***Worksheet 7: Separate is Unequal***

Student 1:

Student 2:

1. Think about the young boy yelling, “Go back to the Mexican school! You don’t belong here!” How do you think he felt when he yelled this? How do you think Sylvia felt hearing this? How do you think the other students in the hallway felt as they watched and listened to this interaction? (p. 2-3)
2. What does Sylvia realize when she compares her and her brothers to their cousins? How are they different? How do you think this makes Sylvia feel? How would you feel if you were in Sylvia’s place?
3. On pages 14 and 15 the illustrations and text describe the Mexican school. Compare and contrast the Mexican school with the Westminster school on 17th Street (p. 7). How are the two schools different? Which school would you want to attend? Do you think that it is fair that certain children are forced to attend the Mexican school?
4. On page 16 Mr. Mendez says, “It’s not fair that our kids have to go to an inferior school.” Based on your comparison of the two elementary schools in the question above, what does the word inferior mean?
5. How will attending the Mexican school affect the children’s future? Will they be prepared to go to high school and college? If they aren’t prepared to be successful in high school or college, how will this affect the jobs that they can get?
6. If you were a Mexican, how would you feel reading the sign “No Dogs or Mexicans Allowed”?
7. During the trial Mr. Mendez finally gets an answer to why his children can’t attend the Westminster school. What is the reason? If you were a Mexican family, how would this make you feel?
8. Why is it important to integrate all American schools?