| **Week 5** | | | |
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| **Name of the Story** | **Mrs. Sen’s** | **Themes** | Adjustment in new life, Exile, Cultural difference, affection to the roots. |
| **Useful/interesting Quotes** | “Here, in this place where Mr. Sen has brought me, I cannot sometimes sleep in  so much silence.”  “You must miss her. When I think of you, only a boy, separated from your mother  for so much of the day, I am ashamed.”  “I must wear the powder every day” | | |
| **Course Content Focus:** | **Write a summary of the story within 150 words. Make sure to use APA in-text citation and attributive tags appropriately.**  *[Note: You can use the Summary Checklist from the handouts provided for this week]*  ***Summary:***  *Larrihi (1999) in her story “Mrs. Sen’s” demonstrated the experience and situation in the life of Mrs Sen who was an immigrant detached from her roots trying to cope up with a whole new culture. She showed us the life of Mrs Sen through the eyes of a little boy named Elliot of whom Mrs Sen used to take care of since his parents were busy at work. Even when she was living in a different culture she still had not adapted it rather maintained the essences of her roots around her. Lahiri (1999) also showed that she missed her family and everything about her past life and it hurt her even more when her family had a wrong interpretation of her life. She was shown by the author to be expressing her feelings to Elliot who also in a different way felt lonely and detached from his family even after getting to see his mother everyday. Lahiri (1999) ended the story showing that even after trying so hard when Mrs. Sen couldn't cope up with her loneliness and frustration and it burst into a car accident. After that incident, Elliot stopped seeing her.* | | |
| **Choose any one of the following extracts** (taken from the story) **and paraphrase it. Remember to follow the APA in-text citation rules appropriately.**  *[Note: You can use the Paraphrase Checklist from the handouts provided for this week]*  *Extract 1:* Eliot didn't mind going to Mrs. Sen's after school. By September the tiny beach house where he and his mother lived year-round was already cold; Eliot and his mother had to bring a portable heater along whenever they moved from one room to another, and to seal the windows with plastic sheets and a hairdryer. The beach was barren and dull to play on alone; the only neighbors who stayed on past Labor Day, a young married couple, had no children. Mrs. Sen's apartment was warm, sometimes too warm; the radiators continuously hissed like a pressure cooker.  **Paraphrase:**  Lahiri (1999) shows how after school Eliot liked going to Mrs. Sen's. She also mentioned that the small seaside house where Eliot and his mother lived the whole year was freezing by September. Because of that they had to take a portable heater with them whenever they switched rooms and they also had to shut the windows with plastic sheets and a hairdryer. Moreover The beach was desolate and he didn’t like to play alone. After Labor Day, all the neighbours went away except for a young married couple with no children. Lahiri (1999) also added that Mrs. Sen's flat was too hot because the radiators were always turned on whiched hissed like a “pressure cooker” all the time. | | |
| **Reference:**  Lahiri, J. (1999). *Mrs. Sen’s Interpreter of Maladies*. Houghton Mifflin. | | |