he also goes to the movies and the theater a lot in Mexico.

Vocabulary

eats	come	is called	está llamada
breakfast	desayuno	food	comida
Generally	Generalmente	always	siempre
Drinks	toma, bebe	good	bueno / a
glass	vaso	waiters	meseros
milk	leche	attentive	atento
eggs	huevos	this	este
toast	pan tostado	returns	regresa
At noon	Al mediodía	Often	muchas veces
Sometimes	A veces	theater	teatro
meal	comida	where	donde
favorite	favorita	new	nuevo / a
center	centro	comedy	comedia
town	pueblo	a lot	mucho

Lesson 8

One night a friend calls Ricardo's father on the telephone. The friend has just arrived in the city by train. He is at the train station. He wants to know the name of a good hotel.

Ricardo's parents go immediately to the train station in their car. their friend is in the waiting room.

Ricardo's parents take their friend to the Pan American Hotel. The friend writes his name in the register: Peter Rogers, of Philadelphia.

Vocabulary

calls	llama	immediately	inmediatamente
has just	acaba de	waiting	esperando
arrived	llegado	take	llevar, tomar
by train	por tren	writes	escribe
wants	quiere	register	registro

Lesson 9

A bellboy leads Mr. Rogers to his room while Ricardo's parents wait in the vestibule. The room is big and faces a park. It is on the seventh floor. There is elevator service all night.

In the rooms there are two beds, two chairs, a radio, a night stand, a chest of drawers and a dressing table.

The bellboy turns on the lights and puts the suitcases at the foot of one of the beds. Mr. Rogers gives him a tip.

Before he goes down to the vestibule, Mr. Rogers goes into the bathroom to wash his hands and face. There are large and small towels in the bathroom, soap, and ice water to drink.

Vocabulary

bellboy	el botones	at the foot	al pie
leads	conduce	tip	propina
while	mientras	Before	Antes de
vestibule	el cuarto en frente		
faces	da a	down	bajar
service	servicio	wash	lavar
all night	toda la noche	towels	toallas
night stand	- mesa al lado de la cama		
turns on	prende, enciende	soap	jabón
puts	pone	ice water	agua helado

Lesson 10

On Saturday mornings, Maria and her mother, Teresa, go shopping. When it is cold, the women wear overcoats. When it is hot they do not wear overcoats. It is very hot in the summer, but it is never very cold in Santa Barbara.

In the northern states it is very cold and there is a lot of snow in the winter.

One Saturday, it is raining when the women leave, and therefore Maria and her mother take umbrellas and raincoats.

Vocabulary

Saturday	sábado	summer	verano
go	ir, vas, van	never	nunca
shopping	comprando, de compras	northern	del norte
		states	estados
When	Cuando	winter	invierno
it is cold	hace frio	raining	lloviendo
wear	llevar (ropa)	umbrellas	paraguas
overcoats	abrigos	raincoats-	impermeables
do not	no (negación de verbo)		

Lesson 11

First they go to a bakery where they buy bread and a dozen rolls. In a butcher shop they buy one pound of bacon and two chickens. Teresa often prepares rice with chicken for the Sunday meal. Maria says that rice with chicken is her favorite meal.

In the grocery store they see all kinds of vegetables, such as lettuce, turnips, tomatoes and cauliflower. There are also various kinds of fruit, such as melons, oranges, apples and grapes. Maria and Teresa buy what they need before they return to the house.

When they have time, they also visit the bookstores where they buy a recent magazine or a new book.

Vocabulary

bakery	panadería	vegetables	verduras
buy	compran	lettuce	lechuga
bread	pan	turnips	nabos
dozen	docena	cauliflower	coliflor
rolls	panecillos	There are	Hay (plural)
butcher shop	-carnecería	various	varias
pound	libra	kinds	tipos
bacon	tocino	oranges	naranjas
chickens	pollos	apples	manzanas
prepares	prepara	grapes	uvas
rice	arroz	need	necesitar
Sunday	domingo	time	tiempo
her	su (de ella)	visit	visitar
favorite	favorita	grocery stores	-tiendas de abarotes
bookstores	-librerías		
recent	reciente		
see	ver		
magazine	revista		
all kinds	todos tipos		
or	o		
book	libro		

Lesson 12

One of Ricardo's brothers, Miguel, attends the University of California at Berkeley. He studies geology because he thinks he can get a job with an oil company some day.

The University of California is very big. Thousands of students attend the university each year. The college divisions offer all kinds of classes.

Vocabulary

attends	asiste	some	alguna
geology	geología	each	cada
because	porque	year	año
job	trabajo, empleo	college	colegio
oil	petroleo, aceite	divisions	secciones
company	compañía	offer	ofrece

Lesson 13

During vacations, Miguel and the other members of his geology class take trips to Venezuela and to Colombia to study the production of oil in those countries. The importance of Venezuela and Colombia grows daily because the deposits of oil in the United States are being exhausted.

At the same time that they take trips to Venezuela and Colombia, Miguel and the other students of the university visit the islands of Aruba and Curacao, where there are large refineries. Here in Curacao and Aruba they refine the oil that is produced in Venezuela.

