



**HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION**

**1996**

**SPANISH**

**3 UNIT (ADDITIONAL)**  
*(35 Marks)*

*Time allowed—One hour  
(Plus 5 minutes' reading time)*

**DIRECTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

- Attempt BOTH questions.
- Answer each question in a *separate* Writing Booklet.

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**QUESTION 1.** (15 marks)

*EITHER*

- (a) Translate the following passage from English to Spanish.

I first met Alberto at my cousin Alicia's place in Mérida. He struck me as a very agreeable, polite, and well-mannered person. This was unusual, as most of Alicia's acquaintances were loud, aggressive types, who seemed to spend most of their lives arguing about politics or the environment.

Alberto was obviously a very different sort of human being. I remember thinking at the time that if I had met him ten years before, my life might have turned out very differently. What a mistake I had made getting married to Felipe. We had absolutely nothing in common after all— neither in terms of our backgrounds or of our beliefs and convictions. He was always so serious, and I have always preferred to see life ironically, to make fun of it. But he was very good-looking and I fell in love with him at first sight.

But after getting married we soon realised that we had made a terrible mistake. We would spend hours just staring at each other, or at the walls. We had absolutely nothing to talk about. Eventually we decided to give it away, and we agreed to a divorce. This we managed without bitterness or recriminations. In fact, as a consequence, I ended up liking him more than ever. Life is strange, isn't it?

*OR*

- (b) Write a letter of approximately 200 words addressed to the Minister for Transport, complaining about the noise level around your home, caused by a sudden increase in vehicular traffic and the rerouting of flights over your suburb.

**QUESTION 2. *Crónica de una muerte anunciada*, Gabriel García Márquez**  
(20 marks)

Answers may be written in *EITHER* English *OR* Spanish.

*EITHER*

- (a) Ángela Vicario is as much a victim of society as Santiago Nasar. Discuss.

Ángela Vicario es tan víctima de la sociedad como Santiago Nasar. Discuta.

*OR*

- (b) Analyse the symbolism used in *Crónica de una muerte anunciada*, and explain to what extent it is vital to the novel's development.

Analice el simbolismo que se utiliza en *Crónica de una muerte anunciada* y explique hasta qué punto es imprescindible al desarrollo de la novela.