Frida Kahlo

Review Key Words⁶

express

Express means to show or to put into words.

heritage

Heritage is something that is inherited or passed

down from earlier generations, like a value or tradition.

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outlet

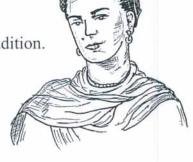
An outlet is a way to let out energy or feelings.

self-portraits

Self-portraits are drawings, paintings,

sculptures, or photographs of the artist

who made them.



Read the Story

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When Frida Kahlo was 18, a bus crash changed her life. She broke her leg, her back, and her **pelvis**. Frida's **recovery** was slow. A **cast** covered most of her body. For months, she had to stay in bed. With little else to do, she turned to painting. Using a mirror, Frida painted the one thing she had easy **access** to: herself.

Even after she could walk again, Frida kept painting. Painting was an **outlet** for her. It helped Frida **express** her feelings.

Frida's body was in a lot of pain. In all, she had over 30 **operations**. Still, the pain did not go away. Many of her **self-portraits** show this pain.

Some of Frida's paintings show another kind of pain. Frida felt a lot of **emotional** pain too. Because of the bus crash, she was not able to have children. It made her very sad.

While many of Frida's paintings show pain, many also show strength and **pride**. Frida was proud of her Mexican **heritage**. She painted herself in **traditional** Mexican dresses. She used Mexican **symbols** and painted with bright colors.

Frida's paintings **affected** many people. Today, people remember her as one of the greatest Mexican painters.

	day 1	day 2	day 3	day 4
words read in 1 minute				
– number of mistakes		1071		
= total words read correctly				
adult initials				7 7 7 7

Frida Kahlo

Answer the Questions

- 1. What is the main idea of this story?
 - a. Frida Kahlo painted herself in traditional Mexican dresses.
 - Frida Kahlo had to wear a cast covering most of her body.
 - c. Frida Kahlo used painting as a way to express her pain.
- 2. Why did Frida start painting?
 - She wanted to be one of the greatest Mexican painters.
 - She was sad because she was unable to have children.
 - She did not have much to do while she was in bed.
- 3. What does the word **recovery** mean in this story?
 - a. a way of moving
 - b. a healing process
 - c. a bad injury

- 4. Why did Frida use Mexican symbols in her paintings?
 - a. She was a great painter.
 - b. She was proud of her Mexican heritage.
 - c. Painting was an outlet for her.

5.	Why do people remember Frida as a great Mexican artist?				

- 6. Match each word with its definition.
 - 1. pride
- a. ___ hard bandage
- 2. cast
- b. ___ ability to use
- 3. access
- something
- 4. affected
- c. ___ changed one's
 - feelings
- d. ___ respect for yourself

Parent Tips

Every teacher and every parent wishes that every child will learn to read and love to read. Paying attention to the skill of fluency can help us all achieve that wonderful goal. Help children read fluently, and they will be more apt to enjoy books and other print media. Fluent readers gain word and world knowledge from texts and websites. Ultimately, a natural byproduct of frequent and fluent reading is improved vocabulary and comprehension.

—Dr. Jan Hasbrouck