

The House on Mango Street

by Sandra Cisneros

The reading schedule for the novel is outlined below. Note-taking information is attached. Annotation is strongly recommended. You should always be prepared for a reading quiz.

Assignment

Due Date

Sections 1 & 2

Monday 10/2 (A)

Tuesday 10/3 (B)

Sections 3, 4, 5

Wednesday 10/11 (A)

Thursday 10/12 (B)

Sections 6, 7, 8

Wednesday 10/18 (A)

Thursday 10/19 (B)

TEST

Wednesday 10/25

The House on Mango Street

Narrator and Setting

The House on Mango Street is a novel in vignettes, told in the first person by a 12-year-old Latina girl named Esperanza. It is set in Chicago in the early 1960s.

Essential Questions

Why do we tell stories?

What shapes personal identity?

Is a home always a house? Is a house always a home?

What are the sources, symptoms, consequences and cures of prejudice?

Themes in the Novel

Identity

Home

Growing Up

Prejudice

Female Oppression (what is *oppression*? look it up)

The Hero's Journey (less prominently)

Motifs in the Novel

Windows

Sky

Shoes

Shame

Beauty

Fantasy vs. Reality

The Reading Chart

This chart and accompanying notes will be collected and graded for completion, accuracy, selection of evidence, and quality of observations.

IF A VIGNETTE IN THE BOOK IS NOT LISTED ON THIS CHART, YOU MAY SKIP READING IT.

Section One - pages 3-11 Self-Definition and Identity

Vignette Write a one-sentence summary of what happens in the vignette.	Patterns What patterns do you see? What is presented here that has shown up before?	Key Quotes & Page #s -may be related to a motif -may reveal character -may be a poignant image -may develop a theme	Other Details or Events You Noticed or Want to Comment On - For ideas, have a look at your yellow bookmark.
"The House on Mango Street"			
"Hairs"			
"Boys and Girls"			
"My Name"			

Section Two - pages 12-20
Friendship, Neighborhood, Home

What happens?	Motifs	Quotes & Page #s	What You Noticed
"Cathy Queen of Cats"			
"Our Good Day"			
"Laughter"			
"Gil's Furniture Bought and Sold"			

Section Three - pages 26-34
Freedom and Entrapment

What happens?	Motifs	Quotes & Page #s	What You Noticed
"Marin"			
"Those Who Don't"			
"There Was an Old Woman..."			
"Alicia Who Sees Mice"			
"Darius and the Clouds"			

Section Four - pages 39-55
Growth and Maturity, Sexuality

What happens?	Motifs	Quotes & Page #s	What You Noticed
"The Family of Little Feet"			
"A Rice Sandwich"			
"Chancas"			
"Hips" (you may skip this)			
"The First Job"			

Section Five - pages 56-66
Visions of the Future

What happens?	Motifs	Quotes & Page #s	What You Noticed
"Papa Who Wakes Up Tired in the Dark" (you may skip this)			
"Born Bad"			
"Elenita, Cards, Palm, Water"			
"Geraldo No Last Name"			

Section Six - pages 72-83
Fitting In

What happens?	Motifs	Quotes & Page #s	What You Noticed
"Sire"			
"Four Skinny Trees"			
"No Speak English"			
"Rafaela Who Drinks Coconut and Pineapple Juice on Tuesdays"			
"Sally"			

You may skip "Edna's Ruthie" and "The Earl of Tennessee."

Section Seven - pages 84-98
Escape and Fall from Innocence

What happens?	Motifs	Quotes & Page #s	What You Noticed
"Minerva Writes Poems"			
"Bums in the Attic"			
"Beautiful and Cruel"			
"A Smart Cookie"			
"What Sally Said"			
"The Monkey Garden"			

Section Eight - Pages 99-110

Finding One's "Home"

What happens?	Motifs	Quotes & Page #s	What You Noticed
"Red Clowns"			
"Linoleum Roses"			
"The Three Sisters"			
"Alicia and I Talking on Edna's Steps"			
"A House of My Own"			
"Mango Says Goodbye Sometimes"			