

**UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON**

University of London

**EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS**

For The Following Qualification:-

*B.A.*

**Spanish S601A: The Short Story in Spanish America**

**COURSE CODE : SPAN601A**

**UNIT VALUE : 1.00**

**DATE : 15-MAY-06**

**TIME : 10.00**

**TIME ALLOWED : 3 Hours**

**SPANISH S601A: The Short Story in Spanish America**

Candidates should answer **THREE** 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 normally base their answers on any text or texts used extensively in their course work essays.*

1. 'Every detail counts.' Examine this view in relation to ANY short story OR writer studied on the course.
2. Examine the ways ANY ONE writer forces the reader to interpret the fiction.
3. **EITHER** (a) 'Jorge Luis Borges cannot create characters. In his fictions, people embody ideas.' Discuss.  
**OR** (b) Examine the ways Borges subverts the short story to create what he calls a 'ficción'.
4. **EITHER** (a) 'The invasion of rational everyday reality by the irrational is a Cortazarean constant' (Cynthia Schmidt-Cruz). Discuss.  
**OR** (b) 'Cortázar's narrators are limited by age or by gender or by habit.' Examine this view in relation to the final meaning of his stories.
5. **EITHER** (a) '*El matadero* is a parable about evil.' Discuss.  
**OR** (b) 'Echeverría explores honour and manliness.' Discuss the fate of the 'unitario' in *El matadero*.
6. **EITHER** (a) 'La muerte no es, en la escritura de Quiroga, una materia abstracta de reflexión, sino una presencia con rostro y mueca atroz' (Leonor Fleming). Discuss this view.  
**OR** (b) 'For Quiroga, nature is not background landscape, but a protagonist testing human beings.' Discuss.
7. **EITHER** (a) 'Rulfo's stories are subtly critical of the Mexicans he portrays.' Discuss.  
**OR** (b) Examine Rulfo's depiction of violence.
8. **EITHER** (a) 'García Márquez's stories dramatise small-town boredom.' Examine this opinion.  
**OR** (b) 'In his stories, García Márquez sympathises with rebels.' Discuss.

**END OF PAPER**