

Practicing reading: Spanish language readers and Bilingual Books

One of the best ways to learn a language and pick up on the nuances that vary from language to language is to read in it. But if you're new to the language, or are refreshing your memory, then the Los Angeles Public Library has what you need to get started and progress quickly! Your neighborhood LAPL library may have some, and the International Languages Department at the Central Library has even more!

This guide is not a comprehensive bibliography of all the titles held by LAPL that are bilingual materials, and not all of the bilingual materials are kept together. This guide is broken up into three main parts to help make the search process easier.

1. Language Learning Resources-

- a. Spanish Language Learning Resources are shelved with an "S" and have call numbers that begin with "468.6". In the International Languages Department, these materials are found in the Language Learning Center.
- b. These materials are "readers" and parallel or side-by-side translations that make it easier to go between the English and Spanish versions. Some of them are "classics" like Don Quixote, while others are mostly compilations of short stories and legends from Latin American countries or authors. More advanced books will not have a translation, but will have a glossary or footnotes defining words or phrases to aid in comprehension.

2. Bilingual Literature and Non-Fiction-

- . Some materials are bilingual, and will often have side-by-side translations, but not be shelved with the Language Learning resources. They will most likely have an "S" on the spine, followed by a call number. Sometimes a book may be a bilingual edition, but was classified to be an English language book, and will be found by its call number with the other English language materials.
- a. Often, materials that may not be in the Language Learning resource collections are works of literature, such as poetry. There are also some history and culture books about Mexico and Latin America that are bilingual. Most have an "S" on the spine, but some may not.

3. Bilingual Fiction

- . Like the materials that are found in the literature and non-fiction sections, there many bilingual books. Some may be shelved with the Spanish resources, and some with English. Again, an "S" will be on the spine of the book. Fiction materials are always shelved by author last name.
- a. There are lots of different kinds of Spanish bilingual fiction. Included in this guide are a few titles that are "S x" meaning they are Juvenile Spanish fiction, and may be bilingual stories that are appropriate for language learners.

Also, here are some helpful terms that can be used during the search process:

- dual language spanish
- spanish english reader
- Spanish English translations
- Spanish English parallel
- Spanish English side by side

Language Learning Resources- Readers, Parallel guides

The Best of Latin American Short Stories- Los Mejores Cuentos Hispanoamericanos

Translated and Selected by Anthony Ramirez

1994 Bilingual Book Press

S 468.6 B5615

Seven traditional legends and short stories make up this side-by-side reader. Each story begins with a brief author biography (only in English), highlighting the country of origin and style of the writer. The Spanish version of a story is on an even numbered page, and the English is adjacent on the odd numbered page. Stories average approximately 10-15 pages in length. Each story not only tells a traditional tale, but also provides a cultural context that familiarizes the reader with the history nuances of the country.

Classic Spanish Stories and Plays: The Great Works of Spanish Literature for Intermediate Students

Edited by Marcel C. Andrade

2001 McGraw-Hill

S 468.6 A553-1

Geared toward the intermediate student, this text is compiled of 8 abridged works of Spanish literature. The pieces selected highlight the different eras of importance in Spanish literature and culture from the Middle ages, the Renaissance and the Golden Age. The text does not include a parallel translation, but instead the reader can follow along and understand the nuances of the text with extensive footnotes and vocabulary. Questions at the end of each section gauge the reader's comprehension.

Contemporary Latin American Literature: Original Selections from the Literary Giants for Intermediate and Advanced Students

Edited by Gladys M. Varona-Lacey

2002 McGraw-Hill

S 468.6 C7615-1

The works of twenty prominent Latin American authors make up this reader for intermediate and advanced students. Each story provides student with the tools necessary to aid in comprehension of the text, and includes vocabulary in the footnotes, questions to gauge comprehension at the end, as well as other recommended reading. Additionally, stories were selected that highlight the era of exploration, conquest and the colonial periods. Stories that illustrate political and cultural independence from the 19th and 20th centuries. Students will not only build on their comprehension skills, but be provided with a thorough introduction to the roots Latin American culture and history.

Don Quijote- Edición bilingüe: español-inglés - Spanish/English Bilingual Edition

Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra

Translated by John Ormsby, Abbreviation by Ana Merino

2005 Editorial La Casa de Espana

S 468.6 C419-1

This abbreviated version of *Don Quijote* is organized as a parallel text, and translated so that the reader becomes familiar with the plot and storyline and enjoy the story, while also improving their levels of comprehension.

El extraño caso del Dr. Jekyll y Mr. Hyde- The strange case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde

By Robert L. Stevenson

Translation by Luis Sanchez Bardon

2000, Publicaciones Puertorriquenas

S 468.6 S848

As a parallel text guide, readers are able to follow along with the story seamlessly without the help of a separate dictionary. Provides the reader with ability to read the story for fun, as well as build on levels of comprehension.

