

國立高雄師範大學 100 學年度碩士班招生考試試題

(請用藍、黑色筆作答，以其他顏色或鉛筆作答者不予計分)

系所別：英語學系

科 目：美國文學（全一頁）

1. In the postwar period of American literature, the art of the short story flourished. Among its most respected practitioners were Flannery O'Connor, J. D. Salinger, Sylvia Plath, and Vladimir Nabokov, etc. Discuss the major themes of Flannery O'Connor's "A Good Man is Hard to Find" and "Everything That Rises Must Converge," J. D. Salinger's *The Catcher in the Rye*, Sylvia Plath's *The Bell Jar*, and Vladimir Nabokov's *Lolita* to reflect human conditions in these works. (25%)
2. In contemporary American literature, Toni Morrison is the most recent American recipient of the Nobel Prize for Literature. Besides, one of the key developments in late-20th-century American literature was the rise of ethnic minorities beyond African Americans and Jewish Americans, for example, Asian American writers. Discuss the main ideas of Morrison's *The Bluest Eye*, and *Beloved*, as well as Maxine Hong Kingston's *The Woman Warrior*, and *China Men* to respond the multi-cultural identities in America. (25%)
3. The United States were founded on the principle that "all men [and women] are created equal". Discuss how various American authors, male and female, have criticized, in their writings, the nation's or a region's failure to live up to—and live by—this principle, even leading individual lives and fostering beliefs that contradicted it. (25%)
4. Henry James, William Dean Howells and Edith Wharton all wrote realistic novels of manners depicting the ups and downs of men and women of high(er) society who rise or fall according to their family status, whom they marry, their inner qualities of character and whether they can make themselves acceptable to society or not. Discuss the major themes of some of their novels or short stories and give examples from the works. (25%)