



Name: Ramillano, Incent E.

Date:

Section: A.

Score: _____

ACTIVITY 2:

Direction: Explain your answers in your own words.

1. Who sponsored the Rizal Bill in Congress?

The Rizal Bill was sponsored by Senator Claro M. Recto in the Senate and Congressman José P. Laurel Jr. in the House of Representatives. They pushed for this bill because they saw the need for Filipinos to study Rizal's works—not just as literature but as a way to understand our nation's struggles and identity.

2. What were their arguments in support of the bill?

They argued that Rizal's novels, *Noli Me Tangere* and *El Filibusterismo*, expose the realities of colonial oppression and the fight for justice. Reading them would cultivate nationalism, critical thinking, and a deeper sense of responsibility among Filipinos. The idea wasn't just about studying history—it was about learning from it and ensuring that the injustices of the past don't repeat themselves.

3. What were the arguments of the opposition?

The opposition, mainly from the Catholic Church and conservative groups, believed that Rizal's novels were anti-Catholic and could weaken the faith of Filipino students. They feared that mandatory reading of these books would challenge religious beliefs and create division. Some also argued that forcing students to read them would violate their freedom of religion. This led to a



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compromise, allowing students with religious objections to be exempted from reading the unabridged versions.