# Mango Street Final Project

You will put together a creative project on one of the grouped vignettes for *The House on Mango Street*. Your project will answer the prompt:

**How does Cisneros use specific word choice and details to develop a theme that is similar throughout the vignettes?** Be sure to use to use evidence from your vignettes.

Due: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Step 1 Double O Text**: Analyze the selected vignettes for THEME. Identify how that theme or author’s message is represented in your six vignettes. Provide textual evidence AND explanation to support this theme on your slide/slides.

**Step 2 Choices**: Choose one of the options below to apply to your vignette selections. Add this step after your Double O Text portion.

1. Graffiti Artist: Visually and artistically depict the major events in **three** vignettes. Each vignette should have at least one image and include textual evidence AND an explanation of how each image related to the theme you chose.
2. Word Guru: Create a dictionary of academic vocabulary from your sections of the novel. At least 6 words should be included for 2 vignettes. You must provide the word, definition, an image to clarify meaning (this may be an internet found image), and use it in a sentence (this should be the sentence from the text).
3. DJ/Musician- Find song lyrics and connect them to major events in your sections of the novel (as if you were creating a sound track for a movie of your vignettes). You must find songs with school-appropriate lyrics and have a version of the song accessible to play in school for the presentation. **You must pick at least 2 songs**. Then provide the following: song titles, artists, and exact lyrics of the song that apply to the them. Also include quotes from the text that apply to the theme and an explanation. You must choose an overarching tone for your assigned chapters and the author’s TONE should be identifiable through the music you choose. You can bring in song clips, make an audio file or use songs from YouTube.

See Examples below….

1. Double O Text

The theme of “My Name” is that language is so powerful that it can even define how we see ourselves. This theme is evident in the author’s mentioning of her name’s various meanings, “It means too many letters. It means sadness, it means waiting. It is like the number nine. A muddy color” (Cisneros 10). The author does not connect with the meaning of her name and really feels like it was not the right name choice for her, “I would baptize myself under a new name, a name more like the real me…Something like ZeZe the X will do.” The name she prefers clearly has more pizzazz than the name she was given which suggests that she identifies herself as strong willed and spicy.

1. Graffiti Artist

“We didn’t always live on Mango Street. Before we lived on Loomis on the third floor, and before that we lived on Keeler. Before Keeler it was Paulina, and before that I can’t remember. But what I remember most was moving a lot”

These are the opening lines of the novel *House on Mango Street.* The narrator, Esperanza, tells the reader immediately that she has moved a lot. So many times she can’t even name all of the streets she has lived on. This image represents all the houses the narrator has lived in. All the buildings are different just like all of the narrator’s apartments and houses. This relates image relates to my theme because what the narrator wants most is to find a HOME not a house. A home is somewhere she can feel safe, comfortable and happy. She can create memories here and is not ashamed to call the dwelling her house. That is not the case with the HOUSE on Mango Street.

3. Word Guru

Horse-

**a.** A large hoofed mammal *(Equus caballus)* having a short-haired coat, a long mane, and a long tail, domesticated since ancient times and used for riding and for drawing or carrying loads.

**b.** An adult male horse; a stallion.

**c.** Any of various equine mammals, such as the wild Asian species *E. przewalskii* or certain extinct forms related ancestrally to the modern horse.

**2.** A frame or device, usually with four legs, used for supporting or holding.

**3.** *Sports* A vaulting horse.

My Name: “I would’ve liked to have known her, a wild horse of a woman, so wild she wouldn’t marry,” People can often be referred to as “Wild Horses” referring to their untamed personalities, meaning they are not easily manipulated and refuse to conform to society’s rules. They can also be described as a horse, meaning they are “sturdy, and strong”.

4. Musician

Lyrics fromthe song by *The Ting Ting’s*  titled “That’s Not My Name”.

That's not my name
That's not my name
That's not my name
That's not my...name

I miss the catch if they throw me the ball
I'm the last chick standing up against the wall
Keep up, falling, these heels they keep me boring
Getting glammed up and sitting on the fence now

Esperanza doesn’t like her name, but feels defined by it. At the beginning of the chapter she says, “In English my name means hope. In Spanish it means sadness, it means waiting. It is like the number nine. A muddy color. It is the Mexican records my father plays on Sunday mornings when he is shaving, songs like sobbing.” the lyrics of this song fit her tone and her sentiment because she wants a different name. A name that is more normal that doesn’t make her DIFFERENT from the other students at school. She was also named after her great-grandmother and refused to be defined by that name because she doesn’t want to share a similar fate, idly sitting by watching life happen, not voicing her beliefs or desires. “I have inherited her name, but I don’t want to inherit her place by the window.