

LAST100: Introduction to Latin American Studies

Re-Take Midterm Examination, October 22, 2014

Select *five* of the following seven passages. In each case, identify the title, the author(s) (if the text has one), and the approximate date of writing and/or publication (within ten years). Comment briefly on how this passage relates to the text from which it is taken, examining the thematic significance of the passage for the text as a whole and, where it may be useful, noting issues of form or style. Discuss also the broader historical context and what the passage has to say about some of the themes we have been discussing in the course.

- 1) We have been harassed by a conduct which has not only deprived us of our rights but has kept us in a sort of permanent infancy with regard to public affairs. If we could at least have managed our domestic affairs and our internal administration, we could have acquainted ourselves with the processes and mechanics of public affairs.
- 2) They immediately tied him down in a crucified position and began the work of pulling off his clothes. That was when the blood gushed out, bubbling out of the young man's mouth and nose, then trickling down both sides of the table. The thugs stood motionless; the onlookers were dumbfounded.
- 3) We can no longer be a nation of fluttering leaves, spending our lives in the air, our treetop crowned in flowers, humming or creaking, caressed by the caprices of sunlight or thrashed and felled by tempests. The trees must form ranks to block the seven-league giant! It is the hour of reckoning and of marching in unison, and we must move in lines as compact as the veins of silver that lie at the roots of the Andes.
- 4) The loveliness of this country, Your Majesties, is so marvelous; it surpasses all others in amenity and beauty as daylight exceeds night. I have said repeatedly to my men that, whatever efforts I make to tell Your Majesties about it, my tongue could not tell the whole truth, or my hand set it down. Truly, I was dumbfounded by the sight of so much beauty, and find myself unable to describe it adequately.

Turn over the page...

- 5) There only remains to admire women's delicate shapes (with some exceptions), their souls susceptible to tender emotions, always gentle and loving, their thoughts, in short their physical beauty, in order to exclaim: the destiny of women is not, as has mistakenly been said, equal to the destiny of men, because the former are weak and tender in their spirit and their bodies cannot endure the difficult hardships to which men are subjected; their dignity would be diminished if they were to attempt to liberate themselves from those sweet attributes of their nature, from those bonds that the propagandist writers of emancipation have been calling guardianship, without realizing that it is precisely that guardianship which makes women more beautiful, that elevates them to their true pedestal without aspirations of glory or applause, that binds them to their husbands, that binds them to the home, and that makes them into the guardian angel of the family.

- 6) I was there at the battle of Puren where my captain fell, leaving me in command of the company for some six months, and during that time I had a number of encounters with the enemy and took a few arrows. In one battle, I came up against one of the Indian captains, Francisco Quispiguaucha, a newly made Christian and a rich one too, whose devilish raids gave us plenty of trouble. I met him on the field, threw him from his horse, and he surrendered to me. I immediately strung him up from the nearest tree, and this made the governor furious, for as it turned out he had wanted the man taken alive, and they say it was for this reason he didn't give me the company, but gave it to Captain Casadevante instead, and put me on half-pay with some promising noises about next time.

- 7) And the Inca asked Fray Vicente who had told him so. Fray Vicente responded that the Gospel had told him, the book. And Atagualpa said: "Give me the book, so that it will tell me." And so he gave it to him and he took it in his hands and began to look through the pages of the book. And the Inca said: "Well, why doesn't it tell me? The book doesn't even talk to me!" Speaking with great majesty, seated in his throne, the Inca Atagualpa threw the book down from his hands.

HOW FRAY VICENTE SHOUTED

and said: "Here, knights, these heathen Indians are against our faith!" And Don Francisco Pizarro and Don Diego de Almagro for their own part shouted and said: "Out, knights, against these infidels who are against our Christianity, and for our Emperor and King let us have at them!"

Good luck!