



The Return of Martín Fierro: The Counterpoint (Chapter 30)



Read the Counterpoint (chapter 30 from The Return of Martín Fierro – you can read it in Spanish-). Then, complete the following activities.

A) Reported Speech: Report the following statements and questions taken from The Counterpoint between Martín Fierro and *El Negro*. Focus on the highlighted words and complete the blanks.

1. *El Negro*: "I **am** nothing more than a poor man with a guitar."

El Negro said he _____ nothing more than a poor man with a guitar.

2. *El Negro*: "My mother **had** ten sons and nine of them weren't bad."

El Negro said _____ mother _____ ten sons and nine of them hadn't been bad.

3. *El Negro*: "If I'm **doing** wrong coming to this gathering [...], I'll **ask** your pardon out aloud."

El Negro told Fierro that if he _____ wrong going to that gathering, he _____ him pardon out aloud.

4. Martín Fierro: "What is the **Song of the Sky**?"

Fierro asked *El Negro* _____ .

5. *El Negro*: "A song in the Earth is formed by so many mothers' pains: the groans of people who **are dying** and the crying of those who **are born**."

El Negro said a song in the Earth was formed by so many mother's pains: the groans of people who _____ and the crying of those who _____ .

6. *El Negro*: "Only the Sun **can** penetrate the shadows and conquer them."

El Negro said only the Sun _____ penetrate the shadows and conquer them.

7. *El Negro*: "The victory **will** go to you if you know how to answer **this**."

El Negro told Fierro the victory _____ go to him only if he knew how to answer _____ .

8. Martín Fierro: "Measurement **was** invented by man for his own good."

Martín Fierro told *El Negro* measurement _____ invented by man for his own good.

9. *El Negro*: "If **your** wisdom **doesn't** fail you now, I'll grant you the victory."

El Negro told Fierro that if _____ wisdom _____ him, he would grant him the victory.

10. Martín Fierro: "The reason for **Weight** **was** for weighing the sins of mortal men."

Fierro said the reason for **Weight** _____ for weighing the sins of mortal men.

B) Reading Comprehension: Reread the Counterpoint. Write **M** next to the idea if Martín Fierro mentions it or **N** if *El Negro* mentions it.

Destiny / The future

Where Love is born

Quantity

The Song of the Sky

The Law