Mexican Music: Three Fun Songs For Children*

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Abstract

Some traditional songs from Mexico that should appeal to young children of all cultures.

Children love to sing silly songs. Here are three traditional songs from Mexico with catchy tunes and silly lyrics that should appeal to young children. All three songs appear in Florence Botsford's 1922 book *Folk Songs of Many Peoples* (Volume 2), and so are considered to be in the public domain in the U.S.

Suggested Uses

- Perform at a concert featuring songs from around the world
- Learn in music class for fun
- Include in a social studies unit on Mexico

Performance Notes

- If you can't read music, listen to the music files provided to learn the tunes.
- PDF files of the music are provided below. Those will probably give you the best printed copies of the music, but if you cannot download them, there are figures at the end of this module that you can print copies of.
- You can sing either Spanish or English lyrics, or both.
- I had to guess on the placement of the Spanish lyrics, as they were not in the score in Ms. Botsford's book. Some had to be squeezed in, eliding the vowels as is sometimes done when Spanish is sung, and I know some of the resulting accents (in the lyrics) are off. I would welcome suggestions for improvements from someone more familiar with Spanish, particularly if you have actually sung any of these songs.
- A "close enough" pronunciation guide for English speakers who don't know how to pronounce Spanish: "a" as in "hall", "e" as in "let", "i" as in "machine", "o" as in "hope", "u" as in "rule", "qu" sounds like "k", "j" sounds like "h", and "c" sounds like "s" if it's followed by an "e" or an "i".

PDF files

- Poll Parrot, page 1[1]
- Poll Parrot, page 2[2]

*Version 1.4: Mar 11, 2011 9:17 pm +0000

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[1]See the file at <http://cnx.org/content/m12599/latest/PollParrot.pdf>

[2]See the file at <http://cnx.org/content/m12599/latest/PollParrot2.pdf>

- To Jerez We Will Go, page 1[3]
- To Jerez We Will Go, page 2[4]
- The Gruel, page 1[5]
- The Gruel, page 2[6]

Listen to the music

- The Poll Parrot[7]
- To Jerez We Will Go[8]
- The Gruel[9]

[3] See the file at <http://cnx.org/content/m12599/latest/ToJerez1.pdf>
[4] See the file at <http://cnx.org/content/m12599/latest/ToJerez2.pdf>
[5] See the file at <http://cnx.org/content/m12599/latest/Gruel.pdf>
[6] See the file at <http://cnx.org/content/m12599/latest/Gruel2.pdf>
[7] See the file at <http://cnx.org/content/m12599/latest/PollParrot.MID>
[8] See the file at <http://cnx.org/content/m12599/latest/Jerez.MID>
[9] See the file at <http://cnx.org/content/m12599/latest/Gruel.MID>

