

There are three sections in this test. Read the instructions carefully before you answer the questions.

Section A: Identification Questions: 40%

Select 4 out of the following (4 only, no more and no less). Identify the source, including author and title, of the quotations given below (2 points). Describe briefly the context of the quotation (3 points), and then explain its significance (5 points).

1. Daddy, I have had to kill you.
You died before I had time—
Marble-heavy, a bag full of God,
Ghastly statue with one grey tone
Big as a Frisco seal
2. “In the twenty years since I heard this story I have not asked for detail nor said my aunt’s name, I do not know it.”
3. “Oh, shit, Twyla. Shit, shit, shit, What the hell happened to Maggie?”
4. “Son, after I’m gone I want you to keep up the good fight...I want you to overcome ‘em with yeses, undermine ‘em with grins, agree ‘em to death and destruction, let ‘em swoller you till they vomit or bust wide open”
5. I celebrate myself, and sing myself,
And what I assume you shall assume,
For every atom belonging to me as good belongs to you.
6. Let us go then, you and I,
When the evening is spread out against the sky
Like a patient etherised upon a table
7. It was a close place. I took . . . up [the letter I’d written to Miss Watson], and held it in my hand. I was a-trembling, because I’d got to decide, forever, betwixt two things, and I knowed it. I studied a minute, sort of holding my breath, and then says to myself: “All right then, I’ll go to hell”—and tore it up. It was awful thoughts and awful words, but they was said. And I let them stay said, and never thought no more about reforming.

(背面仍有題目,請繼續作答)

Section B:

Paraphrase the following poem by Richard Wilbur. (In other words, you need to use your own words to describe what the author is trying to say here, but you have to do so without changing the author's ideas.)

20%

A Barred Owl

The warping night air having brought the boom
Of an owl's voice into her darkened room,
We tell the wakened child that all she heard
Was an odd question from a forest bird,
Asking of us, if rightly listened to,
"Who cooks for you?" and then "Who cooks for you?"

Words, which can make our terrors bravely clear,
Can also thus domesticate a fear,
And send a small child back to sleep at night
Not listening for the sound of stealthy flight
Or dreaming of some small thing in a claw
Borne up to some dark branch and eaten raw.

Section C: Essay Question 40%

Write a well-organized paragraph to respond to **one** of the following questions. Please be reminded that not only do you need to have a clearly identifiable argument but you also need to substantiate your argument with evidence from a variety of texts.

1. Discuss how the following authors challenge the promise of American Dream and revise the myth of the "self-made man": F. Scott Fitzgerald; Ralph Ellison; Maxine Hong Kingston; William Carlos Williams. You can also use other texts that you are more familiar with to support your argument.
2. Discuss how the following authors both challenge the reader's racial imagination and expand the reader's understanding of what it means to be an American: Mark Twain, William Faulkner, Langston Hugh, Ralph Ellison, or other authors that you are familiar with.
3. How do ideals of domesticity, femininity, and sentimentality shape nineteenth-century American literature and reform movements? Discuss this issue with specific reference to texts that you are familiar with.