

How to print this booklet

Open the PDF, choose Print, and set these:

Paper size	US Letter (8.5 × 11 in)
Orientation	Landscape
Print on both sides	On (two-sided / duplex)
Flip on	Short edge
Scale	100% / Actual size — not “Fit to page”
Pages	All

THEN

1. Take the whole stack out of the printer. Keep the sheets in order.
2. Fold the stack in half, so this page is on the outside.
3. Staple twice along the fold.



Make another at didtheyreallyread.com

Reading Journal

My thoughts, chapter by chapter

Reader:

Book Title:

The House on Mango Street

Author:

Sandra Cisneros

Date Started:

Date Finished:

Keep reading. Keep wondering.
Created by didtheyreallyread.com

How to Answer

Your answer does not have to be perfect. Just answer in complete thoughts and use details from the chapter.

How to structure your answer

A strong answer usually has a few parts. Try these steps:

1. **Answer the question.** Start with one sentence that answers the question directly.
2. **Give an example.** Add a detail or moment from the chapter that shows what you mean.
3. **Explain why.** Tell why it mattered, or how it made you think or feel.
4. **Wrap it up.** Finish with a closing thought, a question, or a prediction.

Why does Esperanza compare herself to the four skinny trees, and what strength does she see in them?

Example answer: I think Esperanza compares herself to the four skinny trees because they are stuck in a hard place, just like she feels stuck on Mango Street. The trees do not have much room or good soil, but they keep growing anyway. Esperanza sees that they are strong because they do not give up. This helps her believe she can be strong too.

Chapter 44

At the end of the book, how has Esperanza’s understanding of Mango Street changed, and what does she promise to do?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 43

What kind of house does Esperanza dream of having, and why is it so important to her?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

How to Answer (continued)

What lesson does Esperanza’s mother share in “A Smart Cookie,” and how might it guide Esperanza’s choices?

Example answer: Esperanza’s mother tells her that she could have done more with her life if she had kept learning and believed in herself. I think she wants Esperanza to use her chances and not quit. This lesson might help Esperanza work hard in school and follow her dreams. It also shows that her mother wants a better future for her.

At the end of the book, how has Esperanza’s understanding of Mango Street changed, and what does she promise to do?

Example answer: At the end, Esperanza still wants to leave Mango Street, but she understands that it helped make her who she is. She knows she cannot forget the people who live there. She promises that if she leaves, she will come back for the ones who cannot leave. I think this shows she is growing up and thinking about others, not just herself.

Chapter 1

How does Esperanza feel about the house on Mango Street, and what does she wish for instead?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 42

What does Alicia mean when she says Mango Street is part of Esperanza, and how does Esperanza respond?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 41

What advice do the three sisters give Esperanza, and why is it important for her future?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 2

In “Hairs,” what do the different descriptions of hair show about Esperanza’s family?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 3

Why does Esperanza think boys and girls live in separate worlds, and how does this affect her friendships?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 40

What do the “linoleum roses” suggest about Sally’s new married life, and why might Esperanza see it as disappointing?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 39

How does Esperanza feel in “Red Clowns,” and why is it important that she tells the truth about her feelings?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 4

What does Esperanza’s name mean to her, and why might she want to change it?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 5

What do we learn about Cathy in this chapter, and why do you think she acts the way she does?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 38

How does the monkey garden change for Esperanza, and what does that change mean to her?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 37

What does the chapter “What Sally Said” reveal about Sally’s life, and how does it help us understand her better?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 6

How does Esperanza’s “good day” with Lucy and Rachel change how she feels about Mango Street?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 7

What does Esperanza notice about her laugh and Nenny’s laugh, and what does this show about sisters?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 36

What lesson does Esperanza’s mother share in “A Smart Cookie,” and how might it guide Esperanza’s choices?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 35

What does Esperanza mean when she says she has decided not to grow up tame, and what kind of person does she want to become?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 8

What is Gil’s store like, and how does the music box make Esperanza feel?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 9

How is Meme Ortiz’s house different from Esperanza’s house, and what does this tell us about the neighborhood?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 34

Why does Esperanza think about bums in the attic of her future house, and what does this show about her hopes?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 33

What do Esperanza and Minerva have in common, and how do poems help them share their feelings?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 10

What happens with Louie’s cousin, and how do the children react to it?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 11

What does Marin dream about for her future, and what does her dreaming tell us about her character?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 32

How does Esperanza describe Sally, and why do you think Esperanza is drawn to her?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 31

What does Rafaela want when she is locked inside, and how does the chapter show her longing for freedom?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 12

Why do some people feel afraid in Esperanza's neighborhood, and how does Esperanza see things differently?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 13

What challenges does Rosa Vargas face with her children, and how does the neighborhood respond?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 30

How does Mamacita feel about living in a new place, and why is language so important in this chapter?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 29

Why does Esperanza compare herself to the four skinny trees, and what strength does she see in them?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 14

Why does Alicia work so hard at school, and what is she trying to escape or change?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 15

How does Darius surprise Esperanza when he talks about the clouds, and what does this show about him?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 28

How does Esperanza feel about Sire, and what does this chapter show about curiosity and growing up?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 27

What do the children imagine about Earl, and why do you think they make up stories about him?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 16

Why do the children argue about names for snow and clouds, and what does this scene show about their imaginations?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 17

How do the girls feel when they wear the high-heeled shoes, and what lesson do they learn from the experience?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 26

What is Ruthie like, and why might Esperanza feel both interested in her and sorry for her?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 25

Why is Geraldo remembered as “no last name,” and what is the author showing about people who are not well known?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 18

Why does Esperanza want to eat in the canteen at school, and how does she feel when her plan does not work?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 19

What makes the dance in “Chanclas” important for Esperanza, and how do her feelings change during the chapter?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 24

What does Esperanza hope to learn from Elenita, and how does the visit leave her feeling?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 23

Why does Esperanza feel guilty about what happened to Aunt Lupe, and what does this chapter teach about kindness?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 20

What do the girls learn as they talk about hips, and how does Esperanza use words to understand growing up?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 21

How does Esperanza's first job turn out differently than she expected, and what does she learn from it?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 22

How does Esperanza's father act after his father dies, and what new responsibility does Esperanza feel?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?
