

Name _____

Period _____

The House on Mango Street

Part Two

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.

“Gil’s Furniture Bought & Sold”

- 1) Describe the item in the store that fascinates Esperanza.
- 2) Why does Esperanza pretend she does not want it?
- 3) How does Nenny react to the item? What is Esperanza’s opinion of Nenny’s behavior?

“Meme Ortiz”

- 1) How are Meme and his dog alike?
- 2) Was Meme’s house built well? Cite details from the vignette to support your conclusion.
- 3) Why do you think Esperanza thinks the large tree in his backyard is so memorable?

“Louie, His Cousin, & His Other Cousin”

- 1) Who are Louie’s cousins?
- 2) How do you know that the car the other cousin is driving is expensive and luxurious?
- 3) How did Louie’s other cousin get the car? Why did you make that inference?

“Marin”

- 1) What are Marin’s plans for her future?
- 2) What is Marin’s nightly ritual?
- 3) What are three words you or Esperanza might use to describe Marin’s personality?

“Those Who Don’t”

- 1) How do strangers feel in Esperanza’s neighborhood? How is that different from the feelings Esperanza and her neighbors have?
- 2) How do people from Esperanza’s neighborhood behave when they are in a different area of town?

“There Was an Old Woman She Had So Many Children She Didn’t Know What to Do”

- 1) Who is Rosa Vargas? Describe her life.
- 2) What does Esperanza think the Vargas children are missing, aside from their father?
- 3) How do other people in the neighborhood react to the Vargas children?

“Alicia Who Sees Mice”

- 1) What are Alicia’s responsibilities at home? Why?
- 2) What is Alicia afraid of?
- 3) How does Alicia’s father react when she mentions mice? How does he feel about women in general?