

國立臺灣師範大學 104 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

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。

PART ONE

Comment on **four** of the following excerpts by contextualizing them and discussing their significance in American literature. Do not write more than two paragraphs for one excerpt. (12.5 points each; 50 points in total)

1. “Once upon a midnight dreary, while I pondered, weak and weary,
Over many a quaint and curious volume of forgotten lore,
While I nodded, nearly napping, suddenly there came a tapping,
As of some one gently rapping, rapping at my chamber door.”
2. “The letter was the symbol of her calling. Such helpfulness was found in her—so much power to do, and power to sympathize—that many people refused to interpret the scarlet A by its original signification.”
3. “Persons attempting to find a motive in this narrative will be prosecuted; persons attempting to find a moral in it will be banished; persons attempting to find a plot in it will be shot.”
4. “For we must consider that we shall be as a city upon a hill. The eyes of all people are upon us. So that if we shall deal falsely with our God in this work we have undertaken, and so cause him to withdraw his present help from us, we shall be made a story and a by-word through the world.”
5. “I become a transparent eye-ball. I am nothing. I see all. The currents of the Universal Being circulate through me; I am part or particle of God.”
6. “I celebrate myself, and sing myself,
And what I assume you shall assume,
For every atom belonging to me as good belongs to you.”

PART TWO

Choose **two** questions to answer with well-organized essays. (25 points each; 50 points total)

1. Coming alongside the American independent revolution was the development of an American national literature. Discuss at least two works produced in the late eighteenth century or the nineteenth century that bear witness to American authors' attempts to establish an American literary tradition independent of European canons.
2. The definition and construction of self has been essential in American literature.

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Discuss the changing ideas/ideals of “self” in American literary history by discussing works from at least three different periods.

3. Ever since the days of the early settlements on the American continent, writers have represented America in multiple ways in their works. By making reference to at least two different authors from different periods (including a twentieth century writer), discuss images of America in American literary history.
4. Discuss features of modernism in American literature with reference to at least two different works.