Vocabulary

During	Durante	daily	diario
vacations	vacaciones	deposits	depósitos
other	otra / o	are being	se van
members	miembros	exhausted	agotando
trips	viajes	At the same time	al mismo tiempo
production	-producción	islands	islas
those	esos, aquellos	refineries	refinerías
importance	importancia	Here	Aquí
grow	crecer	refine	refinar
		produced	producido

Lesson 14

Ricardo's father's name is Juan Ramos and Garcia. Ramos is the surname of his father and Garcia is the surname of his mother. Ricardo's grandparents do not live in California.

Maria has a close friend named Carlota. Both attend UCLA and study computer science because they wish to work in one of the commercial companies of Santa Barbara.

Carlota has an older brother named Henry, but every one always calls him Hank. Miguel often invites Carlota to attend a dance, and Hank invites Maria. The four are always seen seated together at a table in the roof garden of the Hotel California.

Vocabulario

surname	apellido	but	pero
grandparents	abuelos	everyone	todos, todo el mundo
close	íntima, cerca	always	siempre
named	llamada, nombrada	often	muchas veces
Both	ambos	invites	invita
computer	computador	dance	baile
wish	esear, querer	are seen	se ven
commercial	comercio	seated	sentados
older	más viejo, mayor	together	juntos
		table	mesa

Lesson 15

On Wednesday afternoon Ricardo goes to his history class. When he enters, he greets his teacher and takes his seat in the second row. This afternoon they study the history of Latin America.

"Who discovered the Americas, and in what year?" asks the teacher.

"Christopher Columbus, in fourteen hundred and ninety-two, sir," replies one of the students.

"Who conquered Mexico?"

"Hernando Cortez, teacher," answers another student.

"What were the names of the liberators of South America?" asks the teacher.

Vocabulary

Wednesday	miercoles	discovered	descubrió
afternoon	la tarde	sir	señor
greet	saluda	conquered	conquistó
seat	asiento	another	otro
row	filo	liberators	liberadores

Lesson 16

All of the students raise their hands at once and without waiting some shout: "Simon Bolivar and Jose de San Martin!"

"What did Miguel Hidalgo do?"

No one knows the answer; therefore the teacher says:

"In eighteen hundred and ten, Miguel Hidalgo Costilla, the famous Mexican priest and patriot, raised the 'Cry of Dolores,' beginning the independence movement of Mexico. Unfortunately, he was defeated and he was shot by the Spanish in eighteen hundred eleven. But the Mexicans never have forgotten the glorious priest and his famous cry, and years later they won the independence of the country.

Vocabulary

raise	levantarse	patriot	patrioto
hands	manos	Cry	grito, llorar
at once	juntos	beginning	empezando
without	sin	unfortunately	desafortunadamente
shout	gritar	defeated	se venció
famous	famoso	was shot	fue fusilado
priest	sacerdote, padre		
have forgotten	- han olvidado		
won	ganaron		

Lesson 17

Ricardo is stretched out in front of the fireplace, studying his geography lesson. He knows that the Antilles include the islands from Cuba to Trinidad.

The Greater Antilles are Hispaniola, Puerto Rico, Jamaica and Cuba. Cuba is an independent republic. Puerto Rico belongs to the United States. Hispaniola is the island where Haiti and the Dominican Republic are located. Jamaica is an independent republic, also.

The Lesser Antilles include the small islands between Puerto Rico and Guayana. Between the Antilles and the northern coast of South America and Central America lies the Caribbean Ocean. To the northeast is the Gulf of Mexico.

The isthmus of Panama does not only unite two continents but also unities, with its famous canal, two oceans.

Vocabulario

stretched out

tendido

fireplace

chimenea

include

incluyen

belongs

pertenece

only

sólo

unites

une

Lesson 18

Upon finishing his studies at the university, Miguel packs his bags and trunks and prepares to return home.

On the morning of his departure, he calls a taxi on the telephone. Soon after, the taxi arrives in front of the house. The driver gets out of the taxi and rings the doorbell.

Miguel opens the door and asks the driver to bring down his baggage. There are three bags and two small trunks. All of the baggage fits in the taxi.

Vocabulary

upon finishing	al terminar	rings	toca
doorbell	timbre de la	door	puerta
packs his bags	hace sus maletas	asks	pide, pregunta
departure	partida	bring down	que baje
calls	llama	baggage	equipaje
gets out	sube	fits into	cabe

Lesson 19

At the train station, Miguel goes to the ticket window to buy his ticket. "One-way or round-trip?" asks the train employee.

"One-way, please."

After buying a one-way ticket, Miguel takes his luggage to the baggage room. There he checks his bags and trunks.

After leaving the platform, Miguel sees one of the students who has come to the station to say goodbye to him. They pass the time joking, singing and laughing out loud.

Finally the train arrives and Miguel gets on. After the train leaves, Miguel stands on the platform of the observation car, waving his hand while the other students remain on the station platform singing "See Ya' Later, Alligator."

Vocabulario

ticket window

despacho de billetes

one-way

sencillo

round-trip

ira y vuelta

joking

bromando

singing

cantando

laughing

reiendo

out loud

voz alta

Ya'

tu

Lesson 20

On the train, Miguel looks out the window and remembers many of his adventures with his friends. Then he begins to think about his family and what he will do when he returns home.

TO THE STUDENT:

Can you write a story about some of your adventures, your family, your work, or your school? Try as best as you can!

Vocabulary

as best as you can

tan bueno como puedes