

## **DAY ONE: (This assignment is due on Day TWO)**

Before viewing the film:

1. Make a list of 7-9 things you would say to describe the “typical” American family.
2. Then, using the same THEMES/TOPICS that you used to describe the “typical” American family, write how you think the “typical” Mexican-American family would be described.
3. Answer the following questions for yourself:
  - a. How does what you think about yourself impact your actions, comments, goals, etc?
  - b. What two family members have influenced you the most? How? (Please explain in detail.)
  - c. In your opinion, what is the greatest determining factor for your future?

## **DAY TWO... and ALL FILM VIEWING DAYS**

While viewing the film:

- Take DAILY notes on your impressions of the film. **Date each page and note where the film ended that day.**
- Pay particular attention to the following:
  - Ana’s view of life vs. Jimmy’s view of life
  - Anna’s relationship with her Mother
  - Anna’s relationship with her Sister
  - Anna’s relationship with her father and grandfather
- Be sure to keep notes on particular comments that are telling, funny, or interesting to you.
- Pay attention to cultural ideas of family, roles, expectations, relationships, etc.
- Write down things that strike you as different or similar to your family/culture.



## **TAREA FOR FILM NIGHTS**

*Assignment for each night of the film viewing:*

Write a 2-3 paragraph reflective personal response to the film that you have seen. Comment on the notes that you have taken and your thoughts or impressions of the cultural relationships and character development that you have seen.

## **FINAL WRITTEN RESPONSE**

- **1 (minimum) to 2 pages (maximum) single-spaced typed, font size 12 (Times New Roman), one inch margins.**

In the film, Anna is required to write a personal statement for her college application. **For this response, you are to take on the voice of Anna. Write from her perspective, with her experiences (as viewed in the film), and write Anna’s personal response to this college application question.**

*Reflect upon your family and how it has affected who you have become. Focus on the details of one or two members of your family-their appearance, their habits, their activities, and their interactions with you. Think of stories that encapsulate these relationships. Explore your family’s cultural heritage, traditions, work/educational expectations and attitudes, religion, passions, etc. Bring the people you depict to life-give them color, personality, and a voice. Provide anecdotes about these family members or other important people in your life.*