

**The Mark of Zorro** by Johnston McCulley**1**

'He tells people, "I'm not a real thief. I only punish the enemies of the poor and weak.'" *The student could also mention Gonzales' reply, "No—not yet.", to the question about whether Zorro has ever killed anybody.*

**2**

*Student's own answer. The student could say, Zorro punishes the enemies of the poor and the weak. Gonzales has beaten a poor, weak man. Zorro's eyes are cold and angry. Perhaps he does want to kill Gonzales. But the student could also say, Zorro has never killed anybody yet. Perhaps he punishes people in other ways. So he does not want to kill Gonzales.*

**3**

- 1 Don Diego does not know how to win a woman's love. He wants Lolita's parents to arrange their marriage. He is going to send his servant to play a guitar under Lolita's window. But Lolita wants a brave, strong husband. She wants someone who can win her love himself, not by sending servants.
- 2 He wants to get his land back. He wants the Pulido family to be great again. He wants Diego to help him. He wants Diego to talk to the governor about his problems.

**4**

- 1 Because Ramón has lied about him. Ramón has said, "He killed many men and women in Santa Barbara."
- 2 (a) Lolita is not interested in Don Diego and she is not interested in Captain Ramón either.  
(b) Lolita is in love with Zorro. That is why she is not interested in the other men.

**5**

*Student's own answer. The student could list some of the following sentences—He was not interested in winning the love of women. He did not enjoy loud talk or fighting. "I don't like stories about blood and violence." "I don't know how to say sweet things to a woman." "I'm very tired. I've ridden here twice today from Los Angeles." No woman wanted a weak man like Don Diego! "I don't want to meet Zorro on the road."*

**6**

*Student's own answers. The student could say, Gonzales thinks, "Diego is a weak man. He hates fighting and violence. He does not want to hear about Zorro." The student could guess that Diego wants Gonzales to think that he is weak and hates violence, but it is not true.*

**7**

*Student's own answers. The student could say, Ramón thinks, "Don Diego came here because he was angry*

*about my insult to Lolita. But he was afraid to fight me. How can a man be so weak and stupid?" And Ramón has lied to Diego about Lolita and her family. He thinks, "Diego believes my story. Now he will hate Lolita." Perhaps that is why he laughs.*

**8**

*Student could find this sentence: 'He tells people, "I only punish the enemies of the poor and the weak.'" The judge and the hide dealer have cheated Fray Felipe.*

**9**

First, because Don Diego has not won the love of Lolita. Second, because Diego does not want to join Zorro and the caballeros.

**10**

Zorro.

**11**

*Student's own answer. The student should say that, Diego is not telling the truth. The student should give their own reasons for this answer.*

**12**

Because Zorro cuts a letter "Z" on Ramón's face with his sword. This is his mark.

**13**

*Student's own answer. The student could say that Gonzales has wanted to kill Zorro throughout the story. The governor is with the soldiers. He has offered a reward to the person who kills Zorro. Gonzales wants the reward.*