

Sor Juana de la Cruz
English 2130
Fall 2009

- 1) How old is Sor Juana when she learns to read? How does she learn to read? What does she say about her “inclination toward letters”? Why does Sor Juana cut her hair? Does it help her in any way? Explain. Support your answer with evidence from the text. (Give page numbers and cite passage.)

- 2) Sor Filotea de la Cruz is a pseudonym (a false name). What is Sor Filotea de la Cruz’s real identity? Do you think Sor Juana knows Sor Filotea’s true identity? Explain. Support your answer with evidence from the text. (Give page numbers and cite passage.)

- 3) Why does Sor Juana write any reply to Sor Filotea? Is she in any danger if she is misperceived? Explain. Support your answer with evidence from the text. (Give page numbers and cite passage.)

- 4) Name at least eleven fields of learning Sor Juana has studied. Explain what she went through to study these fields. Has anyone helped her? Why did she learn these subjects the way she does? Support your answer with evidence from the text. (Give page numbers and cite passage.)

- 5) Who should speak and who should keep silent is defined and redefined in the essay. Why, at first, does Sor Juana say she should keep silent? Does she really change her mind? Who does she think should be silent and who should speak? Why? Support your answer with evidence from the text. (Give page numbers and cite passage.)