**CHOICE BOARD ACTIVITY**

**Unit/Theme:** Immigration and the Post-Colonial World

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<td>Create a physical map of Mango Street</td>
<td>Diary from Esperanza’s Perspective (min. of 5 entries)</td>
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<td>“How To” Article on “How to Avoid the Single Story.”</td>
<td>Create a Movie Poster for the book (complete with cast list)</td>
<td>Create a CD soundtrack for the novel (min. of 12 songs)</td>
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<td>Compare/Contrast Piece (characters, locations, events, etc.)</td>
<td>Create a book trailer (video) for the book (min. of 1.5 minutes long)</td>
<td>Create a horoscope for Esperanza (explain her sign and her future)</td>
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<td>Theme Opinion Article (OP Ed)</td>
<td>Create a comic strip of one of the vignettes from the book.</td>
<td>Find and make recipes from the book (and explain why you chose them and what you learned about them)</td>
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**DIRECTIONS:** For this project, you must choose a project from EACH of the THREE columns above (writing, the arts, and misc.). You will complete ALL THREE projects and turn in together for a grade. Failure to complete all THREE projects will result in a failing grade on the assignment. Individual directions for the projects can be found below.
WRITING: Select ONE

- News Article on the Immigrant Experience: For this project, you will write a news article on the experience(s) immigrants face in this country. Your evidence and facts will come from the readings we have done in this unit, including “Mother Tongue,” “Rayford’s Song,” “Words,” “The Icing on the Cake,” and/or The House on Mango Street. Your article should follow the appropriate format for a NEWS ARTICLE and needs to include at least THREE pieces of evidence from unit texts and should be a minimum of 500-700 words. MLA Style is required for citations. The article must have a catchy title (think of news headlines) and the information contained within should have some sort of organizing structure that resembles cause and effect.

- “How To” Article on “How to Avoid the Single Story”: Based on our viewing of the TEDTalks video, “How to Avoid the Single Story,” write a “how to” style article helping and/or encouraging others to avoid promoting or believing in a single story about a particular culture or group of people. Your piece should use personal evidence/experience and examples from the texts in our unit to convince your readers. It should follow the “HOW TO” Article format and be a minimum of 500-700 words.

- Compare/Contrast Piece: Based on the texts we have read for our unit, write a compare/contrast essay (500-700 words) in which you compare and contrast a character, theme, setting, and/or experience detailing in two or more of our unit texts. You must use a minimum of 3 quotes from unit texts as your evidence. This essay must be in MLA format (headings and citations).

- Theme Opinion Article: For this assignment, you will write an opinion piece (editorial) on one of the themes from our study of immigration. This piece should be powerful and filled with personal details and experiences. Themes you might choose from include: isolation, immigrant experience, language barriers, loneliness, struggle, survival, feeling trapped, making friends, or family. You will need to use examples from the unit texts to support your opinions. Your piece will need a claim/thesis statement and must be a minimum of 500-700 words.

THE ARTS: Select ONE

- Physical Map of Mango Street: For this project, you need to design a 3D map of Mango Street. You map can be any size and made out of any materials, but it should accurately reflect the details given in the book, such as locations, houses/families, colors, etc.

- Movie Poster: This project asks you to create/design a movie poster for a film version of the novel, The House on Mango Street. Take a look at some movie posters online or at your local movie theater. Notice the color symbolism, selection of characters/images, and the location or placement of actor’s names, tag lines, and titles. On the back (or attached), you need to include a cast list for the film, including which famous actors and actresses you would choose to play each character, and why you briefly state why you choose that actor/actress for the role. Characters you must cast: Esperanza, Nenny, Esperanza’s mother and father, Louie, Cathy, Rachel, Marin, Lucy, Sally, Ruthie, and Sire.

- Book Trailer: Using digital video software (iMovie, MovieMaker, PhotoStory, etc), create a one and a half minute trailer for the book, The House on Mango Street. The trailer should mimic the purpose of a film trailer in that it should persuade the audience to want to read the book through its use of sound, images, and text.

- Comic Strip: Translate one of the vignettes in the book into a comic strip. Comic strips use images and small amounts of text to tell a story. This project entails deciphering some of the figurative language in the novel in order to accurately portray the meanings hidden in the vignettes. Comic strips must be a minimum of 10 panels long and must include images, text, and color. Vignettes for translation include: “Gil’s Furniture Store Bought & Sold,” “Louie, His Cousin, & His Other Cousin,” “Marin,” “Chanclas,” “Hips,” “Born Bad,” “Elenita, Cards, Palm, Water,” “Sally,” “Sire,” or “The Monkey Garden.”

MISC: Select ONE
• **Diary from Esperanza’s Perspective:** Write a minimum of 5 diary entries, written from Esperanza’s perspective, about her life on Mango Street. They can be follow-up entries to events we see take place in the novel, or they can be merely more personal accounts of situations in the vignettes that we read (i.e. what might Esperanza write in her diary regarding the events we learn about in the chapter titled, “Sire”?). Diary entries need to be at least half a page, each, and should try to capture Esperanza’s voice. You will need to use 1st person (I, me, my, our) and will need to stay true to the events and details from the novel.

• **CD Soundtrack:** Create a playlist, or soundtrack, for the novel. Consider if this movie were to be made into a movie. What songs would the film makers play in the film? What kind of music would be most effective at telling the stories of the novel? What kinds of genres would best capture the emotions of certain situations? Your playlist must have a minimum of 12 songs on it (they must be REAL) and you must briefly explain why you chose each song on the list.

• **Esperanza’s Horoscope:** Create a horoscope for Esperanza in which you explain her sign (what it means, what its symbol is, the types of personality traits she has) and give a prediction for her future. You will first need to do a little research on the signs and what they mean. Since we are not told Esperanza’s actual birthday (only her birth year—the Chinese year of the Rat), you will need to choose an astrological sign for Esperanza based on the personality characteristics you know of her from the book. Once you have chosen a sign, explain it as detailed above and give a prediction for her future that would be likely given the conclusion of the book.

• **Recipes from the book:** You will need to let me know IMMEDIATELY if you plan on taking on this assignment and you will NOT be allowed to change, as I will have to set aside class time for us to eat and listen to you tell us about the food. For this project, you will research and prepare at least one recipe from the novel or from Esperanza’s culture. She mentions tamales, rice sandwiches, coconut and papaya juice, but there are many, many more delicious foods that are common in Mexican culture. You will prepare (at home) and bring in the food item, and give a brief (3 minute) presentation about how you made it, what ingredients it contains, and why it is important in the novel or to Mexican culture.