

dragoncillo

puppet troupe

presents

An old tale about distraction and creativity

Based on *La tierra de Jauja* by Lope de Rueda

Translated and adapted by Jason Yancey

**THE LAND
OF JAUJA**

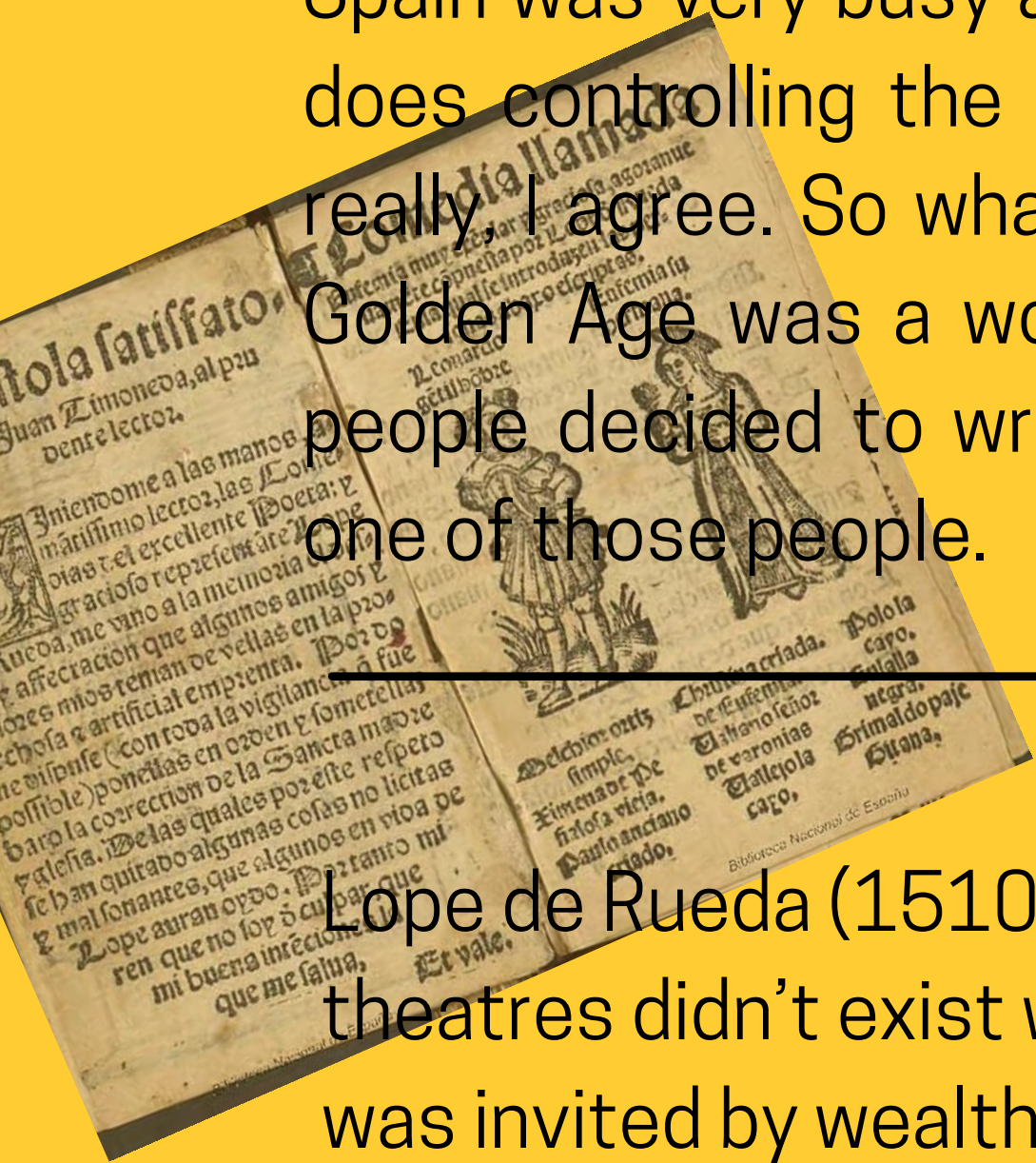


Introduction:

