

Western School of Technology and Environmental Science
First Quarter Reading Assignment for English 9
Standard and Honors 2018-2019

First Quarter Reading Assignment Checklist

- Read *House on Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros.
- As you read, complete 15 dialectical journal entries that demonstrate your personal connection to the text.
- After you read, complete a SOAPStone Analysis.
- When your assignment is due, you will have an in-class assessment that tests your familiarity of the novel.

Description of Text

The House on Mango Streets by Sandra Cisneros is the remarkable story of Esperanza Cordero. Told in a series of vignettes - sometimes heartbreaking, sometimes deeply joyous - it is the story of a young Latina girl growing up in Chicago, inventing for herself who and what she will become.

Accessing Texts

Student may purchase a personal copy of the book if they choose, receive a copy at Western Tech, or borrow from their public library. All BCPS students now have Baltimore County Public Library Accounts allowing them to check out five print or audio books without late fees and unlimited digital resources. Students use their BCPS One card or student identification number to access the resources in person at all [county library branches](#), and use their student identification number for access through the [BCPL website](#).

Dialectical Journals

Directions: A **dialectical journal** is used to arrive at the “truth” of a written work through a written response to quotations from that work. As you complete your assigned reading, choose passages that stand out to you, record them, and evaluate each with your ideas, insights, questions, reflections, and/or comments. Record your responses in a T-chart as in the example provided below.

What do I record?

Quotation (page #) Sentence, line, phrase, or paraphrase that:	Reaction / Response Explanation of why you chose the quotation/passage
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May remind you of something; make you think or question • May reveal insight about theme, character development, etc. • May be an example of pleasing or disturbing writing style 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making a Connection: to personal experiences, life, other literature, etc. • Question/Prediction: Ask questions while you read and make predictions. • Interpret/Evaluate: Determine the meaning of what you’ve read; Form opinions both while you’re reading and after you’ve finished. Develop your own judgments about the characters and your own ideas about events. • Extend the Meaning: What does the quote say about all people and humanity? • Challenging the Text: Form questions about the validity of implied/explicit connections or claims, reliability of narrator, development of plot, character, style, etc.

SOAPSTone Analysis

Directions: After you finish reading *House on Mango Street*, complete a SOAPSTone organizer to analyze the text. In your response, you should write between 2-5 sentences for each aspect of SOAPSTone, and **utilize textual support** in your responses.

Acronym Meaning	Explanation of Task
<u>S</u>ubject	What is the context of the text? State the subject in a statement.
<u>O</u>ccasion	Occasion: What has prompted the novel, book, or play to be written? There are two occasions: the <i>larger occasion</i> , which is the broad issue or topic which has inspired the text, and there is the <i>immediate occasion</i> , which is the moment in time or culture in which the author is focused.
<u>A</u>udience	Audience: Toward whom is the text directed? Who is the assumed audience and what are the characteristics of that audience? How do you know?
<u>P</u>urpose	Purpose: What is the author's purpose for writing the text? Does the author have more than one purpose? Why type of reaction is the author trying to evoke from the audience and how does the author try to accomplish that? What is the intended effect of the article?
<u>S</u>peaker	Speaker: Who is the speaker? Are there assumptions you can safely make about the speaker? Be careful – the speaker and the author are not always the same. What is the point of view of the text? Does the speaker display any bias?
<u>T</u>one:	What is the author's attitude toward the subject? How has the author used syntax and diction to display that tone? Where is the tone the strongest?