

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

University of London

EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS

For The Following Qualification:–

B.A.

Spanish S601B: Borges and Cortazar

COURSE CODE : SPAN601B

UNIT VALUE : 0.50

DATE : 10-MAY-04

TIME : 14.30

TIME ALLOWED : 2 Hours

SPANISH S601B Borges and Cortázar.

Candidates should answer **TWO** questions

Essays may be written in either Spanish or English, but no extra credit will be given for answers in Spanish.

Candidates should not base more than ONE answer on a particular work.

Candidates should not base their answers on any text or texts used extensively in their course-work essay.

1. Examine what you think Poe meant by a short story by Borges or by Cortázar having 'the soul of the reader at the writer's control'.
2. How realistic are Borges and Cortázar as short-story writers?
3. Explain what you think Borges means, in his stories, by the 'nadería de la personalidad'.
4. Borges said that he learnt to become a sceptical reader. What would a sceptical reading of his stories tell us?
5. Borges wrote of one story that 'es posible leerlo como directa narración de hechos novelescos y también de otro modo'. Assess what he means by 'otro modo' in AT LEAST ONE story.
6. 'Borges's "fictions" convey no message and a sense of isolation and nihilism.' Discuss.
7. 'Cortázar's stories deal with "bad faith".' Discuss.
8. Cortázar's stories attempt to shock the reader, but to what purpose?
9. 'Cortázar's narrators are limited, devious, unaware.' Discuss.
10. Why do you think that Cortázar dismisses the anecdote of a story as not relevant?

END OF PAPER