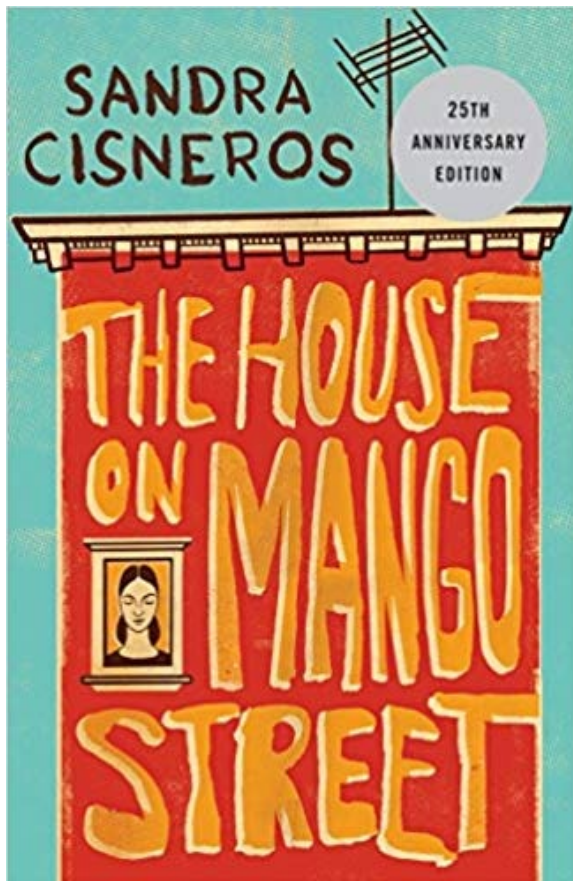


Incoming Eighth Graders Summer Reading - Language Arts/Language Arts PLUS

Welcome to 8th Grade Language Arts! This summer you will be reading, studying, and analyzing Sandra Cisneros' short novel, *The House on Mango Street*. The novel is made up of 44 short character sketches, or stories, called vignettes. Esperanza, a Mexican-American young woman who just moved with her family to Mango Street, narrates them.



As you read the novel, pay attention to the details and descriptions of Esperanza's world and how her surroundings and culture help to shape her identity. When you return to school in September, these themes in the book will be crucial for our first unit of study. It is important that you have read the book and have prepared yourself in order to be successful in the first weeks of language arts class.

There is no formal written assignment for students in Language Arts 8. Students in Language Art 8 PLUS should complete the assignment explained on the next page. This assignment will be collected on the first day of class in September

We hope that you enjoy the book and have a great summer. We can't wait to start teaching you in the fall!

Sincerely,

Your 8th Grade LA Teachers

Ms. Monica Mancini

Mr. Trey Reynolds

Ms. Lauren Wiseley

Assignment for Language Arts 8 PLUS students

Double Entry Journal for *The House on Mango Street*

Directions: As you read through the novel, take double entry journal notes on how Esperanza’s interactions with other characters influence her and how she feels about herself. You are required to complete a total of six examples. Be sure to include vignettes from the beginning, middle, and end of the novel. An example has been provided for you below.

Page #	Vignette Name	Direct evidence of an interaction with another character	How does this interaction affect Esperanza’s thoughts about herself, her identify, and/or her culture?
5	The House on Mango Street	“You live <i>there</i> ? The way she said it made me feel like nothing. <i>There</i> . I lived <i>there</i> . I nodded.”	This comment from the nun makes Esperanza feel like where she lives is unacceptable. Esperanza feels like her house isn’t a home and is ashamed of where she lives. She longs for a house that she has pictured in her head as being a “perfect” home.