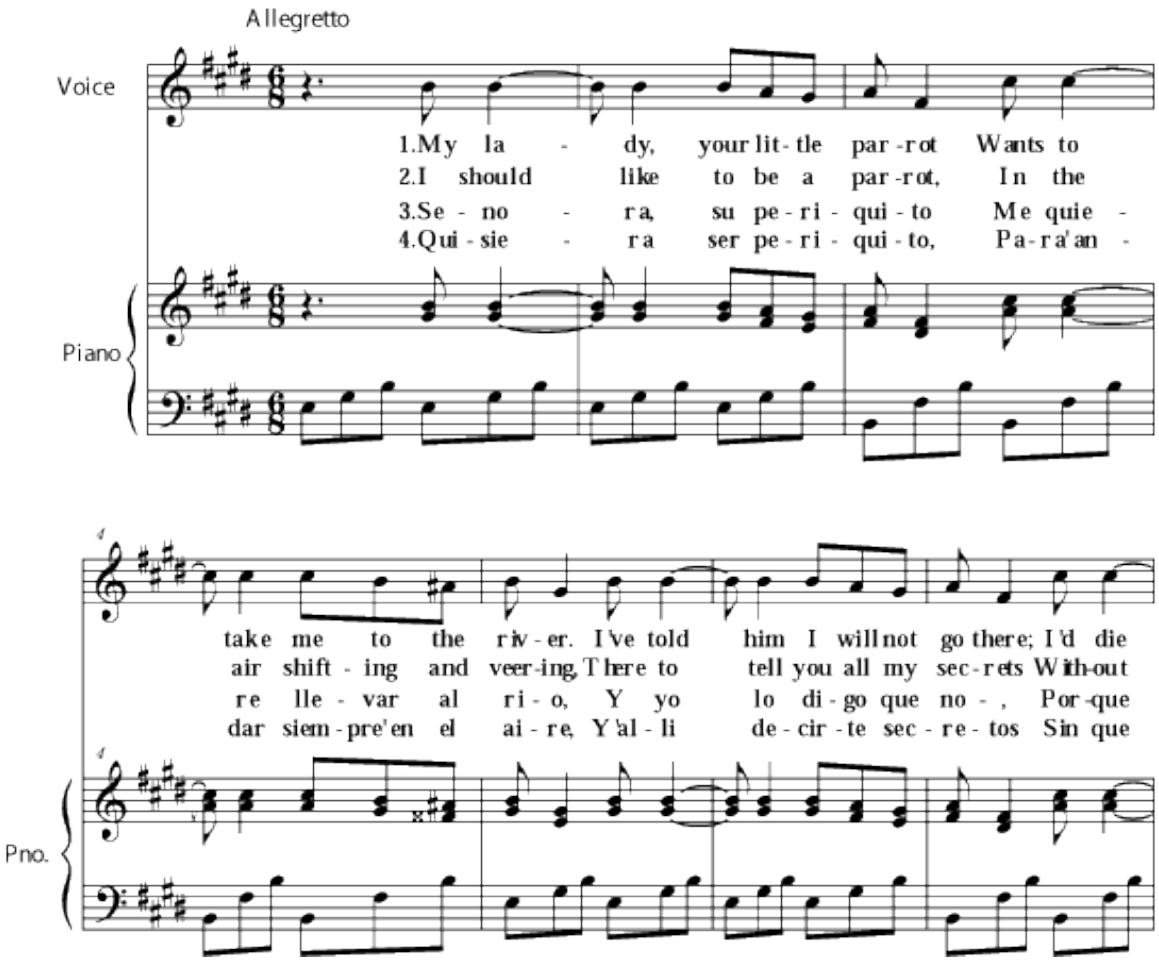
The Poll-Parrot
Traditional Mexican
Allegretto
Voice
1.My la - dy, your lit-tle par-rot Wants to
2.I should like to be a par-rot, In the
3.Se - no - ra, su pe-ri - qui-to Me quie -
4.Qui-sie - ra ser pe-ri - qui-to, Pa-ra'an -
Piano
take me to the riv-er. I've told him I will not go there; I'd die
air shift - ing and veer-ing, There to tell you all my sec-rets With-out
re lle - var al ri-o, Y yo lo di-go que no -, Por-que
dar siem-pre'en el ai-re, Y'al-li de-cir-te sec-re-tos Sin que
Pno.

