Reading Options and Assignment for Regular and Essentials English II  
Summer 2015

Book List for English II
Choose ONE of the following books to read:
The House on Mango Street by Sandra Cisneros
The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian by Sherman Alexie

During the summer, students are expected to complete the reading in addition to the following assignment. As the first day of school is Wednesday, August 13th, next year, it is the expectation that by Monday, August 18th, ALL students should be prepared for the following:
1. Collection of book assignments
2. Test over each book
3. Classroom discussions/activities for each book

If you have questions about any part of the following assignments, please email one of the English II teachers:
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Katie Simon – katie.simon@campbell.kyschools.us

English II Assignment
1) Read ONE of the books listed above.
2) Complete the guided reading questions provided for that book on a separate sheet of paper.

The House on Mango Street Guided Reading Questions
Please answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper. These questions will help prepare you for the book test you will take on Monday, August 18th, 2014.
1. Where did the narrator live before she moved to The House on Mango Street? How were her previous homes different?
2. In what kind of house would she like to live? Does her new home live up to her expectations? Why not?
"Hairs"
3. Who are the members of Esperanza's family?
"My Name"
4. After whom was Esperanza named? What does her namesake's story tell you about the status of women in Mexican society?
"Cathy Queen of Cats"
5. Why is Cathy's family about to move?
"Our Good Day"
6. How does Esperanza make friends with Lucy and Rachel? What makes them better friends than Cathy?
"Marin"
7. Who is Marin? Why is she unable to leave her house? How does she plan to change her situation? Why do Esperanza and her friends admire her?
"Those Who Don't"
8. How do outsiders see Esperanza’s neighborhood? How does Esperanza feel when she visits other neighborhoods?
"There Was an Old Woman She Had So Many Children She Didn't Know What to Do"
9. Why does Rosa Vargas cry every day? Why do her children misbehave? What happens to her son Angel?
"Alicia Who Sees Mice"
10. How does Alicia's father treat her efforts to get an education?
"The Family of Little Feet"
11. What happens to Esperanza when she and her friends are given some cast-off shoes? How do the shoes change them? What effect do they have on the men in the neighborhood?
"A Rice Sandwich"
12. Why does Esperanza want to eat in the school canteen? How does she get her mother to help her?
"Hips"
13. What are the girls doing as they talk about hips? What are hips good for? What does their conversation tell you about their ages?
"The First Job"
14. Why does this story have a misleading title? What happens to Esperanza on her first day at work? What does this episode tell you about her family and their expectations?
"Papa Who Wakes Up Tired in the Dark"
15. Why does Esperanza's father cry? How does his crying make her feel?
"Born Bad"
16. What happens to Aunt Lupe? Why does Esperanza believe she deserves to go to hell? What special relationship did Esperanza have with her aunt?
"Geraldo No Last Name"
17. Why does Geraldo have no last name? From the information Cisneros provides, do you believe that his death was inevitable?
"Sire"
18. Why is Esperanza afraid of Sire? What do her parents think of him? Why is she so curious about what he does with Lois, and why does this curiosity make her feel as though "everything is holding its breath inside me" [73]?
"No Speak English"
19. What eight English words—or, really, phrases—does Mamacita know? What do they tell you about the ways in which Mexican immigrants relate to the "official," English-speaking culture outside their communities?
"Rafaela Who Drinks Coconut & Papaya Juice on Tuesdays"
20. What is making Rafaela grow old? Who was Rapunzel, and why would Rafaela dream of having hair like hers?
"Sally"
21. Describe the relationship between Sally and her father. How do her schoolmates see her? What transformation takes place when Sally comes home?
"Minerva Writes Poems"
22. Why does Minerva write poems? Why is she black and blue when she comes to visit Esperanza?
"Bums in the Attic"
23. What does Esperanza's father do for a living? Why has Esperanza stopped joining her family on their Sunday outings?
"Beautiful & Cruel"
24. What is the nature of Esperanza's "quiet war" [89]? Against whom—or what—is she fighting?
"A Smart Cookie"
25. How would you categorize the things Esperanza's mother knows? What things might she not know that Esperanza does? Why do you think she left school?
"The Monkey Garden"/"Red Clowns"/"Linoleum Roses"
26. How does the Monkey Garden change? What does Sally do that makes Esperanza so angry? From whom is she trying to save her? What eventually happens to Sally? How does Esperanza feel about her marriage?
"The Three Sisters"
27. How does Esperanza meet the three sisters? What kind of future do they predict for her? What is the responsibility they place on her?
"Mango Says Goodbye Sometimes"
28. How does the ending of The House on Mango Street complete a circle?
Study guide Questions for *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*

**Chapter 1**
1. What happened to Junior when he was born and what was the result of this occurrence?
2. Describe Junior’s life.

**Chapter 2**
3. Explain Rowdy’s relationship with Junior.
4. Who is Mr. P and how is he strange?
5. Explain the conversation Mr. P has with Junior?
6. Why is it going to be difficult for Junior to go to Reardan?
7. Why does he decide to do it anyway?

**Chapter 7**
8. How does Rowdy feel about Junior’s decision to leave?

**Chapter 8**
9. What is the irony about Junior attending Reardan?
10. How does Junior react to Roger’s, white boy’s, offensive racist joke? Why is he confused about the outcome of this event? What does he think might happen?

**Chapter 9**
11. Who does Junior see when he arrives at school and what does Junior come to realize?
12. How does this interaction make Junior feel? How does his attitude change when he sees Penelope and explain the analogy Junior makes about a king and queen?

**Chapter 10**
13. Explain the anecdotal story Junior retells about Dawn and what we learn about his friendship with Rowdy from this story.

**Chapter 11**
14. Explain what happens at Halloween between Junior and Penelope.

**Chapter 12**
15. Explain the event that happens in geology class about petrified wood.
16. Explain the development of Junior’s new friendship.

**Chapter 13**
17. What does Mary tell Junior in her email.

**Chapter 14**
18. Explain the irony about Indians celebrating Thanksgiving and tell what Junior’s Dad says about it.

**Chapter 15**
19. Explain the analogy Junior discovers between Penelope and Junior’s dad.
20. How does Junior’s interaction with Penelope affect their friendship and their lives?

**Chapter 16**
21. What two pieces of advice about his love for Penelope does he get from Rowdy and Gordy?

**Chapter 17**
22. Why does Junior feel "half Indian in one place and half white in the other"?

**Chapter 18**
23. What does Junior mean by the term become white? How does Gordy explain community through history?

**Chapter 19**
24. What is going on in Mary’s life.
25. How is the Reardan basketball team treated when they arrive at the Wellpinit High School? How is Junior treated and why?

Chapter 21

26. On page 151 Alexie write, “It was a beautiful and ugly thing” about Junor’s father’s gift. What does this mean?

Chapter 22

27. What is the irony about what happened to Junior’s grandmother?

Chapter 23

28. Who is Ted and how do the Indians feel about him? Explain why he has come to the wake.

Chapter 24

29. Summarize what Junior learns and thinks about the story of Euripides by Medea.

Chapter 25

30. In what ways has Junior become successful?

Chapter 26

31. How does Rowdy’s email response make Junior feel and why? What is the significance of this response?

Chapter 28

32. What does Junior think of his sister when he describes her as “she went searching for her dreams...she didn’t find them, but she made the attempt.” What similarity can be made between Mary’s and Junior’s actions?

Chapter 29

33. Explain the final exchange that transpires between Junior and Rowdy. What lessons do they each learn?