

國立中山大學 107 學年度碩士暨碩士專班招生考試試題

科目名稱：英美文學史【外文系碩士班甲組】

題號：412002

※本科目依簡章規定「不可以」使用計算機(問答申論題)

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The exam consists of **Two Parts**: the first part is on **English literature** and the second part is on **American literature**. Please answer the questions carefully and follow the instructions. You have **100 minutes** to answer the questions.

Part One -- English Literature (60%)

Choose **TWO** of the following questions (30% each)

1. The Renaissance is a period in European history defined as the revival of the Classical (Greek and Roman) ideas, concepts, and knowledge. Humanism is one of the most important intellectual movements of the Renaissance; the humanists thought that every person has respect and worth, attaching the greatest importance to the dignity and value of the individual. In addition, individualism and secularism are the other features of the period. Please take at least three representative writers from the period to illustrate how they reveal these themes in their works.
2. Forming of personality and interrogation of human nature are related themes in Romantic literature. Discuss and illustrate these themes with reference to William Blake's "The Tyger" in *Songs of Experience* and Percy Bysshe Shelley's "To a Skylark." In your discussion, please also offer your thoughts on the following issues and questions. 1) Blake's poem "The Tyger" takes on a symbolic character and comes to embody the moral problem the poem explores: perfectly beautiful and yet perfectly destructive. In your point of view, what does Blake's tiger symbolize? In contemplating the awesome symmetry of the tiger, the speaker asks a series of questions. In your view, what is his main question about and what could be the theme inferred from these queries? 2) Many of Shelley's poems include a climactic moment, an instant when the poet's feelings overwhelm him and his poem. What are some of these moments in "To a Skylark?" How are they typical of the poetic personality Shelley brings to his writing?
3. Victorian poets' most distinctive achievement is a poetry of mood and character, and how they seek to represent psychology in their poetic works is the major concern of the scholarly discussion in the reading of Victorian Literature. Discuss Alfred Lord Tennyson's "The Lady of Shalott" and Robert Browning's "My Last Duchess" to show how these two works demonstrate the specific features of this literature movement. Your discussion shall particularly address the following questions: 1) How is each quality or characteristic subtly revealed when discussing the contradictory characteristics that Browning reveals in the Duke? 2) Do you think the ending of the poem "The Lady of Shalott" is tragic? Is there another way to look at it? Is her death a kind of escape?

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試題隨卷繳回

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Part Two -- American Literature (40%)

Choose TWO of the following questions and write a coherent and cogent essay with references to textual examples (20% each)

1. Discuss the role played by nature (or landscapes or the American wilderness) in American Literature. Please discuss how nature is represented in the works of **TWO American writers**. Elaborate your viewpoint with examples.
2. The quest of self (or the creation of self-identity) is one of the most important motifs in American literature. Please discuss how this motif is reflected in the work(s) of **ONE American writer**. Elaborate your viewpoint with examples.
3. Who is your favorite writer (novelist, poet, playwright, essayist or prose writer) in American literature? Please discuss his or her work(s)?