Legends from Latin America- Leyendas de Latinoamérica

Translated and Selected by Genevieve Barlow

1995, National Textbook Company

S 468.6 B258 1995

This text contains sixteen classic legends from Paraguay, Peru, Argentina, Mexico, and many other Latin American countries. The legends vary in theme from the pre-Columbian era, to the Wars for Spanish American Independence, as well as other cultural and historical influences. The stories are in English on pages 1-133, and Spanish translations are on pages 143-296. At the end of each story are follow up questions, and each section has a vocabulary guide.

Stories from Mexico- Historias de Mexico

Side by Side Bilingual Books

Translated and Selected by Genevieve Barlow, William N. Stivers

2009, McGraw Hill

S 468.6 B258-5 2010

Sixteen stories originating from Mexico make up the content of this text. Each story has parallel, side-by-side translations, as well as a vocabulary guide and glossary. The stories come from the different regions of Mexico, making the text both historically and culturally enriching as well as providing reader with practice. The book also offers instructions (on the publication information page, front of the text) on how to access audio versions of this and other books in the series. Audio versions may be listened to through a web browser.

Stories from Puerto Rico- Historias de Puerto Rico

Side by Side Bilingual Books

Translated and Selected by Robert L. Muckley and Adela Martinez-Santiago

2010 McGraw-Hill

S 468.6 S8845

Eighteen stories from Puerto Rico with side-by-side translations make up this language learning text. Each story tells the unique story of varying parts of Puerto Rico, thus giving the reader not only a chance to work on comprehension and reading skills, but also garner a greater understand and appreciation for the history and culture in Puerto Rico. Stories include a creation tale, those from the Spanish colonial era as well as the twentieth century.

Spanish Short Stories 1- Cuentos Hispanicos 1

Penguin Parallel Text

Edited by Jean Franco

1966 Penguin Books

S 468.6 S7355-1 v.1

Eight stories make up this collection of Spanish and English parallel readings. Popular authors such as Jorge Luis Borges and Gabriel Garcia Marquez expose readers to classic, enriching texts while building on their comprehension. This was the first in a series of parallel texts printed by Penguin that highlighted the short stories of well known Iberian and Latin American authors.

Spanish Short Stories 2- Cuentos Hispanicos 2

Penguin Parallel Text

Edited by Gudie Lawaetz

1972 Penguin Books

S 468.6 S7355-1

This volume is comprised of nine stories from Spain and Latin American authors, including Julio Cortazar, Mario Vargas Llosa, and Carlos Fuentes. The editor describes the text as a sampler of Spanish and Latin American literature that is aimed to help students of Spanish expand their knowledge of the language, and make them eager to read more works by those and similar authors.

Under the Texas Sun-- El sol de Texas

Recovering the U.S, Hispanic Literary Heritage

Bilingual Edition/Edición Bilingue

By Conrado Espinoza

English translation by Ehtriam Cash Brammer de Gonzales

2007 Arte Publico Press

S 468.6 E77

The first edition of this text was published in San Antonio, Texas, in 1926. It was the first novel to depict the migration of Mexican nationals to the United States during the Mexican Revolution. Although a work of fiction, the text provides insight to how the influx of immigrants shaped and changed the cultural, societal and physical landscape of Texas during this era. This particular edition provides a version in the original Spanish, with an English translation in the second part of the book. There is not a glossary of terms or key words for those learning Spanish, so this text may

be best used for those more advanced readers who are comfortable reading without a parallel translation.

Bilingual Literature, Non-Fiction

Cool Salsa: Bilingual Poems on Growing Up Latino in the United States

Edited by Lori M. Carlson, Introduction by Oscar Hijuelos

1994 Fawcett Books

S 811.08 C7745

Bilingual poems about school days, homes and homelands, memories, hard times, parties and the future make up this colorful collection. The text conveys the feelings of not only being young, but the experiences of growing up Latino in America. Alicia Gaspar de Alba, Ana Castillo, Sandra Cisneros and Gary Soto are but a few of the authors who contributed to the production of the book.

The whole island : six decades of Cuban poetry, a bilingual anthology

Edited by Mark Weiss

2009 University of California Berkeley Press

861.08 W6285

The poems offered here constitute an essential source for understanding the literature and culture of Cuba, its diaspora, and the Caribbean at large, and provide an unparalleled perspective on what it means to be Cuban. Many popular authors, historically and presently, are included in this text, such as: Nicolás Guillén, José Lezama Lima, Nancy Morejón, Fina García Marruz, José Kozer, Raúl Hernández Novás, and Ángel Escobar.

