

Discussion Questions for *Viva Cuba*

1. There are obvious similarities in the relationship between Jorgito and Malu and the classic story of Romeo and Juliet. Using examples from the movie compare and contrast the two stories of friendship and love.
2. Many critics have seen this story as a political allegory for the current state of affairs in Cuba. Analyze the two different families in the film and what they represent to the national and political climate of modern day Cuba.
3. There are many beautiful shots of the countryside, what do you think the director is trying to convey about the country of Cuba? Coupled with the political and social ideals we gather throughout the film how does this help develop the third main character as the country of Cuba itself? Is it a foe or ally to the greater story?
4. Most views on Cuba come from adults. In respect to cinematography, what do the director and DOP do to help us see this film from the point of view of our protagonists, the children?
5. Besides themes of opposition, friendship amongst odds and adversity, what does this film say about the larger issue of emigration? And specifically about emigration from Cuba?
6. Many parts of the movie can be related to a fairy tale. From the acting, to the main characters and the people they encounter along the way, draw comparisons between this story and the stereotypical fairytale.