“Only Daughter” – Sandra Cisneros

Comprehension Questions

DIRECTIONS: Answer all questions in COMPLETE sentences. No points will be awarded for incomplete sentences.

1. What does Cisneros mean when she writes that being an only daughter in a family of six sons “explains everything”?

2. What distinction does Cisneros make between being “the only daughter” and “only a daughter”?

3. What advantages does Cisneros see in being “the only daughter”? In being “only a daughter”?

4. Why does her father think she has wasted her education? What is her reaction to his opinion?

5. Why is her father’s reaction to her story the “most wonderful” thing that has happened to Cisneros that year?

6. Why do you think Cisneros wrote this story? What was her point? What does this story have to do with being an “individual” or being “unique”?