Figure 1

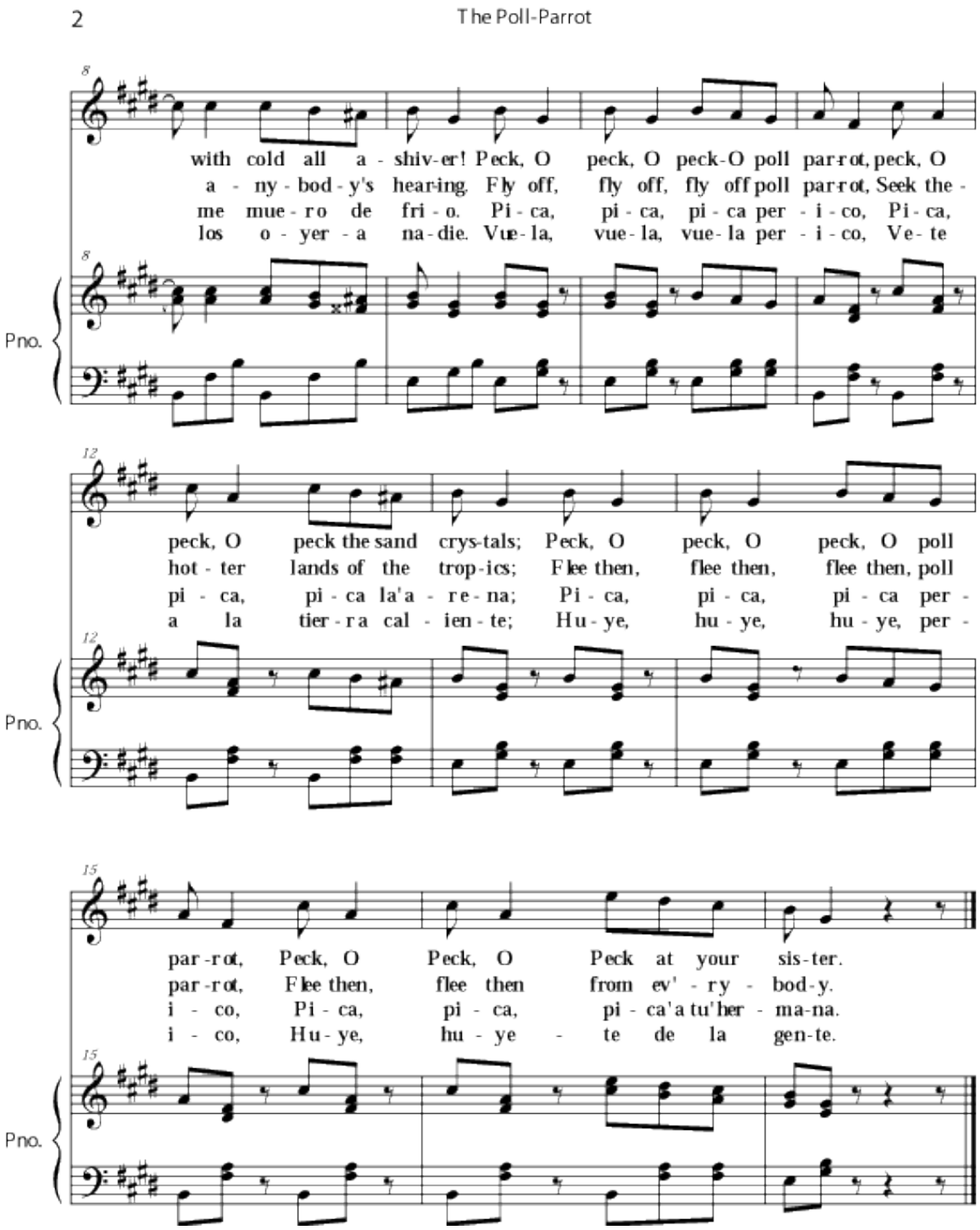
2
The Poll-Parrot
with cold all a - shiv-er! Peck, O peck, O peck-O poll par-rot, peck, O
a - ny - bod - y's hear-ing. Fly off, fly off, fly off poll par-rot, Seek the -
me mue - ro de fri - o. Pi - ca, pi - ca, pi - ca per - i - co, Pi - ca,
los o - yer - a na - die. Vue - la, vue - la, vue - la per - i - co, Ve - te
Pno.
peck, O peck the sand crys-tals; Peck, O peck, O peck, O poll
hot - ter lands of the trop - ics; Flee then, flee then, flee then, poll
pi - ca, pi - ca la'a - re - na; Pi - ca, pi - ca, pi - ca per -
a la tier - ra cal - ien - te; Hu - ye, hu - ye, hu - ye, per -
Pno.
par - rot, Peck, O Peck, O Peck at your sis - ter.
par - rot, Flee then, flee then from ev' - ry - bod - y.
i - co, Pi - ca, pi - ca, pi - ca'a tu'her - ma-na.
i - co, Hu - ye, hu - ye - te de la gen-te.
Pno.