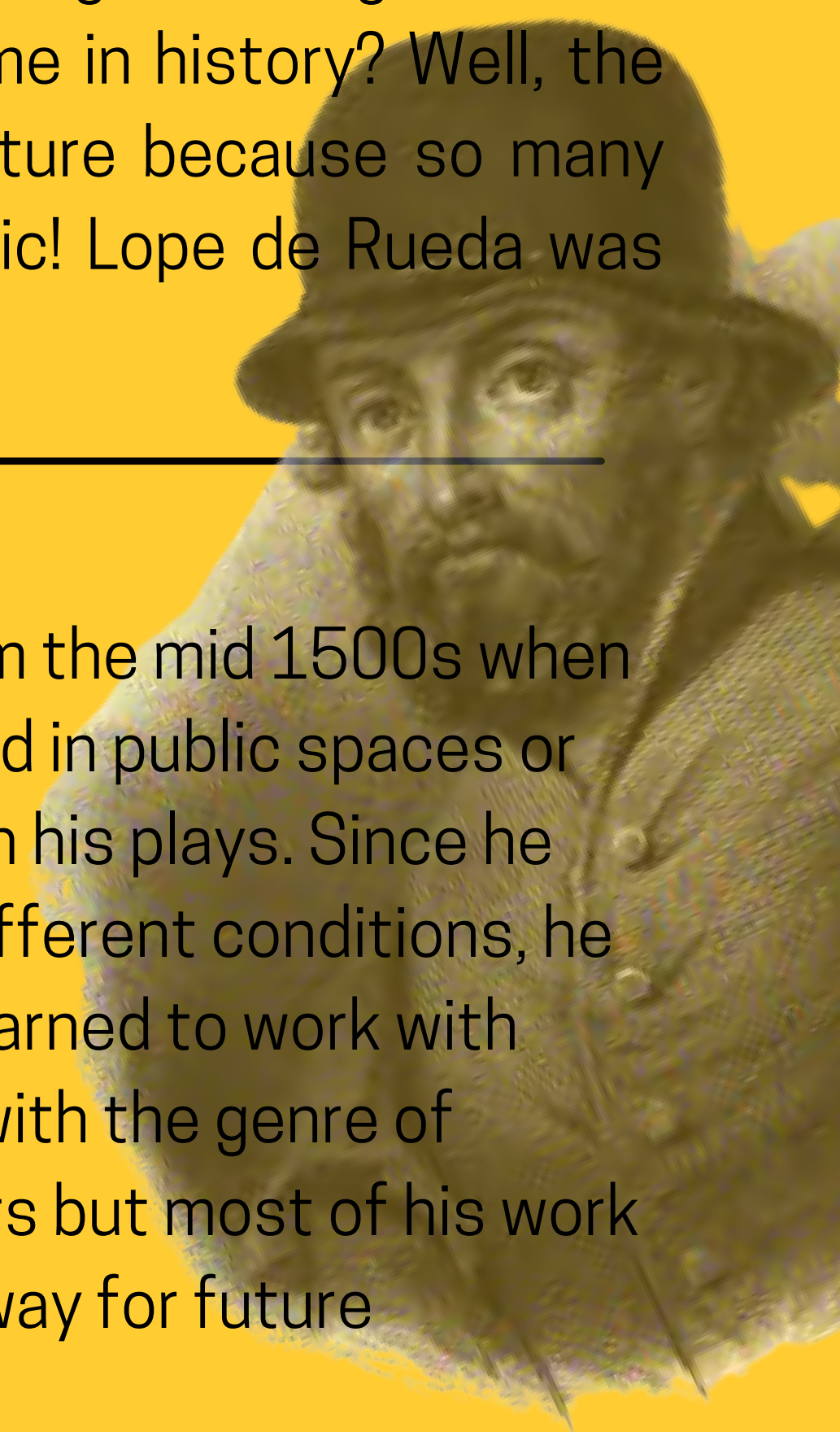
1. HISTORICAL AND AUTHOR BACKGROUND

Introduce the topic and as different components of the images emerge, refer to the pictures and explanations provided below.

This week we are going to travel back in time with the Dragoncillo Puppet Troupe! But before we can do that, we have to prepare for our trip by learning about the culture and language, la cultura y lengua, of Spain in the Golden Age, el Siglo de Oro. What's the Golden Age? That's a good question! About 400 years ago, Spain had a period of time called the Golden Age. Does anyone know anything about what was happening 400 years ago, in the 1600s and the 1700s? It was a very different time, and Spain was very busy acquiring territories and that takes a lot of work. But does controlling the whole wide world sound like a good thing? No, not really, I agree. So what was so great about this time in history? Well, the Golden Age was a wonderful time for Spanish culture because so many people decided to write, and paint, and make music! Lope de Rueda was one of those people.



