Non-Exemplar Argumentative Multi-Paragraph Outline

Prompt: Choose one of the symbols from *The House on Mango Street*. Write a four-paragraph analytical essay to explain what the symbol represents and how it helps develop the reader's understanding of the characters and or setting.

<table>
<tr><td colspan="2">Claim: Names symbolize the discovery of identity in The House on Mango Street.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Reason 1:
Name symbolizes conflicted feelings about identity.</td><td>Topic Sentence: In the vignette "My Name," Esperanza's name symbolizes her conflicted feelings about her identity.

Supporting Details:

• Name means one thing in Spanish and a different thing in English → "In English, my name means hope. In Spanish, it means too many letters" (10).

• Name represents conflict about identity → "At school they say my name funny as if the syllables were made out of tin and hurt the roof of your mouth. But in Spanish my name is made out of a softer something, like silver" (11).

• Esperanza wishes she had a name which showed her agency and independence → "I would like to baptize myself under a new name, a name more like the real me, the one nobody sees, Esperanza as Lisandra or Maritza or Zeze the X" (11).</td></tr>
<tr><td>Reason 2:
Trees symbolize hopes and aspirations for the future.</td><td>Topic Sentence:
Another symbol in the book is trees. Trees symbolize hopes and aspirations for the future.

Supporting Details:

• Trees can survive and thrive even in hard places.

• Trees need plants and nutrients to grow.

• Kids really have fun playing in trees.</td></tr>
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