Figure 2

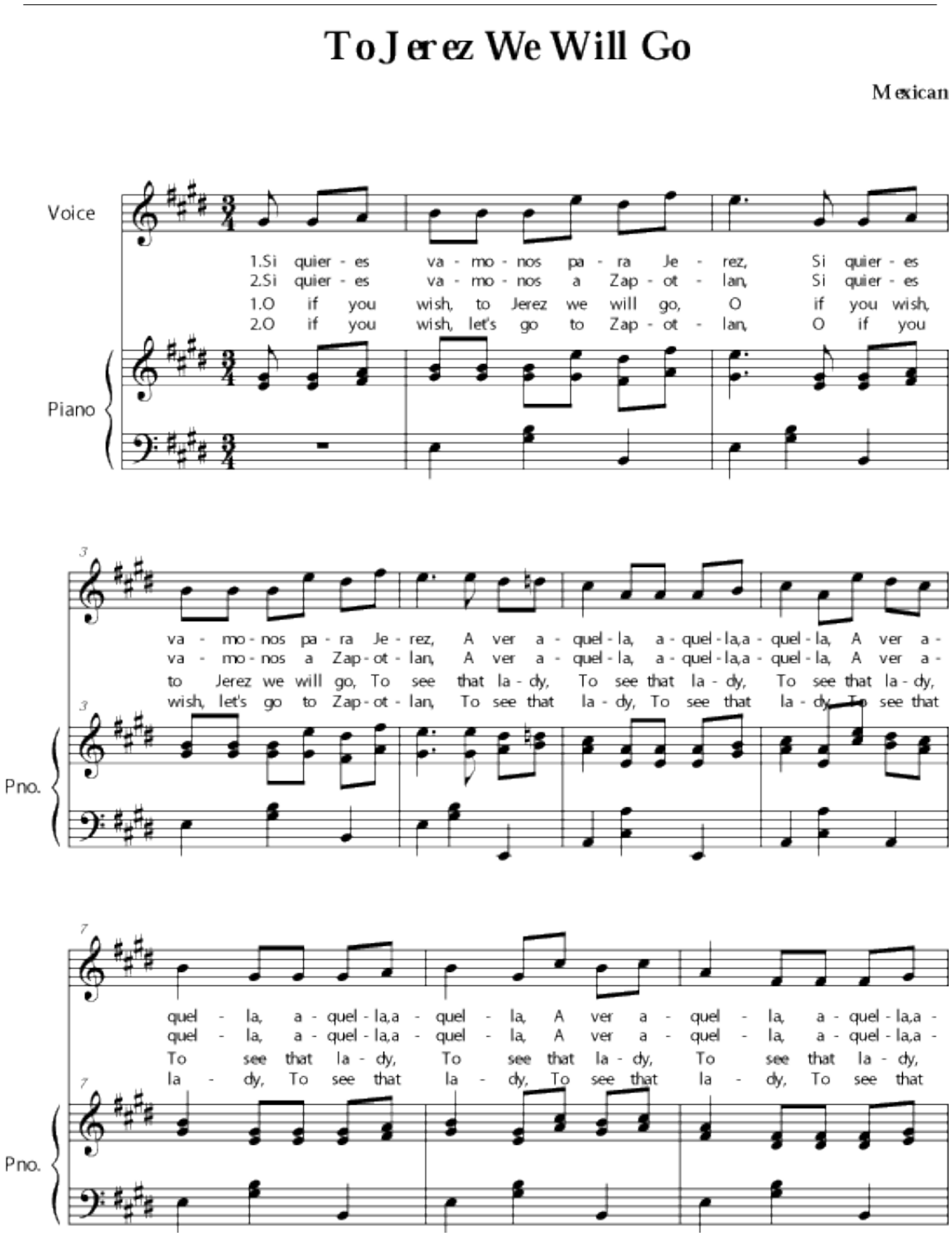
To Jerez We Will Go
Mexican
Voice
Piano
1.Si quier - es va - mo - nos pa - ra Je - rez, Si quier - es
2.Si quier - es va - mo - nos a Zap - ot - lan, Si quier - es
1.O if you wish, to Jerez we will go, O if you wish,
2.O if you wish, let's go to Zap - ot - lan, O if you
va - mo - nos pa - ra Je - rez, A ver a - quel - la, a - quel - la,a - quel - la, A ver a -
va - mo - nos a Zap - ot - lan, A ver a - quel - la, a - quel - la,a - quel - la, A ver a -
to Jerez we will go, To see that la - dy, To see that la - dy, To see that la - dy,
wish, let's go to Zap - ot - lan, To see that la - dy, To see that la - dy, To see that
Pno.
quel - la, a - quel - la,a - quel - la, A ver a - quel - la, a - quel - la,a -
quel - la, a - quel - la,a - quel - la, A ver a - quel - la, a - quel - la,a -
To see that la - dy, To see that la - dy, To see that la - dy,
la - dy, To see that la - dy, To see that la - dy, To see that
Pno.