Lope de Rueda (1510 – 1565) was a playwright from the mid 1500s when theatres didn't exist which meant that he performed in public spaces or was invited by wealthy people who wanted to watch his plays. Since he had to perform in so many different places under different conditions, he constantly adapted his play to his audiences and learned to work with bare minimum equipment. This let him experiment with the genre of theatre and modify his technique over multiple years but most of his work was not transcribed. However, his work paved the way for future playwrights and advanced the art significantly.



Transition:

2.

ICEBREAKER



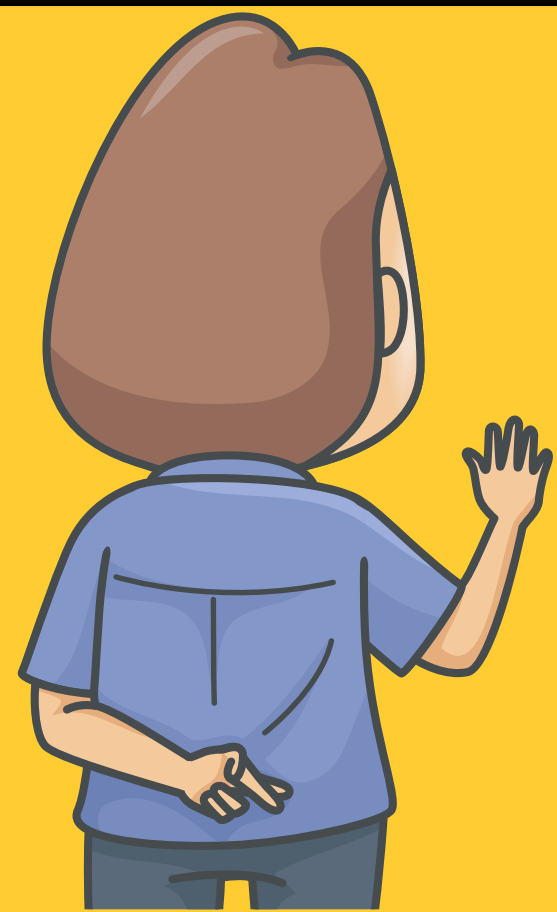
Start to introduce the topic to students by asking the following questions. Have them think about them and call on a few of them to talk about their own experiences. The pictures below can be used as ways to get students thinking,

“Have you ever tricked someone?”

“Why?”

“Did you feel bad afterwards?”

“Who uses tricks around us?”

