

## Essay Test - *Cyrano de Bergerac*

The following questions are to be answered in paragraphs containing a thesis, support for the thesis, and a conclusion. You may use your books to quote material that supports your thesis.

Choose two of the following questions or statements:

1. A hero is a larger-than-life character who generally has a tragic flaw that leads to his downfall. Describe Cyrano as a tragic hero.
2. Romance (looking at the world through rose-colored glasses) is the cause of the delusions “lovers” have about their beloved. How are Roxane, Christian, and Cyrano deluded?
3. How does de Guiche serve as an antagonist to Cyrano?
4. What redeeming qualities does Christian have? How does he serve as a contrast or foil to Cyrano?
5. Cyrano had friends as well as enemies. Naming names, tell why certain characters were his loyal friends. Contrast that with why his enemies rankled so also naming names.
6. Does the character of Roxane fit the image of the Renaissance woman? What beneficial characteristics does she possess?
7. What is the moral of this story concerning personal integrity? Hint: The “dukes” response to Roxane in Act V.
8. Give examples and explain why Cyrano may be so accomplished. As Brissaille says, “Name any art or skill you can, and he is its master.”

Please answer the following movie question in essay form.

1. We live in a different age than Cyrano, but obviously there are parallels in any world. Considering the themes of good literature, compare the movies *Roxane* and *Cyrano de Bergerac* to explain some of those parallels.