Figure 3

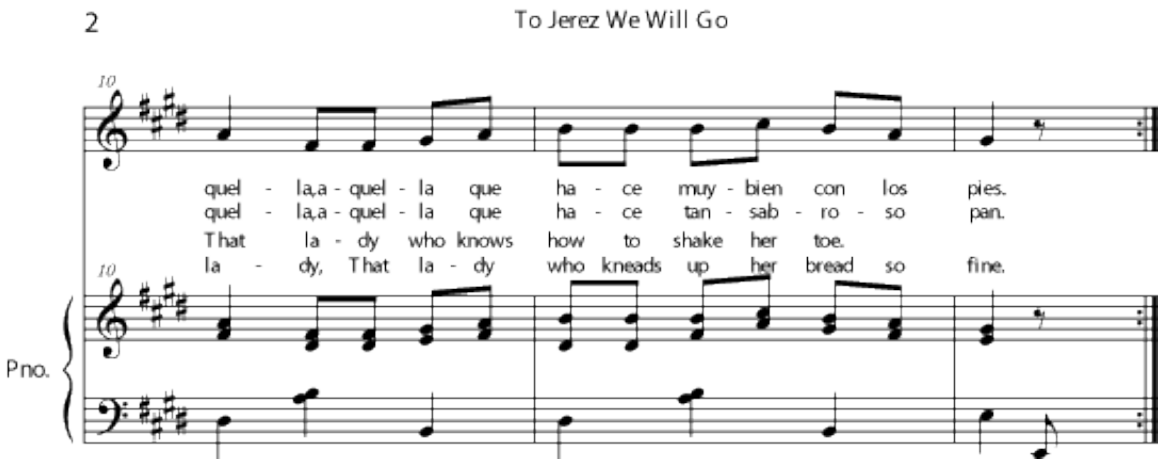
2
To Jerez We Will Go
10
quel - la,a - quel - la que ha - ce muy - bien con los pies.
quel - la,a - quel - la que ha - ce tan - sab - ro - so pan.
That la - dy who knows how to shake her toe.
la - dy, That la - dy who kneads up her bread so fine.
10
Pno.

Figure 4

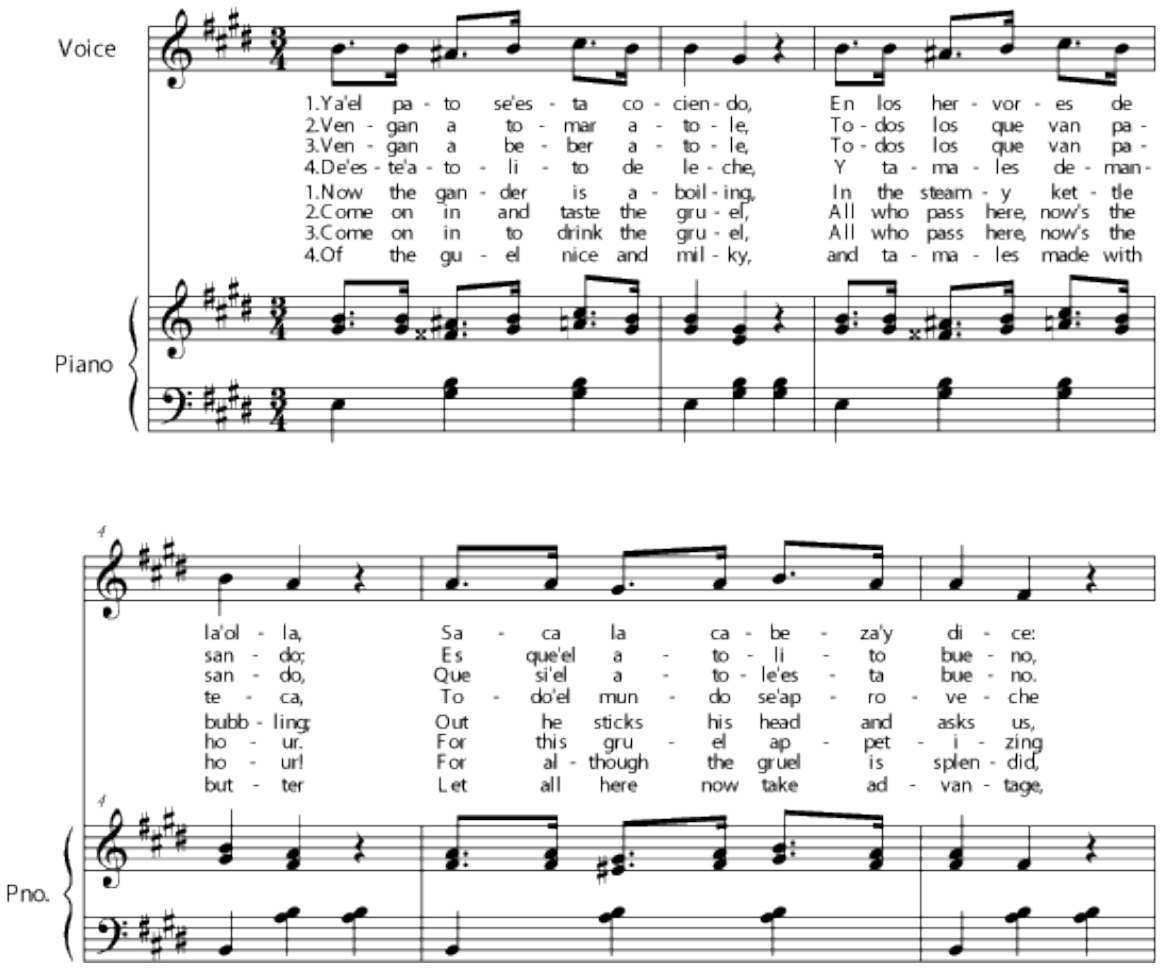
The Gruel
Traditional Mexican
Voice
1.Ya'el pa - to se'es - ta co - cien - do, En los her - vor - es de
2.Ven - gan a to - mar a - to - le, To - dos los que van pa -
3.Ven - gan a be - ber a - to - le, To - dos los que van pa -
4.De'es - te'a - to - li - to de le - che, Y ta - ma - les de - man -
1.Now the gan - der is a - boil - ing, In the steam - y ket - tle
2.Come on in and taste the gru - el, All who pass here, now's the
3.Come on in to drink the gru - el, All who pass here, now's the
4.Of the gu - el nice and mil - ky, and ta - ma - les made with
Piano
la'ol - la, Sa - ca la ca - be - za'y di - ce:
san - do; Es que'el a - to - li - to bue - no,
san - do, Que si'el a - to - le'es - ta bue - no.
te - ca, To - do'el mun - do se'ap - ro - ve - che
bubb - ling; Out he sticks his head and asks us,
ho - ur. For this gru - el ap - pet - i - zing
ho - ur! For al - though the gruel is splen - did,
but - ter Let all here now take ad - van - tage,
Pno.

