

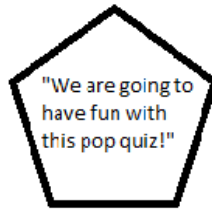
Essay Topics: One Hundred Years of Solitude



1. How can the events in the novel *One Hundred Years of Solitude* be viewed as a retelling of the history of Columbia? [note: you must use the words “microcosm,” “metaphor,” and “fable” in your paper]
2. Pick one character in *One Hundred Years of Solitude* that you can personally identify with. Why do you like this character? Is there anything you dislike about this character? Why do you think the author of the book gave these particular traits to this character?
3. Pick one character in *One Hundred Years of Solitude* that made – in your mind – a huge mistake in the novel. If he or she had NOT made this mistake, would the main events of the novel have unfolded differently? Why or why not?
4. Pick three instances of magical realism in the novel. How and what did these instances add to the major theme(s) of the novel, in your education opinion?
5. What is free will? Do the main characters in *One Hundred Years of Solitude* have it?
6. Define solitude. Why does it exist for 100 years in Macondo? Can humans ever truly escape from solitude?
7. Assume the events in Macondo are real, and you are transported back to the third decade of the city’s founding (30 years into the novel, basically). If you were trapped inside Melquiades room for seven years, how would you spend your time? What questions would you ask of the character(s) in *One Hundred Years of Solitude* that you meet?
8. Discuss the role of prophecies and fate in *One Hundred Years of Solitude*.

9. Discuss the role of violence in *One Hundred Years of Solitude*. Be sure to examine both individual acts of violence and mass-scale acts of violence (war, massacres).
10. Discuss the role of gender in *One Hundred Years of Solitude*.
11. Discuss the role of religion in *One Hundred Years of Solitude*.
12. Who was Sir Francis Drake? What role did he play in the novel? What event(s) could his inclusion in the novel symbolize?

Name: _____



100 Years of Solitude POP QUIZ #2

Multiple Choice (6 Points Each).

1. Who lost the war in Chapter 7?

- Conservatives
- Liberals
- Gypsies
- Martians
- Spanish

2. Where is the firing squad located?

- Medellin
- Bogota
- Iguaran
- Italy
- Macondo

3. Which of the following characters gives birth to twins?

- Isabel Allende
- Pilar Ternera
- Rebeca
- Sofia de la Piedad
- Amaranta de la Shroud

4. Which of the following things falls from the sky upon the death of Jose Arcadio Buendia?

- Magnets
- Flowers
- Bananas
- Minions
- Raindrops

5. True or False: Aureliano Jose forms a very close relationship with his aunt, Amaranta.

6. Which of the following statements about the 17 sons of Aureliano Buendia is TRUE?

_____ All of them survive and go on to have 17 sons themselves, showing how time repeats itself.

_____ All but 3 of them are killed.

_____ They are all baptized with the name "Aureliano".

_____ They are all the sons of Pilar Ternera.

_____ They form a musical group together and become famous.

7. True or False (6 points each):

_____ Aureliano Jose is killed by a soldier in Macondo.

_____ Colonel Aureliano Buendia does not stop the execution (death) of his friend, Jose Raquel Moncada.

_____ Colonel Aureliano Buendia becomes very large and overweight as a soldier.

_____ Colonel Aureliano Buendia starts wars all across Central America.

_____ The death of Remedios the Beautiful delays the wedding of Rebeca and Pietro Crespi.

_____ Colonel Aureliano Buendia cancels the illegal land transfers involving his brother.

_____ Jose Raquel Moncada falls in love with Amaranta, but Amaranta rejects him.

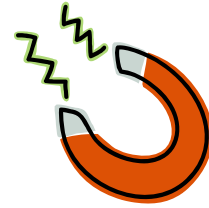
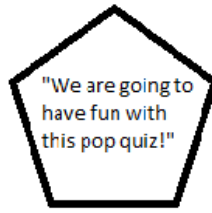
_____ The author of *One Hundred Years of Solitude* is Gabriel Garcia Marquez.

_____ Jose Arcadio Buendia had a dream where Macondo was built with walls made from mirrors.

8. Essay Question (10 Points). Write your answer in one paragraph with at least five complete sentences.

How has Colonel Aureliano Buendia changed over the course of the novel, up through Chapter 8?

Name: _____



100 Years of Solitude POP QUIZ #3

Multiple Choice (6 Points Each).

1. Who loses his temper and breaks every breakable thing inside the Buendia house?

- Aureliano Segundo
- Don Quixote
- Jose Arcadio Segundo
- Fernanda
- Bruce Lee

2. Which of the following is washed away by the five year rainfall?

- Banana plantation
- Remedios the Beauty's dolls
- Ursula's gold coins
- The tree where the family patriarch died
- Rebeca's house

3. Which of the following characters gives birth to twins?

- Isabel Allende
- Pilar Ternera
- Petra Cotes
- Sofia de la Piedad
- Amaranta de la Crespi

4. Which of the following persons helps to run a lottery in order to make money?

- Pilar Ternera
- Shells de la Maria
- Sofia de la Piedad
- Petra Cotes
- Isabel Allende

5. True or False: Amaranta Úrsula is sent off to Europe for her education.

6. Which of the following statements about a class movie project is TRUE?

- It's a waste of time, because in real life you never collaborate (work together) with people you don't get along with for a major project.
- It's not necessary to pay attention while other people are talking, because I am the only person with good ideas.
- They are useful, because it gives you time to memorize and complete busy work for other classes while pretending to pay attention, which the teacher won't notice.
- In real life – in a real job – your boss will always let you pick your best friends to work with on a project, and fire anybody you don't like.
- Project-based learning is the best training for the real world, because in most jobs that is what you will be engaged in every single working day – together with coworkers of all ages and backgrounds, and on topic(s) you may dislike.

7. True or False (6 points each):

- Fernanda believes that doctors with magical powers are trying to heal her disease.
- The rains lasted for eight years after the banana plantation massacre.
- Colonel Aureliano Buendia becomes very large and overweight as a soldier.
- A food kills off most of Petra Cotes's animals.
- The death of Remedios the Beautiful delays the wedding of Rebeca and Pietro Crespi.
- Fernanda becomes a living toy for children in the Buendia house.
- Jose Raquel Moncada falls in love with Amaranta, but Amaranta rejects him.
- Fernanda discovers Meme kissing her boyfriend in a banana plantation.
- Colonel Aureliano Buendia melts down 17 fish for each new batch, over and over again.

8. Essay Question (10 Points). Write your answer in one paragraph with at least five complete sentences.

Ursula states that "time was not passing ... it was turning in a circle". What does this mean? How might Ursula serve as a metaphor for Macondo, Columbia, and the world?
