

Name _____

Period _____

The House on Mango Street

Part One

Comprehension and Analysis

Directions: To help you understand all aspects of the novel, respond to the following questions or statements. Write your responses on a separate piece of paper using complete sentences.

“House on Mango Street”

- 1) Who are the people that live with the narrator?
- 2) Contrast the house on Mango Street with the narrator’s dream house.
- 3) How long do the narrator’s parents plan to live in the house on Mango Street? How does the narrator feel about this?

“Hairs”

- 1) Describe each of the narrator’s family members according to his or her hair.
- 2) How does the narrator feel about her mother? Find evidence to support your decision.

“Boys and Girls”

- 1) According to the narrator, can boys be friends with girls? What experience does she have to support her opinion?
- 2) How does the narrator feel about her sister?
- 3) What does the narrator wish for? Why does she want one?

“My Name”

- 1) What is the narrator’s name and what does it mean?
- 2) Who is she named after? What was that woman like?
- 3) What is a woman’s role in Mexican society, according to the narrator?

“Cathy Queen of Cats”

- 1) Who is Cathy and why is she the queen of cats?
- 2) Why does Cathy’s family have to move soon?
- 3) How do you think Esperanza feels about their reason for moving?

“Our Good Day”

- 1) What does Esperanza get for five dollars?
- 2) How does Cathy react to the purchase? How do you think she feels about Esperanza’s new friendship with Rachel and Lucy?
- 3) What do the girls do with their new purchase on the first day? What do they plan to do with it in the future?
- 4) Why do Rachel and Lucy seem better friends to Esperanza than Cathy does?

“Laughter”

- 1) How are Rachel and Lucy alike? How are Esperanza and Nenny alike?
- 2) What do the houses remind Esperanza of? Who agrees with her?
- 3) What does the incident with the house suggest about Esperanza and Nenny?