

# 國立臺灣師範大學 101 學年度碩士班招生考試試題

科目：美國文學史

適用系所：英語學系(文學組)

注意：1.本試題共 2 頁，請依序在答案卷上作答，並標明題號，不必抄題。2.答案必須寫在指定作答區內，否則不予計分。

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## **Part I: Identification. Choose EIGHT of the following items to identify in brief paragraphs of 3-4 sentences. (5 points each; 40 points total)**

1. Flannery O'Connor
2. Beat Generation
3. *Their Eyes Were Watching God*
4. Lost Generation
5. *Common Sense*
6. "The Raven"
7. Tennessee Williams
8. Nick Carraway
9. Jamestown, Virginia
10. "A Model of Christian Charity"
11. Imagism
12. Rip Van Winkle

## **Part II: Textual analysis. Read and analyze the following TWO excerpts closely in relation to any themes or issues of American literature. (10 points each; 20 points total)**

1. Under the general name of Commodity, I rank all those advantages which our senses owe to nature. This, of course, is a benefit which is temporary and mediate, not ultimate, like its service to the soul. Yet although low, it is perfect in its kind, and is the only use of nature which all men apprehend. The misery of man appears like childish petulance, when we explore the steady and prodigal provision that has been made for his support and delight on this green ball which floats him through the heavens. What angels invented these splendid ornaments, these rich conveniences, this ocean of air above, this ocean of water beneath, this firmament of earth between?
2. ... the Negro is a sort of seventh son, born with a veil, and gifted with second-sight in this American world,—a world which yields him no true self-consciousness, but only lets him see himself through the revelation of the other world. It is a peculiar sensation, this double-consciousness, this sense of always looking at one's self through the eyes of others, of measuring one's soul by the tape of a world that looks on in amused contempt and pity. One ever feels his two-ness,—an American, a Negro; two souls, two thoughts, two unreconciled strivings; two warring ideals in one dark body, whose dogged strength alone keeps it from being torn asunder.

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**Part III: Essay. Choose TWO from the following topics and discuss them in well-organized essays. (20 points each; 40 points total)**

1. American landscape has played a central role in American literature. Write an essay to comment upon the changing roles of place, nature, and animals with reference to at least two writers from different periods.
2. Critics have argued that “without some understanding of Puritanism, there is no understanding of America” (Perry Miller). Discuss and explain with reference to at least two writers.
3. “Emergent literatures in the U.S. challenge familiar ways of classifying and categorizing facts and people: they are arenas where new genres and identities, new sets of meanings and practices, are negotiated, articulated, tested” (Cyrus R. K. Patell, *Cambridge History of American Literature*). Discuss and illustrate with reference to at least two writers.