

# Symbols used in "noli me tangere" by José Rizal essay sample

[People](#), [Jose Rizal](#)



The characters of the novel were drawn by Rizal from persons who actually existed during his time. \* Juan Crisostomo Ibarra - the protagonist

Represented the affluent and liberal European educated Filipino (Ilustrado) and desired the education of the people \* Elias - represented the Filipino masses wanted to liberate the people from the injustices suffered from the Spaniards and represented Rizal himself \* Maria Clara - The object of Ibarra's love and affection. \* Trained in a convent and immersed in education that is religious in orientation. \* Salome - Elias' girlfriend

\* Same with Maria Clara epitomizes womanhood in their fidelity, shyness and modesty and represents Leonor Rivera \* Padre Damaso - the main antagonist in the novel.

\* A typical domineering friar during Rizal's time.

\* Arrogant, immoral and anti-Filipino

\* Often mistaken as a Dominican priest.

\* Pilosopo Tasyo - perceived to be a sage by the educated and a lunatic or weird by those who did not know him. \* Represents Paciano, Rizal's older brother

\* Capitan Tiago - Don Anastacio de los Santos

\* Husband of Pia Alba

\* His wealth came from illegal opium trade

\* Example of a subservient Filipino to the Spanish authorities for protection and security \* Capitan Juan Sunico of San Nicolas

\* Sisa - the mother of Basilio and Crispin

\* Symbolizes Filipinos lack of concern in facing and resolving problems confronting Filipino society. \* But illustrates the typical Filipino mother.

Ready to defend their children from all forms of injustice and accusations. \*

Basilio and Crispin - represents the Crisostomo brothers in Bulacan \* Padre

Salvi - represents an immoral and coward friar

\* Was believed to be Father Antonio Piernavieja, the hated Augustinian friar who was killed by the patriots during the revolution. \* Doña Victorina - wife of Don Tiburcio de Espadaña.

\* A social climber. An Indio who wanted to be treated as a Spaniard for her husband was a citizen of Spain. \* Doña Agustina Medel

\* Doña Consolacion - mistress of the Alferez

\* Symbolized the mentality of the Guardia Civil: Vulgar, cruel and quarrelsome The novel calls for the Filipino to:

\* Regain his self confidence

\* Appreciate his self-worth

\* Return to the heritage of his ancestors

\* Assert himself

\* To equal to the Spaniards

\* Insists in the need for education

\* Dedication to the country

\* Assimilating the aspects of Western culture that could enhance native traditions