

House on Mango Street Study Guide
 “Boys & Girls”: Pages 8-9

Directions: Answer the following questions.

1. To determine how the narrator feels about being a sister, complete the chart and analyze the following metaphor: "Until then I am a red balloon, a balloon tied to an anchor."

Word from the Quote	Definition of the Word	Based on these definitions, what is the narrator saying about herself.
"balloon"		
"tied to"		
"anchor"		

“My Name”: Pages 10-11

2. How does the narrator feel about her name?

3. Prove your answer to number 2 by completing the following chart:

How the narrator describes her name	What the description means

4. Analyze the descriptions in the chart below to figure out how the narrator feels about her grandmother's life and what she wants out of her life?

Words used to describe the grandmother or her life	What these details reveal about society's or the narrator's view of her
"a wild horse of a woman" (11)	
"as if she were a fancy chandelier" (11)	
"inherit" (11)	
"her place by the window" (11)	

“Cathy Queen of Cats”: Pages 12-13

5. Why is Cathy moving away?
6. Why should Esperanza (the narrator) be offended by Cathy's reason for moving?
7. What does Cathy's relationship with Esperanza reveal about her understanding of people moving in to the neighborhood?

“A Good Day”: Pages 14-16

8. When Lucy says "Her was born here, but me I'm Texas", what can the reader deduce about her?
9. Based on this story, what is the author saying about friendship? There are multiple correct answers to this question.