

## English 1 Summer Reading 2009

**Chinese Cinderella** by Adeline Yen Mah  
**The House on Mango Street** by Sandra Cisneros

Directions:

- ✚ First of all, have a wonderful summer and enjoy these books! ☺
- ✚ Please read this entire assignment sheet BEFORE you begin working with the texts.
- ✚ Please read both books prior to our first class session in the fall. Please do not wait until the last week to begin! Pace yourself.
- ✚ Give this your best!
- ✚ Be prepared for tests and creative writing assignments during the first few weeks of school.
- ✚ Complete the assignments for **Chinese Cinderella** and **The House on Mango Street** and be prepared to hand them in on the first day that your English class meets.
- ✚ The assignments below (including your index cards) will be seen and also used by your classmates so your work should be neat, legible, and thorough. Please pay attention to close detail.
- ✚ Only your wonderful, original work will be acceptable. ☺ Please do not acquire any material from Cliffs Notes, Internet sources, or siblings who have attended Mercy. ☹ We are interested in what YOU have to say. ☺
- ✚ Do not rush the process. It is the first academic impression we will have of you when school begins. Take your TIME!
- ✚ When a visual picture is required, please draw the visual. It should be your original work. Please try to cover the entire area with your art work, whether on index cards or on 8 ½ x 11 paper. Please do not use copyrighted or computer-generated material. Bring out your inner artist!
- ✚ Make sure you use complete sentences where requested and check your spelling. For any quotations used, indicate page numbers in parentheses. Your work will be evaluated and graded. Once you have seen these grades, your work will be kept in an English file and will not be returned to you immediately. Therefore, be sure to save your work on a disk or make a photocopy.
- ✚ Bring both novels to your first class meeting along with your completed summer reading work.

Enjoy your summer and your summer reading! We look forward to seeing you in August as you begin your freshman year at Mercy. ☺

## 1. Chinese Cinderella by Adeline Yen Mah

Note: Please use 5 x 8 sized index cards for the following parts of the assignment. Secure all cards with a rubber band (one stack per text). You may want to purchase colored index cards instead of color-coding them yourself. Do what works for you!

For the text above (**Chinese Cinderella**), you must complete the following assignment:

Directions: You will need a total of 13 index cards.

### Card 1:

**Cover Card:** Write the title of the book and the full name of the author in the center. Include your name at the bottom of the unlined side. You need one cover card for each text. Decorate your cover card with 1-2 embellishments that reveal your personality.

### Cards 2, 3, and 4:

Color-code these cards green.

**Important Location:** Choose three specific, dominant settings in the book. Please use less obvious settings. For example, the library in the boarding school is a less obvious setting in **Chinese Cinderella**. Please do not use settings such as the cities in China or the country of China.

- Front of Card (unlined): Drawn visual of setting choice.
- Back of Card (lined): Write 2-3 separate passages from the text (with page numbers) that reveal details or the significance of the setting. Your passages should come from different sections of the text.

**Please do NOT use copyrighted or computer-generated material in your drawing.**

### Cards 5 and 6:

Color-code these cards pink.

**Character Analysis:** Demonstrate your understanding of two characters from each book. You may choose any minor characters.

- Front of Card (unlined): Write the character's name in the center.
- Back of card (lined): List three important choices or decisions that the character made that contributed to the events in the text. Write in complete sentences.

### **Cards 7, 8, and 9:**

Color-code these cards blue.

**Significant Objects:** Choose three important objects throughout the book and explain the significance of each object. Each object should be on a separate index card. Please use less obvious objects.

- Front of Card (unlined): Drawn visual of your chosen object.
- Back of Card (lined): Explain the following for each object.
  - a. What is the object?
  - b. To whom is it important?
  - c. What is the object's function in the novel?

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### **Cards 10, 11, 12, and 13:**

Color-code these cards yellow.

**"Aha" Moments of Discovery:** Per text, find four separate quotations or short passages that become moments of learning for Adeline or Melba. There should be 8 quotations total (4 for each character). These quotations could be said *by* these characters or *to* these characters.

- Front of Card (unlined): Quotation
- Back of Card (lined): Record the page number of your quotation and write an explanation of why this is an "Aha" moment. This should be seven to eight sentences in length.

**Note: Please do not use long paragraphs for your quotations/passages. Short passages often send a strong message. 😊**

## 2. The House on Mango Street

Create a book of illustrations for the vignettes (short descriptive literature focusing on a particular moment or person) in **The House on Mango Street**.

- Select ten vignettes from the novel.
- Create an 8-1/2" X 11" drawing illustrating the main idea or action in each vignette. Be sure to include all the important characters.
- At the bottom of each drawing, write the quotation that you selected as inspiration. List the page number where the quote can be found.
- Create a booklet for your illustrations. The cover title should be The House on Mango Street and should have a design or illustration that is different from the one on the books we read. Include your name as illustrator.
- You will present one of your illustrations to the class, explaining how your drawing relates to the quotation you chose.