

Name _____

Period _____

The House on Mango Street

Part Three

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.

“Darius & the Clouds”

- 1) What does Esperanza think there is a shortage of on Mango Street?
- 2) What does Darius see at the end of the vignette, and where does he see it?
- 3) How are Darius’s comments in this vignette so surprising in comparison to his normal behavior?

“And Some More”

- 1) What starts the disagreement between the girls?
- 2) Is the name-calling serious, meant to hurt each other's feelings, or is it just joking? Explain your opinion.
- 3) How is Nenny’s behavior different from the rest of the girls’? Why do you think that is the case?

“The Family of Little Feet”

- 1) What do the girls get from the family with little feet? How do the girls react to the gifts?
- 2) What discovery do the girls make because of the gifts? Why do you think they just made this discovery now?
- 3) How does the behavior of the boys and men in the neighborhood change?

“A Rice Sandwich”

- 1) Why does Esperanza want to eat in the canteen?
- 2) Which reasons does Esperanza use to convince her mother to write a note for her?
- 3) What was Esperanza’s experience in the canteen?

“Chanclas”

- 1) What did Esperanza’s mother forget? How does she react to this mistake?
- 2) How do Esperanza’s feelings change during her dance with her uncle?
- 3) Who else wants to dance with Esperanza? Why do you think she mentions him watching her dance?

“Hips”

- 1) What are the girls doing in this vignette while they talk about hips?
- 2) Name three things the girls say hips are needed for.
- 3) Contrast Nenny’s comments with the other girls’ comments. Take a guess at Nenny’s age, and explain your guess.

“The First Job”

- 1) Why does Esperanza need to get a job?
- 2) What does Esperanza do at her job?
- 3) List three moments during her first day that are awkward or uncomfortable for Esperanza.