

Corrido Worksheet

Name _____

Corridos are songs that tell a story. These songs have been popular in New Mexico for 200 years. Some corridos are sung in Spanish. Others are a mixture of Spanish and English. A few are in English.

Corridos use plain words. The song is most often about a person. Some corridos are about an animal or a place. The story might be about the past. It might be about the present. Some corridos tell a story that is made up.

The verses tell the story. The chorus repeats after each verse. Each verse and the chorus are usually 4 or 6 lines long. Corridos that are sung in Spanish often have a rhyming pattern. Beginners should not attempt to rhyme their lines. The whole song is usually 36 lines long. Each line has 7 – 10 syllables. These rules are made to be broken.

Corridos might follow this form:

- The first verse describes the setting for the song. We hear about where, when and who the song is about.
- The story follows. The song might be about a chase, a challenge, a war, or something funny that happened. It might be about a miracle. The song might just describe a place and what makes it special.
- The corrido ends with a moral. It might give advice. Then the song is over with a goodbye.

Now listen to a corrido and read along with the lyrics. Afterwards, answer these questions.

Name of the Corrido?	
Where is this setting for the song?	
What story is the song telling?	
What is the reflection or advice given?	
What are three details that made this "sing" for you?	1. 2. 3.

Now listen to the first verse and the chorus of *El Rio* as you read along:

(Chorus) El Rio is like a grandparent A quien se debe de cuidar Un regalo son sus aguas Que fluyen hasta el mar A scared gift are your waters That flow hasta el mar.	(Verse one) Desde este al oeste From the north hasta el sur Listen here to our corridor So that it may be understood Why this Rio Grande Is a bringer of so much good.
Where is this setting for the song?	
What story is the song telling?	
What is the reflection or advice given?	

