

Period _____

Name _____

Instructions: Please read the following questions carefully, and **choose one**. Use this sheet to make notes and to organize your essay. This essay is due at the end of the period and needs to be saved as your first and last name in (teacher share-Bigelow-your class period- House on Mango folder). This essay is worth 20 points. You may use any lecture notes, your evidence journal, the book, and your reference manual. Please format your paper using the model on page 47-55 of the reference manual.

1. Obstacles in the lives of fictional characters often serve as a tool by which authors present statements about life and human nature. Select a specific character from Sandra Cisneros' book *The House on Mango Street* and in a well-organized essay analyze how that character's response to challenges is represented and why that response is significant to the work (meaning what is Cisneros teaching through that response). Avoid merely summarizing the plot of the book.
2. Most authors have their characters change or grow over the course of a novel. A character's development usually highlights important themes. Using specific evidence from the novel analyze how the changes in Esperanza are represented over the course of the book and why those changes are significant (meaning what is Cisneros teaching through those changes).

Note: Use all of the organizing and essay writing skills that you have learned. Start with a crystal clear claim/thesis. Make every paragraph count. You will be graded on how well you organize and write the essay and how well you demonstrate mastery of the book by citing evidence from throughout the book.