1. Comment on the use of the first person narrative ("I" voice) and the third person narrative ("she"). What is the effect of switching between first and third person?

Throughout this introduction, Sandra Cisneros often switches between first person narrative and third person narrative. She does this to highlight the differences in her experiences from the 1980s while she was writing *The House on Mango Street* to the present day as she writes the introduction. Cisneros constantly addresses her younger self as “the young woman in the photograph,” clearly distancing her younger self from her present self. In the 25 years since *The House on Mango Street* was first published, Cisneros has matured from a struggling writer living in an overcrowded Chicago neighborhood to an insightful author reminiscing on her youthful days. For example, when she asks “what is the woman in the photograph afraid of,” she speaks of her past self as wary of life in the dark city and fearful of moving along in life too quickly. However, she smoothly switches back to first person, reflecting what she sees from her older perspective. Cisneros later tells her publisher Norma that she did “the things I was afraid of doing so that I would no longer be afraid,” going on to describe her journey away from Chicago and into the world as an independent author that she is now. Such switching creates an effect of nostalgia as the reader reminisces the past with the author by looking back at the young Cisneros.