Read the following short story “The Plot” by Jorge Louis Borges. Then write a careful analysis of how the narrator reveals the theme or purpose of the piece through his use of diction and technique.

The Plot

To make his horror perfect, Caesar1, hemmed about at the foot of a  statue by his friends impatient knives, discovers among the faces and the blades the face of Marcus Junius Brutus2, his ward, perhaps his very son—and so Caesar stops defending himself, and cries out Et Tu, Brute?3 Shakespeare and Quevedo4 record that pathetic cry.

Fate is partial to repetitions, variations, symmetries. Nineteen centuries later, in the southern part of the province of Buenos Aires, a gaucho is set upon by other gauchos5, as he falls he recognizes a godson of his, and says to him in gentle remonstrance and slow surprise (these words must be heard, not read): Pero, che!6 He dies, but he does not know that he has died so that a scene can be played out again.

1 Julius Caesar (100 bc- 400 bc). Roman dictator assassinated by a band of conspirators

2 Marcus Junius Brutus (85 bc-42bc). Roman politician and the lead conspirator who

assassinated Julius Caesar.

3 *Et tu, Brute*? Latin for “And you, Brutus?’

4 Francisco Gomez de Quevado (1580-1645). Spanish poet and satirist

5 goucho- South American cowboy

6 Pero, che: a statement of surprise, in which che is a tearm of endearment and pero means “but”