

Name:

## Day One

# A Green Card and a New Life

### Part 1: Silent read

→ How can a piece of paper change your life? Read silently.

Thirteen-year-old Manuel lives in New York with his dad. His young life started out very differently.

Manuel grew up in Panama with his mother and his grandparents. Panama is a small country in Central America. Manuel always disliked homework but loved soccer and math. He sometimes asked about his father, but the questions went unanswered.

When Manuel was 8, his world changed. His mother died in a car accident. His grandparents lost their business. They were unable to care for Manuel.

Manuel's grandparents found his father in America. When he heard of the family's troubles, he asked Manuel to come live with him. He applied for a green card for Manuel.

"What is a green card?" Manuel wondered. A green card allows a person to become a permanent U.S. resident. Different from nonresidents, Manuel could stay in the U.S. forever. When Manuel was old enough, he could get a part-time job, a driver's license, and money for college. If he wanted to, he could become a U.S. citizen.

Months dragged by as Manuel waited in Panama for his green card. Still, he knew he was lucky. His dad was a U.S. citizen, so Manuel's application went to the front of the line. He would get his green card ahead of people who had been waiting for many years.

When the envelope came in the mail, Manuel was both happy and sad. He would miss his grandparents and his home. But the green card was a ticket to a new life.

Source: Amrhein, S. (2011). *Green card stories*. Brooklyn, New York: Umbrage Editions.



# Day One

// one minute

## A Green Card and a New Life

### Part 2: First timed read

WPM \_\_\_\_\_

Thirteen-year-old Manuel lives in New York with his dad. His young life started out very differently.

Manuel grew up in Panama with his mother and his grandparents. Panama is a small country in Central America. Manuel always disliked homework but loved soccer and math. He sometimes asked about his father, but the questions went unanswered. 57

When Manuel was 8, his world changed. His mother died in a car accident. His grandparents lost their business. They were unable to care for Manuel. 72  
83

Manuel's grandparents found his father in America. When he heard of the family's troubles, he asked Manuel to come live with him. He applied for a green card for Manuel. 96  
112  
113

"What is a green card?" Manuel wondered. A green card allows a person to become a permanent U.S. resident. Different from nonresidents, Manuel could stay in the U.S. forever. When Manuel was old enough, he could get a part-time job, a driver's license, and money for college. If he wanted to, he could become a U.S. citizen. 129  
141  
157  
171

Months dragged by as Manuel waited in Panama for his green card. Still, he knew he was lucky. His dad was a U.S. citizen, so Manuel's application went to the front of the line. He would get his green card ahead of people who had been waiting for many years. 187  
204  
220  
221

When the envelope came in the mail, Manuel was both happy and sad. He would miss his grandparents and his home. But the green card was a ticket to a new life. 237  
253

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### Part 3: Comprehension and discussion

Why did Manuel need a green card?

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Why did Manuel's application go to the front of the line?

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## Day One

# A Green Card and a New Life

### Part 4: Phrase-cued reading

- Read the passage **out loud** in phrases to your partner.
- Pause at each / mark for a phrase.
- Also pause at each // mark that shows the end of a sentence.

Thirteen-year-old Manuel / lives in New York with his dad. // His young life started out / very differently. //

Manuel grew up in Panama / with his mother and his grandparents. // Panama is a small country / in Central America. // Manuel always disliked homework / but loved soccer and math. // He sometimes asked about his father, / but the questions went unanswered. //

When Manuel was 8, / his world changed. // His mother died in a car accident. // His grandparents lost their business. // They were unable to care for Manuel. //

Manuel's grandparents found his father / in America. // When he heard of the family's troubles, / he asked Manuel to come live with him. // He applied for a green card / for Manuel. //

"What is a green card?" / Manuel wondered. // A green card allows a person / to become a permanent U.S. resident. // Different from nonresidents, / Manuel could stay in the U.S. forever. // When Manuel was old enough, / he could get a part-time job, / a driver's license, / and money for college. // If he wanted to, / he could become a U.S. citizen. //

Months dragged by / as Manuel waited in Panama for his green card. // Still, / he knew he was lucky. // His dad was a U.S. citizen, / so Manuel's application went to the front of the line. // He would get his green card / ahead of people who had been waiting / for many years. //

When the envelope came in the mail, / Manuel was both happy and sad. // He would miss his grandparents / and his home. // But the green card was a ticket / to a new life. //

I read the passage in phrases out loud to my partner.