

系所組別：外國語文學系甲組

考試科目：美國文學

考試日期：0219，節次：3

※ 考生請注意：本試題 可 不可 使用計算機

注意事項：答案一律寫在答案紙上，不必抄題，但需標明題號。

I. Analyze the poem 10%

I'm nobody! Who are you?

Are you nobody, too?

Then there's a pair of us — don't tell!

They'd banish us, you know.

How dreary to be somebody!

How public, like a frog

To tell your name the livelong day

To an admiring bog!

II. Explication of short passages(each 10%)

For each passage, please follow the instructions.

a) The author and the work.2%

b) What is the passage about or what does it suggest?4%

c) How does the passage bring up or develop one theme of the work?4%

1. Alive, Miss Emily had been a tradition, a duty, and a care; a sort of hereditary obligation upon the town, dating from that day in 1894 when Colonel Sartoris, the mayor — he who fathered the edict that no Negro woman should appear on the streets without an apron — remitted her taxes, the dispensation dating from the death of her father on into perpetuity.

2. Maggie was my dancing mother. Deaf, I thought, and dumb. Nobody inside. Nobody who would hear you if you cried in the night. Nobody who could tell you anything important that you could use. Rocking, dancing, swaying as she walked. And when the gar girls pushed her down, and started roughhousing, I knew she wouldn't scream, couldn't—just like me—and I was glad about that.

(背面仍有題目，請繼續作答)

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3. o virtuous reader! You never knew what it is to be a slave; to be entirely unprotected by law or custom; to have the laws reduce you to the condition of a chattel, entirely subject to the will of another. You never exhausted your ingenuity in avoiding the snares, and eluding the power of a hated tyrant; you never shuddered at sound of his footsteps, and trembled within hearing his voice. I know I did wrong. No one can feel it more sensibly than I do. The painful and humiliating memory will haunt me to my dying day. Still, in looking back, calmly, on the events of my life, I feel that the slave woman ought not to be judged by the same standard as others.

4. We shall find that the God of Israel is among us, when ten of us shall be able to resist a thousand of our enemies; when He shall make us a praise and glory that men shall say of succeeding plantations, "the Lord make it like that of New England." For we must consider that we shall be as a city upon a hill.

5. Nobody dast blame this man. You don't understand: Willy was a salesman. And for a salesman, there is no rock bottom to the life. He don't put a bolt to a nut, he don't tell you the law or give you medicine. He's a man way out there in the blue, riding on a smile and a shoeshine. And when they start not smiling back – that's an earthquake. And then you get yourself a couple of spots on your hat, and you're finished. Nobody dast blame this man. A salesman is got to dream, boy. It comes with the territory.

III. Essay Questions 40% (each 20%)

1. Based on Emerson's essays ("Nature" and "Self-Reliance") and Thoreau's *Walden*, define American Transcendentalism. Scholars have usually regarded Thoreau as having been Emerson's pupil: discuss similarities in the two writers' works that would support this conclusion, and consider whether or how Thoreau deviates from Emerson's views.

2. Imagine that you have been chosen to edit a section on the period 1914-1945 for a new American literature anthology. Explain at length your methodology for making selections, and discuss two works that you would include in their entirety (rather than excerpted form).