

國立中山大學 113 學年度 碩士班暨碩士在職專班招生考試試題

科目名稱：英文作文與閱讀【外文系碩士班甲組、乙組、丙組】

— 作答注意事項 —

考試時間：100 分鐘

- 考試開始鈴響前不得翻閱試題，並不得書寫、劃記、作答。請先檢查答案卷（卡）之應考證號碼、桌角號碼、應試科目是否正確，如有不同立即請監試人員處理。
- 答案卷限用藍、黑色筆(含鉛筆)書寫、繪圖或標示，可攜帶橡皮擦、無色透明無文字墊板、尺規、修正液（帶）、手錶(未附計算器者)。每人每節限使用一份答案卷，請衡酌作答。
- 答案卡請以 2B 鉛筆劃記，不可使用修正液（帶）塗改，未使用 2B 鉛筆、劃記太輕或污損致光學閱讀機無法辨識答案者，後果由考生自負。
- 答案卷（卡）應保持清潔完整，不得折疊、破壞或塗改應考證號碼及條碼，亦不得書寫考生姓名、應考證號碼或與答案無關之任何文字或符號。
- 可否使用計算機請依試題資訊內標註為準，如「可以」使用，廠牌、功能不拘，唯不得攜帶書籍、紙張（應考證不得做計算紙書寫）、具有通訊、記憶、傳輸或收發等功能之相關電子產品或其他有礙試場安寧、考試公平之各類器材入場。
- 試題及答案卷（卡）請務必繳回，未繳回者該科成績以零分計算。
- 試題採雙面列印，考生應注意試題頁數確實作答。
- 違規者依本校招生考試試場規則及違規處理辦法處理。

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題號：412001
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Reading Comprehension and English Composition (100%)

*Please read the following instruction carefully before writing your answers.

The following excerpt is drawn from the initial paragraphs of *Love in the Fallen City* (*Qing cheng zhi lian*), a famous novella written by one of the most celebrated Chinese-American writers, Eileen Chang (1920 – 1995). The novella is known for its depiction of the social and cultural dynamics of China during a transformative period, portraying the struggles faced by individuals striving to find a place in a society conflicted with traditional and modern values.

Your task is to write a short essay (approximately 500 words) that **engages in a meticulous close reading of this text, dissecting the author's deliberate choices in crafting the narrative that introduces this renowned story. For example, you can investigate the nuanced literary effects that emerge through the author's distinct narrative styles and tones, analyzing the utilization of various literary devices and rhetorical tropes. You can also choose to scrutinize the author's deliberate deployment of language (i.e., tone, rhythm, and narrative styles), investigating how it contributes to the overall atmosphere and impact of the narrative.**

In short, your task is to unpack the author's employment of literary devices, such as symbolism, metaphor, or foreshadowing, and clarify how these devices function to create specific effects within the narrative, thereby revealing the layers of meaning embedded in the text. Please be very specific in your analysis and provide evidence with textual analysis to back up your argument.

LOVE IN A FALLEN CITY

(EILEEN CHANG; TRANSLATED BY KAREN S. KINGSBURY)

* Please note that the main character in this novella is Bai Liusu.

** Also note that the translation provided below is subject to minor modification.

*** *Huqin* refers to 胡琴.

SHANGHAI'S clocks were set an hour ahead so the city could "save daylight," but the Bai family said: "We go by the old clock." Ten o'clock to them was eleven to everyone else. Their singing was behind the beat; they couldn't keep up with the *huqin* of life.

When the *huqin* wails on a night of ten thousand lamps, the bow slides back and forth, drawing forth a tale too desolate for words—oh! Why go into it? The tale of the *huqin* should be performed by a radiant entertainer, two long streaks of rouge pointing to her exquisite nose as she sings, as she smiles, covering her mouth with her sleeve ... but here is was just Fourth Master Bai sunk in darkness, sitting alone on a ramshackle balcony and playing the *huqin*.

As he was playing, the doorbell rang downstairs. For the Bai household, this was most unusual; people didn't pay social calls after dark, not in the old etiquette. If a visitor came at night or a telegram arrived without warning, either it meant that some event of huge import had transpired or, most probably, someone had died.

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Fourth Master sat still and listened, but since Third Master, Third Mistress, and Fourth Mistress were shouting all at once as they came up the stairs, he couldn't understand what they were saying. Sitting in the room behind the balcony were Sixth Young Lady, Seventh Young Lady and Eighth Young Lady, along with the Third and Fourth Masters' children, all growing increasingly anxious. From where Fourth Master sat on the darkened balcony, he could see everything in the well-lit room. So when the door opened, there was Third Master in his undershirt and shorts, standing on the raised doorsill with his legs stuck out wide, reaching behind his thighs to slap at the mosquitoes, and calling out to Fourth Master: "Hey, Old Four, guess what? That fellow that Sixth Sister had left after divorce, well, it seems he's caught pneumonia and died!"

Fourth Master put down the *huqin* and walked into the room. "Who brought the news?" he asked.

"Mrs. Xu," said Third Master. Then he turned to shoo away his wife with his fan. "Don't tag along like this just to gawk at things! Isn't Mrs. Xu still downstairs? She's a big lady, doesn't like climbing stairs—why don't you go to look after her?"

Third Mistress left and Fourth Master mulled things over. "Isn't Mrs. Xu a relative of the deceased?"

"Indeed," said Third Master. "It looks like their family has specially asked her to bring us the news, and that means something, of course."

"Is it possible that they want Sixth Sister to return and go into mourning?"

Third Master scratched his scalp with the handle of the fan. "Well, according to the rules, it would only be right..."

They both looked over at their Sixth Sister. Bai Liusu sat in the corner of the room calmly embroidering a slipper; her brothers, it seems, had been so intent on their conversation that they hadn't given her a chance to speak. Now she simply said, "Go and be his widow, after we've divorced? People will laugh still their teeth fall out!" She went on sewing her slipper, apparently unperturbed, but her palms were clammy and her needle stuck—she couldn't draw it through anymore.

ESSAY (100%): Write up a short essay of approximately 500 words (or more if you want) that engages in a meticulous close reading of the above text, analyzing the author's deliberate choices in crafting the narrative that introduces this renowned story.