

# 國立成功大學

## 113學年度碩士班招生考試試題

編 號：14

系 所：外國語文學系

科 目：英國文學

日 期：0201

節 次：第 2 節

備 註：不可使用計算機

※ 考生請注意：本試題不可使用計算機。請於答案卷(卡)作答，於本試題紙上作答者，不予計分。 Answer EACH of the following FOUR questions with well-organized paragraphs starting with clearly-defined topic sentences. Relate your arguments to specific literary texts from British literature and support your ideas with precise, balanced, and sufficient evidence. Write on the provided answer book. (Each question is worth 25 points.)

1. Across the field of late medieval literature are densely littered instances of representation of intrusive corporeality. The bodies of the characters in the imaginative literature of the time seem unruly, as the sexual, digestive, excretory, kinetic, and other functions and desires of their bodies tend to get out of control. It becomes an interesting issue to consider how these cases of representation of the corporeal transgression are justified and/or judged in the literature of the time, against the generally spiritual orientation of the dominant Christian values. Cite examples from the works of Geoffrey Chaucer, the Gawain poet, and William Langland to explore the issue.
2. Kingship is one of the prominent themes and dominant concerns in the literature and culture of the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> century. Not only in the history plays of the times but in other dramatic forms, in long narrative poems, or in texts of non-imaginative literature like essays can be found direct discussions or indirect references to such issues as what kingship essentially consists of (divinely or secularly), what moral qualities make a good or a bad king, how these qualities may be different from those of a just morally good individual, what the subjects should and can do when they are ruled by a bad king, etc. Except the history plays, choose three literary texts of the times and discuss how they treat related issues (not limited to those listed above).
3. Monsters abound in the 19<sup>th</sup> century verse and prose narratives. Their monstrosity may not (only) lies in their appearances but (moreover) in their habits, thoughts, lifestyles, personality traits, social relations, etc. A primary thematic concern in the monster narratives is how the monsters come into conflict the “normal” worlds and how both sides negotiate through the conflicts, if ever possible. Also, etymologically speaking, the word “monster” carries the connotations of “to indicate,” “to instruct,” “to warn,” etc. What and how the monsters can express and expose about themselves and the “normal” worlds become ethical issues the writers of the monster narratives inevitably address. Choose three such narratives from the 19<sup>th</sup>-century literature to discuss the thematic concerns mentioned above.
4. The 20<sup>th</sup> century and the beginning of the new millennium witness a significant rise of utopian and dystopian narratives. The utopian or dystopian imagination is mostly mobilized by the writers’ speculations about certain drastic changes in social institution or technological application; the burgeoning signs of the changes the writers believe they can already detect in the real worlds they are living in. In constructing their imaginary worlds, the writers probably have to decide how social

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institutions would interact with technological applications—in other words, whether a new institution would demand technological development to serve the new status quo OR whether a new technology would require changes in the institution to accommodate its development. Also, the writers may speculate how the two non-human forces might counteract each other or conspire to transform humanity as we know it now. Discuss at least three utopian/dystopian novels to elaborate on the scenarios mentioned above.