

2011 AP® SPANISH LITERATURE FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS

Question 2 Análisis temático (Tiempo sugerido—40 minutos)

2. Algunas obras presentan el tema de la obsesión como factor que altera la conducta humana. Escoge UNA de las obras siguientes. Escribe un ensayo que analice este tema en la obra. Tu ensayo debe incluir ejemplos del texto que apoyen tus ideas.

“El hijo”, Horacio Quiroga

La casa de Bernarda Alba, Federico García Lorca

“La muerte y la brújula”, Jorge Luis Borges

“La prodigiosa tarde de Baltazar”, Gabriel García Márquez

Question 3 Análisis de texto (Tiempo sugerido—40 minutos)

3. En su libro *Introducción a la literatura fantástica*, Tzvetan Todorov comenta lo siguiente:

“En un mundo que es el nuestro, el que conocemos, [...] se produce un acontecimiento que no puede explicarse por las leyes de ese mundo familiar. Quien percibe el acontecimiento debe optar por una de las dos soluciones posibles: o bien se trata de una ilusión de los sentidos, de un producto de la imaginación, y las leyes del mundo siguen siendo lo que son; o bien el acontecimiento tuvo lugar realmente, es una parte integrante de la realidad, pero entonces esta realidad está regida por leyes que nos son desconocidas. [...]

Lo fantástico es la vacilación que experimenta un ser que sólo conoce las leyes naturales, ante un acontecimiento al parecer sobrenatural”.

Analiza cómo las ideas planteadas en la cita se reflejan en “La noche boca arriba” de Julio Cortázar. En tu ensayo debes incluir ejemplos del texto que apoyen tus ideas.

STOP

END OF EXAM

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Question 3: Text Analysis

9 Demonstrates Superiority

- A very well-developed essay that clearly and thoroughly **analyzes** how the ideas expressed in the quotation are reflected in Cortázar’s “La noche boca arriba.”
- Integrates appropriate examples from “La noche boca arriba” into the essay.
- Demonstrates insight; may show originality.
- Virtually no irrelevant or erroneous information.
- Reveals an exceptional understanding of the relevance of the ideas in the cited passage to “La noche boca arriba.”

7–8 Demonstrates Competence

- A well-developed essay that **analyzes** how the ideas expressed in the quotation are reflected in “La noche boca arriba.”
- Provides appropriate examples from the text.
- May reveal some insight or originality.
- Analysis outweighs description or enumeration; any plot summary serves to illustrate how the ideas expressed in the quotation are reflected in “La noche boca arriba.”
- The reader may need to make occasional inferences because the response is not always sufficiently explicit.
- May contain some erroneous information, but errors do not detract from the overall quality of the essay.
- The essay must **analyze** how two or more ideas from the quotation are reflected in “La noche boca arriba.”

5–6 Suggests Competence

- Student basically understands the question, the quotation, and “La noche boca arriba,” but the essay is not well focused or sufficiently developed.
- Student attempts to analyze how the ideas in the quotation are reflected in Cortázar’s story, but commentary is relatively superficial.
- Plot summary predominates but is connected to the attempted analysis.
- May contain errors of fact or interpretation that detract from the overall quality of the essay.
- May require significant inferences because the response is not always explicit.
- If the student analyzes how only one idea from the quotation is reflected in “La noche boca arriba,” the discussion must be good to merit a score of 5.

3–4 Suggests Lack of Competence

- Essay is so general as to suggest that the student has not adequately understood the quotation or “La noche boca arriba” and is unable to deal competently with the question.
- Poorly organized essay; focus wanders; comments are sketchy.
- May consist almost entirely of plot summary with little or no connection to the quotation; OR may restate the question and/or the quotation.
- Irrelevant comments may predominate.
- Possibly a prepared overview of “La noche boca arriba” or Cortázar with limited connection to the quotation.
- May contain major errors that undermine the overall quality of the essay.

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Question 3: Text Analysis (continued)

1–2 Demonstrates Lack of Competence

- Essay demonstrates a lack of understanding of the question, the quotation, and/or “La noche boca arriba.”
- Essay lacks organization or is chaotic.
- Examples are inappropriate, incorrect, or inapplicable to the work and/or the quotation.
- Demonstrates unfamiliarity with “La noche boca arriba.”

0 No Credit

- Blank page; OR mere restatement of the question; OR response is so brief or so poorly written as to be meaningless; OR response is written in English; OR response is completely off topic or off task (obscenity, nonsense poetry, drawings, letter to the reader, etc.).

Language Usage

The AP Spanish Literature Exam tests the ability of students to write well-organized essays in correct and idiomatic Spanish. These scoring guidelines assess **the degree to which language usage effectively supports an appropriate response to the question**. All the criteria listed below should be taken into account in categorizing the student’s command of the written language as related to each literature question.

5 Very Good Command

- Infrequent, random errors in grammatical structures.
- Varied and accurate use of vocabulary.
- Control of the conventions of the written language (spelling, accents, punctuation, paragraphing, etc.).

4 Good Command

- Some errors in grammatical structures; however, these do not detract from the overall readability of the essay or response.
- Appropriate use of vocabulary.
- Conventions of the written language are generally correct (spelling, accents, punctuation, paragraphing, etc.).

3 Adequate Command

- Frequent grammatical errors, but essay or response is comprehensible.
- Limited vocabulary.
- May have numerous errors in conventions of the written language (spelling, accents, punctuation, paragraphing, etc.).

2 Weak Command

- Serious grammatical errors that force a sympathetic reader to supply inferences.
- Very limited and/or repetitive vocabulary.
- Pervasive errors in the conventions of the written language.

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Question 3: Text Analysis (continued)

1 Inadequate Command

- Constant grammatical errors that render comprehension difficult.
- Insufficient vocabulary.
- Lack of control of the conventions of the written language.

0 No Credit

- Unintelligible, written in English, or off task.