

Reading and comprehension

Name:

Grade:

OF1: comprender e interpretar textos escritos de tipo instructivo, narrativo y descriptivo de mayor complejidad lingüística y temática de una extensión variable de acuerdo al propósito comunicativo del texto.

OF4: Expresarse por escrito completando información personal o laboral y/o redactando respuestas simples a cuestionarios.

1. Lea atentamente el siguiente texto.

Clotario Blest (1899-1990)

He was a Catholic labor leader in our country. He was born on November 17th, 1899 in Santiago. He was the second of three children of Ricardo Blest, an army officer and Leopoldina Riffo, a school teacher.

As a child he had a difficult life after his father committed suicide at a relatively young age.

Clotario Blest was sent to study at a public school and after that he entered the Catholic seminary of Los Angeles Custodios in Santiago. This was followed by studies of Theology, the Law and Chemistry at the university, together with systematic athletic activity. He was banished from the religious institution because he refused to support the political campaigns of the Conservative Party. However some progressive teachers, like Alberto Hurtado had a significant influence on Blest's ideas regarding social justice for the laboring class.

After abandoning his studies for the priesthood he worked in a pharmacy and in a law firm. He worked for 32 years as an office cleaner. Blest started his political life by joining Casa del Pueblo. He was also active in the Union of Catholic Youth Centres (UCJC).

He had a relationship with Teresa Ossandon, who was four years younger than him and a member of the Young Catholic Womens Organization. Two years later they decided to end the relationship and dedicate their lives to their mission. Ossandon joined the order of the Carmelites and died in 1989.

The most important organization founded by Clotario Blest was the Central Unica de Trabajadores de Chile (CUT) established in 1953 and led by Blest until 1961.

He was repeatedly imprisoned many times during his life due to his fights.

After Augusto Pinochet's coup d'état, various diplomats offered him asylum in foreign countries but he did not accept. On 24 October 1973, his house was raided by the army. His property and books were confiscated and he was mistreated and abused. However, Blest was not arrested because of his international renown.



Contemporary reports describe Clotario Blest as an ascetic and peaceful person, with blue eyes and of tiny and fragile. He ate very little and drank only water, and sometimes milk. He slept few hours and worked intensively for long hours and with great energy.

He died on 31 May 1990.

2. Observe y describa en ingles al personaje de la fotografía. Utilice el banco de palabras.

He is / He has / He looks old - thin - blue eyes - long hair - white beard - peaceful - wise – intelligent.

3. Responda True (T) or False (F) de acuerdo al texto.

- a. _____ Clotario Blest was a priest.
- b. _____ Clotario Blest had two siblings.
- c. _____ Clotario Blest fought for labor rights.
- d. _____ Clotario Blest married Teresa Ossandon.
- e. _____ Clotario Blest was a violent person.

4. Responda en ingles de acuerdo al texto.

a. Who were Clotarios parents?

b. What kind of jobs did Clotario have?

c. Which organization did Clotario found?

5. Responda en español de acuerdo al texto.

a. ¿Por qué Clotario Blest tuvo que abandonar el seminario?

b. ¿Por qué no fue arrestado durante el gobierno militar?

c. ¿Cómo era Clotario Blest en sus últimos años antes de morir?

6. Piense en un personaje importante para usted (chileno o extranjero) y describa en ingles sus características principales.
