

General Literature Summer Reading Assignment—2010

Dear incoming 9th graders,

Welcome to General Literature! Ms. Kempe and Ms. Jones are really excited about working with you next year. We're looking forward to a fun year of reading, writing, and learning! To keep your brains in gear over the summer, there is a summer reading assignment:

- ❖ **Read *The House on Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros** (you need to provide your own copy).
- ❖ **Complete two assignments over the summer.**

Illustrated Map: As you read the book, keep track of the characters and the neighborhood of Mango Street. Then complete an illustrated map of the book. To do so, draw a bird's-eye-view map of the neighborhood. Label the homes of at least 5 characters from the book. Also label any 3 other sights from the book. For each labeled place, include a simple symbol or illustration that shows the viewer the importance of that house or sight. Then, on the back of the map include a brief explanation of how you picked the sights you did and how you organized your map. Your map should be neat, organized, and creative. Your written explanation should be thoughtful and well-written. Think about the 6 traits of writing. *Note* There is no exact answer for how the buildings on Mango Street are laid out! Use your imagination as you organize your map!

Object Exchange Writing: In order to prepare for an object exchange on the first day of class, please write the story of an object that's been important in your life. You should explain how you came to possess this object, why it is important to you, and you should reflect upon what this object might say about you to others. Your writing should be a minimum of two pages (maximum four pages) in length and you will need to bring your object or a picture of it to class with you on the first full day of school. *Note* There is no good or bad object choice! Your teachers are interested in knowing what you consider important in your lives rather than in what other people suggest should be important. We expect you to complete this assignment on your own, not with your hagwon tutor.

Both of these assignments will be collected on the first full day of school (August 10th)

Be prepared to continue working with the novel when you return to school in August.

Assignments may include an exam, writing assignments, etc.

This contemporary classic book about Esperanza Cordero, a young Hispanic girl growing up in Chicago, is fun and enjoyable to read. Read the book, not Sparknotes or some other source. Reading other sources will not prepare you for the summer reading assignments or the assignments you will receive when you return to school. Do not start out your high school career with your grade in the hole because you chose not to read the book.

We hope you have a wonderful summer and a great time reading. See you in August!

Ms. Kempe and Ms. Jones

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Illustrated Map

COMPONENT	SCORE				
Includes the homes of 5 characters and 3 other sights	5	4	3	2	1
Includes symbols for each event that shows the importance of that house or sight	5	4	3	2	1
Includes brief explanation of how you picked the sights you did and how you organized your map.	5	4	3	2	1
Looks organized, carefully thought out, and creatively presented	5	4	3	2	1
TOTAL	_____/20 points				

Object Exchange Writing

COMPONENT	SCORE				
Explanation of what your object is and where it came from.	5	4	3	2	1
Explanation of why this object has continued to be important in your life.	5	4	3	2	1
Reflection on what this object may say about you to others.	5	4	3	2	1
Organization, conventions, and formatting of writing.	5	4	3	2	1
TOTAL	_____/20 points				