Contents

Introduction	3
Reasons for Reading The Tortilla Curtain	3
Methodological Aspects: Structuring the Reading Process	4
Introduction	4
Suggestions for a Study Plan	5
Dealing with the Vocabulary	6
Chapter by Chapter Synopsis	8
Pre-reading Activities	13
Analysis of the Opening Chapters	21
Chapter 1	21
Chapter 2	24
Chapter 3	27
While-reading Topics	30
General Aspects	34
The Title of the Novel	34
The American Dream in the The Tortilla Curtain	35
The Hispanics in the USA	40
A Tradition of Misunderstanding and Mutual Suspicion	46
Whose Territory Is It Anyway?	47
Conclusion: The Tortilla Curtain as a Work of Art	53
Post-reading Activities	54
Class Tests	57
Additional Texts	65
Man of Tonanga and Los Angeles	80