Figure 5

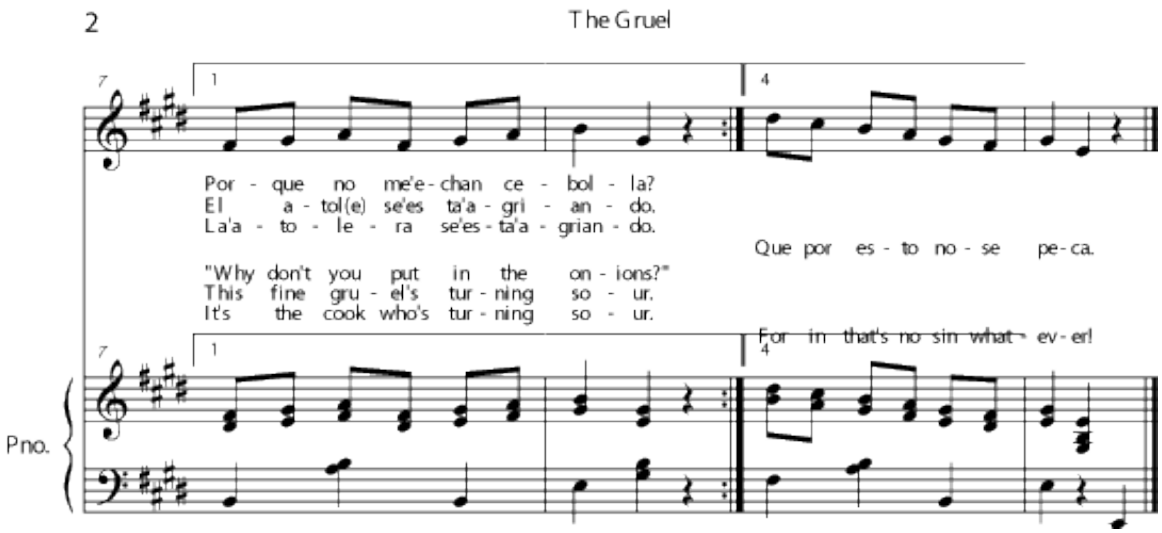

Figure 6

NOTE: Thanks to everyone who participated in the survey! It was very useful to me, both as a researcher and as an author, to get a better picture of my readers' goals and needs. I hope to begin updating the survey results module[10] in April. I will also soon begin making some of the suggested additions, and emailed comments are still welcome as always.

[10] "A Survey of Users of Connexions Music Modules" <http://cnx.org/content/m34234/latest/>