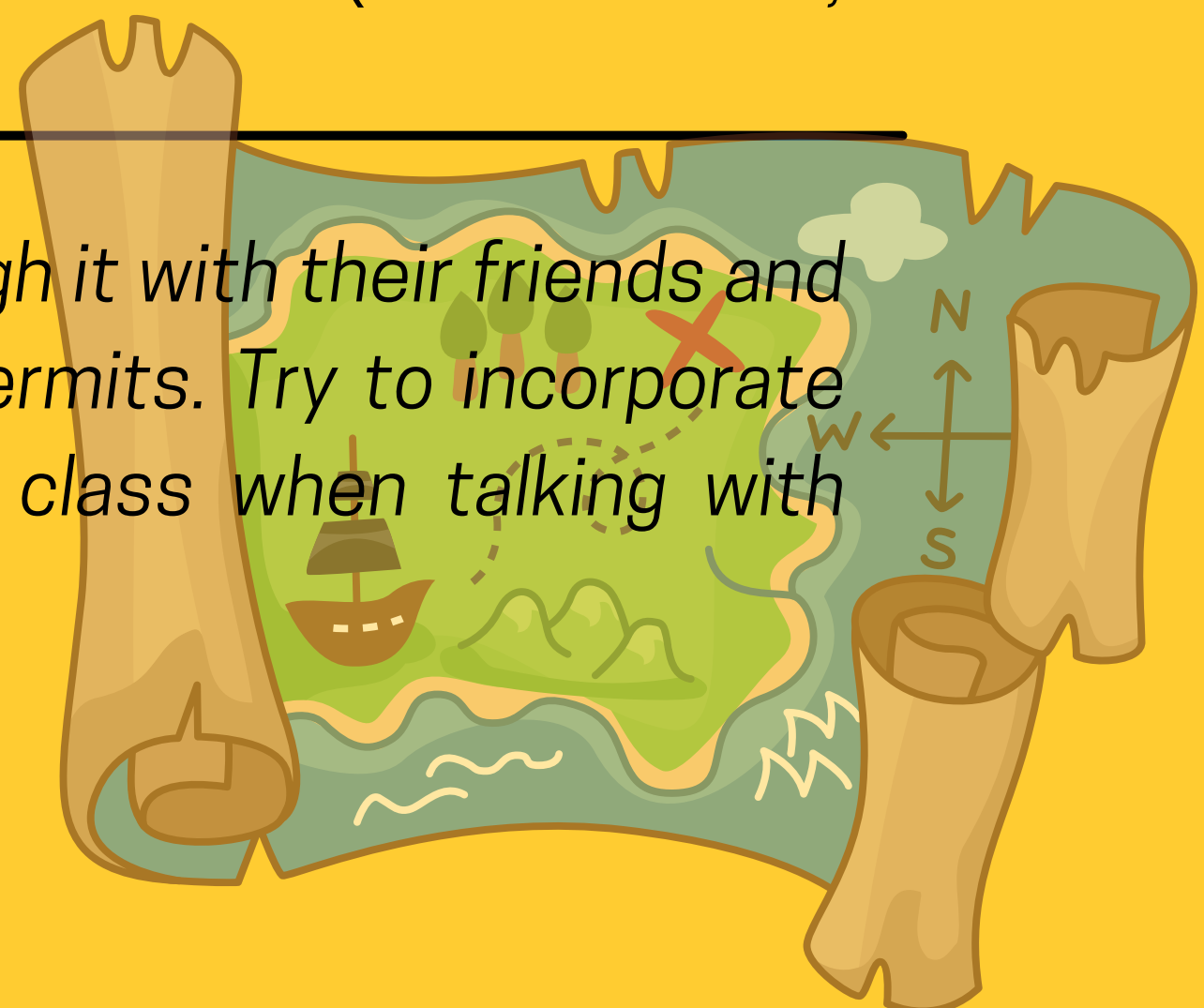
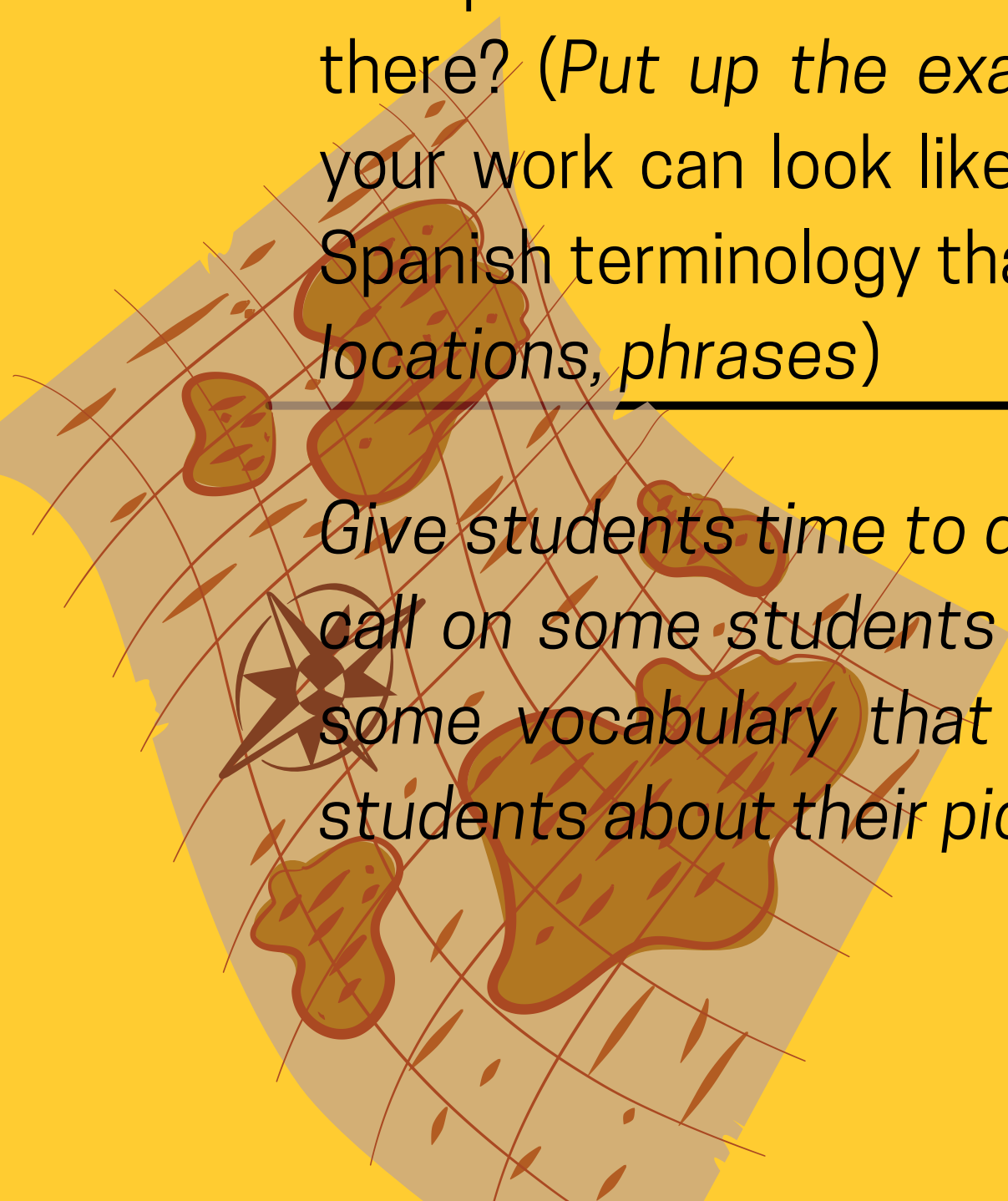


