

## Comprehension Strategies

1st  
READ

**4 Summarizing** Teacher Modeling: *This is a good place to summarize. The focus of the play seems to be the relationship between Langston and his father. Langston is at his father's ranch in Mexico, and he writes while his father is away. His father wants him to learn accounting so Langston can run the ranch. Langston would prefer to spend his life writing.*

**5 Clarifying** Teacher Modeling: *Now we understand why Langston said that his father wants to make him into what he thinks Langston should be. Langston's father wants him to learn accounting, which is important to Mr. Hughes but not to Langston.*

**6 Clarifying** Teacher Modeling: *I am not sure what engineering is, but I am pretty sure it doesn't have much in common with writing. We will keep reading to see whether we can find out what it is.*

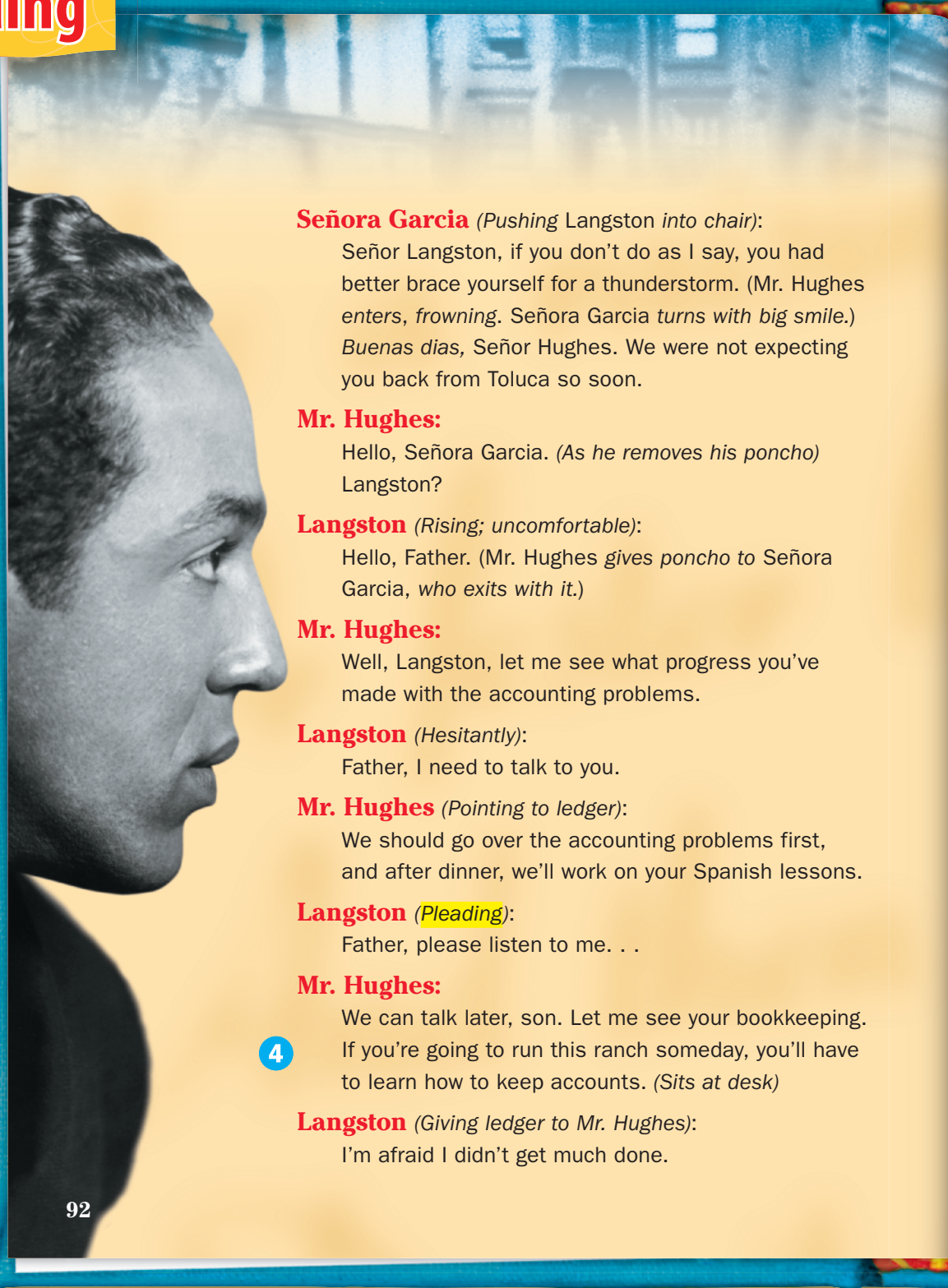
### Comprehension Check

What do Langston and his father disagree about?  
*Langston wants to be a writer, but his father thinks that writing is a type of daydreaming—a waste of his life.*

### Word Structure

Inflectional ending:

-es with root ending -y    **opportunities**



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**Señora Garcia** (*Pushing Langston into chair*):

Señor Langston, if you don't do as I say, you had better brace yourself for a thunderstorm. (Mr. Hughes enters, frowning. Señora Garcia turns with big smile.)  
*Buenas días, Señor Hughes. We were not expecting you back from Toluca so soon.*

**Mr. Hughes:**

Hello, Señora Garcia. (As he removes his poncho)  
Langston?

**Langston** (*Rising; uncomfortable*):

Hello, Father. (Mr. Hughes gives poncho to Señora Garcia, who exits with it.)

**Mr. Hughes:**

Well, Langston, let me see what progress you've made with the accounting problems.

**Langston** (*Hesitantly*):

Father, I need to talk to you.

**Mr. Hughes** (*Pointing to ledger*):

We should go over the accounting problems first, and after dinner, we'll work on your Spanish lessons.

**Langston** (*Pleading*):

Father, please listen to me. . .

**Mr. Hughes:**

We can talk later, son. Let me see your bookkeeping.

**4** If you're going to run this ranch someday, you'll have to learn how to keep accounts. (*Sits at desk*)

**Langston** (*Giving ledger to Mr. Hughes*):

I'm afraid I didn't get much done.



### Teacher Tip

**COMPREHENSION** Discuss with students the importance of monitoring their comprehension as they read the play, because its format is so different from other selections they have read. Students must pay attention to what the characters say and how they say it, because this is the primary way they will learn about the characters and follow the plot.