Short Stories in Spanish- Cuentos en Español

New Penguin Parallel Text

Edited by John R. King

1999 Penguin Books

S 863 S5595

This compilation of short stories highlights nine prominent authors such as Gabriel Garcia Marquez, Isabel Allende, and Carlos Fuentes. Each story is in its original Spanish version, with an English translation on the opposing page. The stories are different than those most often associated with the authors, and provide the readers with a rich literary experience. In the introduction, editor John R. King highlights that the stories are printed primarily in order of linguistic complexity, and that the translations follow the original word order as closely as possible.

Cuentos: Tales from the Hispanic Southwest

Compiled and Edited by Jose Griego y Maestas and Rudolfo Anaya

1980 Museum of New Mexico Press

S 863.1 G848

Cuentos: Tales from the Hispanic Southwest offers not only a parallel, bilingual text, but is a comprehensive collection of traditional stories and legends from the Southwestern United States. The stories are unique because they are a distinct blend of the culture and history of the Spanish and Mexican settlers and the American Indians in the region. Many of the stories were retold in this text as part of an effort to record and save not only the tales, but the culture and heritage that comes with them.

Momentos Mágicos: Magic Moments

Compiled by Olga Loya

1997 August House Inc.

S 863.1 L923

Compiled by professional storyteller Olga Loya, this bilingual text highlights four distinct types of traditional tales from across Latin America: Scary Stories, Tricksters, Strong Women, and Myths.

Story translations are back-to-back, with the English version first, followed by the Spanish. The countries stories have been pulled from include Mexico, Guatemala, Nicaragua, as well as traditional indigenous stories.

In Praise of Darkness: Elogio de la sombra

By Jorge Luis Borges

1974 Dutton

868 B732-2

The poems of Jorge Luis Borges, particularly in this text, chronicle how the poet sees the world and continues his elusive quest for knowledge as a blind man.

Day of the Dead: A Passion for Life- Día de los Muertos: Pasión por la Vida

Text and Photos by Mary J. Andrade

2006 La Oferta Publishing

S 972.37 A553-1

Eight different sections make up the vast content of this text. The translations are side-by-side, and each page includes photographs and images documenting the celebrations and ceremonies held in the Mexican state of Michoacan. The section subjects include an overview of Michoacan history and culture, the preparation of the altars, offerings, and vigils, and how they vary among the different regions of Michoacan. Poems, songs and prayers are provided in each section, as well as a section of traditional recipes, a photo catalog and glossary. This is one of the seven titles about holidays in Mexico written by Andrade, all of which are bilingual texts. 6 of the titles are about Dia de los Muertos in other regions of Mexico, as well as one about Christmas traditions in Oaxaca, Mexico.

Bilingual Fiction

Maximilian & the Mystery of the Guardian Angel: A Bilingual Lucha Libre Thriller

By Xavier Garza

2011 Cinco Puntos Press

S x

Margarito acts like any other eleven-year-old aficionado of lucha libre. He worships all the players. But in the summer just before sixth grade, he tumbles over the railing at a match in San Antonio and makes a connection to the world of Mexican wrestling that will ultimately connect him (maybe by blood!) to the greatest hero of all time: the Guardian Angel.

Lucha libre : the Man in the Silver Mask : a bilingual cuento

By Xavier Garza

2005 Cinco Puntos Press

S x

In Xavier Garza's bilingual kids' book about this wild and crazy sport, young Carlitos attends a *lucha libre* match in Mexico City for the first time. He's with his Papá Lupe, but his Tio Rodolfo, who's supposed to join them, doesn't show up. At ringside, Carlitos sees the famous *luchador*, *el Santo*—the Man in the Silver Mask, a man whose eyes look terribly familiar.

Where the Cinnamon Winds Blow-- Donde Soplan los Vientos de Canela

By Jim Sagel

1993 Red Crane Books

S

Tomás searches for maturity and knowledge of his dead father, with the aid of his great-aunt tía Zulema's magical eyeglasses and deck of playing cards.

Barrio on the Edge

By Alejandro Morales

1998 Bilingual Press

S Ed. a.

Barrio on the Edge presents contemporary barrio life through the eyes of two teenaged boys; avant-garde and politically engaged, the novel blends characters and voices, plays with time, and twists the narrative to create an image of an inner city in crisis.

Devil in Texas- El diablo en Texas

By Aristeo Brito

Translated by David Foster

1990 Bilingual Press

Using legends, folklore, and oral history, Aristeo Brito weaves the struggles of the oppressed and exploited agrarian community of Presidio, Texas, through three historical periods. Greed personified, the devil swings back and forth between Presidio and Ojinaga (across the border in Mexico) and savors the betrayals and violent deaths that choke Presidio's history. Through four generations the Uranga family confronts the devil with quiet heroism.