3.

PRE-SHOW ACTIVITY

Ok! Now let's draw our own land of Jauja. Grab your sheet of paper and start to draw what is the land of imagination that you like to escape into. What does it look like? What do people do there? Who is there? (*Put up the example provided*) Here's an example of what your work can look like, try to label your picture with some of the Spanish terminology that we have gone over in class (*ie. Food items, locations, phrases*)

Give students time to draw and talk through it with their friends and call on some students to share if time permits. Try to incorporate some vocabulary that was discussed in class when talking with students about their picture.



Transition:

4.

FAIRYTALE

Present this story like an enthusiastic fairytale. If available, use a picnic basket to illustrate the switch and taking items out of it.

Now let's transport ourselves to Spain 400 years ago! Two hungry men named Panarizo and Honziguera were hungry, so they came up with a plan to steal some food. Panarizo knew that Medrugo went to deliver food to his wife in prison every day, so he decides to wait for Medrugo to come around.

When he sees Medrugo, he exclaims "Hi friend!" which catches Medrugo's attention and slyly starts asking about where he is going. Medrugo stressfully explains that he is going to deliver food to his wife in prison.

Panarizo starts to tell Medrugo about the "Land of Jauja", a land where nobody works, and the food is so good that it practically asks to be eaten. Captivated by the story, Medrugo starts to dream about the land of Jauja. While he is lost in his imagination, the thieves finish the food in his basket and run away.

After they leave, Medrugo realizes that his basket is empty and thinks that they are stranded here and thought he should have given them money to buy some food.



Medrugo and Honziguera

5. POST-SHOW ACTIVITIES

Pull up the following pictures:



The painting on the left shows a theme called “la picaresca” which showed the poor state of individuals during the time. Even though the country was prosperous, many individuals were left extremely poor which left them no option but to conduct dishonest work.

The painting on the right shows a scene from Lazarillo de Tormes, the most famous picaresque novel. The novel showed the poor conditions that individuals had to live in during the time in a realistic manner.





This picture shows the legacy that Lope de Rueda had worked to create. These are some of the earliest playhouses also known as corrales that were created. People would gather in the corral to watch plays and socialize to pass time. A play then could take up to 3.5 hours!



This is the entrance to the corral de comedias de Almagro. Isn't it cool that you can't tell that's it's a playhouse from the outside? The theme of our play today is trickery, do you think this is a trick too?

