

**WHS Book Rationale****Title:** The House on Mango Street**Author:** Sandra Cisneros

- **Intended Audience**

English 10 and English 10 Honors

- **Brief summary and educational significance**

Told in a series of vignettes this story follows the coming of age of Esperanza, who describes her home, her neighborhood, and the family and friends who surround her. This story explores the struggle of adolescence and the experiences of women in Latin American immigrant culture.

- **Purpose of teaching the work and how it will be used**

- Vignette style is a new structure for students—serves as a model text for writing
- Varied sentence structure, showing not telling, imagery, and symbolism, and voice
- As a text for a world literature course this is an example of the immigrant experience in the United States
- Personal voice and sense of identity

- **Potential problems**

- Domestic violence
- Sexual content
- Depiction of Latin American culture (patriarchy)
- The vignette style is sometimes difficult for students

- **Addressing potential problems**

- Allowing class time for discussion
- Use of the text as model for writing helps students understand the form
- Use of interviews and authorial explanation of texts