



# Sarmiento and the Big Exam

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Young Sarmiento sits at his wooden school desk every single day, listening attentively to his teacher and taking careful notes. He is known throughout the classroom as a diligent student who never misses a day of school. Books are piled high around him as he eagerly absorbs every new lesson.



The afternoon sun streams through the classroom windows as the teacher announces an upcoming evaluation. Sarmiento nods with a confident smile, believing he already knows the material by heart. He decides he does not need to review the study guide this time around.



Evening falls in Sarmiento's cozy room, and while other nights are filled with quiet reading, tonight he closes his textbooks early. Convinced that his memory is infallible, he spends his evening playing outside instead of opening his notes. The important study materials sit untouched on his desk.



The next morning, the classroom is filled with the quiet rustle of turning pages and scratching pencils. Sarmiento sits at his desk, staring down at the newly distributed assessment paper with a sudden knot in his stomach. The most important section of the test covers the exact topic he chose to skip.



Panic briefly flutters in Sarmiento's chest as he reads the tricky questions on the page. He realizes too late that relying solely on overconfidence was a mistake. However, instead of giving up, he takes a deep breath and closes his eyes to calm his racing thoughts.



Sarmiento holds his pencil tightly and begins to search the deep corners of his memory. Flashes of past classes and lectures begin to return to him through sheer willpower and concentration. His dedication and past hours of hard work start to pay off piece by piece.



With a determined look on his face, Sarmiento's hand moves swiftly across the paper. He writes down the answers, pouring all his effort into explaining the crucial concepts he almost missed. Every single detail he studied in the past weeks begins to connect.



The final bell rings, and Sarmiento walks up to the teacher's desk to hand in his completed evaluation. He lets out a long sigh of relief, feeling proud that he pushed through the difficult moments. The teacher smiles warmly as she accepts the paper.



A few days later, the teacher stands before the class and hands back the graded evaluations with a proud smile. Sarmiento looks down at his paper and gasps in joyful disbelief at the bright red number written at the top. He earned a perfect ten through his incredible dedication.



Years pass, and the lessons learned in that primary school classroom guide Sarmiento toward all his future goals and dreams. Standing proudly under a bright sky, he looks back at the journey that taught him the true value of effort. Success is achieved not just by talent, but by perseverance.