The picture below shows the amount of people who come to see plays here, thousands of people come from all around the world now to watch plays from this historical lens.



You can still go visit the Corral de comedias de Almagro today! This is the only theatre that preserves its structure from the 17th century. Isn't that cool? It's like stepping inside of a time capsule. As the picture shows, it is a marvel of architecture. You can see how big it is inside, it can hold up to 300 people. That's like 15 of our classrooms!



This is how the town Sevilla in southern Spain looked during this century. Notice how developed the town looks! The prosperity of therea is evident through the developed infrastructure. Ask the students, Do you think that this would be some people's land of Jauja?



6.

VOCABULARY

English

Spanish

Basket

Cesto



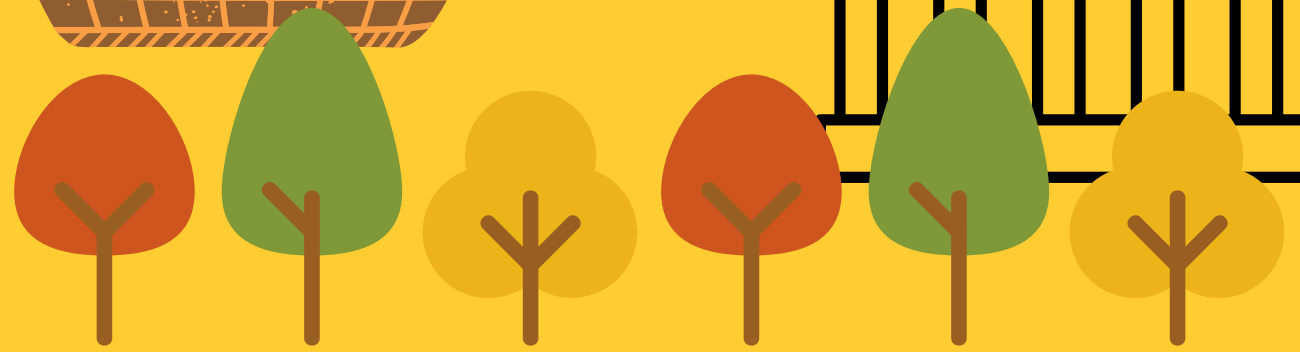
Prison

Cárcel



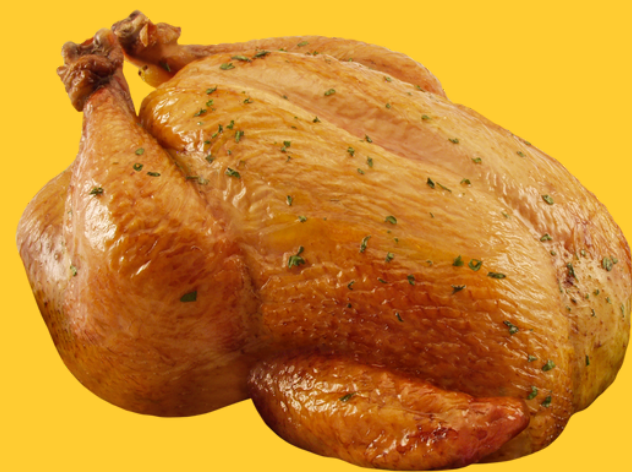
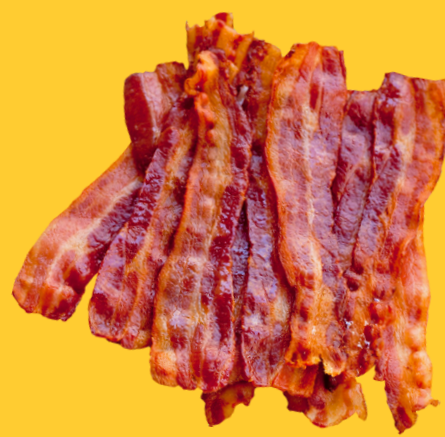
Trees

Árboles



Chicken

Pollo



Bacon

Tocino

Piece of bread/
A person easy to fool

Mendrugo



Liar

Mentiroso

Chocolate

Chocolate



Job

Trabajo



Sword

Espada



CREDITS

Sriya Kakarla
Educational content designer

Rocío González-Espresati
Dossier Designer and project advisor

Esther Fernández
Project Coordinator

