

八十八學年度 外國語文學 系(所) 甲 組碩士班研究生招生考試

英美文學史

科號 5202 共 2 頁第 1 頁 *請在試卷【答案卷】內作答

ENGLISH AND AMERICAN LITERATURE

Section I: English Literature (60%)

Write a cogent essay in response to each of the following questions:

(1) Choose one work from each of the two groups below and compare and contrast the role of nature or the natural world as it is presented in different periods. What attitudes toward the natural world or the forces of nature do these works express? What kind of historical changes might cause these changing perceptions of the natural world. (20%)

(I) *Faerie Queene*
King Lear
"The Seasons"

(II) "Tintern Abbey"
"In Memoriam"
"The Waste Land"

(2) What political and cultural situations give rise to themes of despair in the poetry of William Butler Yeats and W. H. Auden? Discuss the ways in which these two poets respond to their despair, taking into account thematic and technical similarities and differences. (20%)

(3) Explain the significance of five of the following: (20%)

Le Morte d'Arthur
Biographia Literaria
Waiting for Godot
Tristram Shandy

Comedy of Humors
"The Subjection of Women"
Objective correlative
The Golden Notebook

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Section II: American Literature (40%)

(4) As critics have pointed out, American writers have frequently made use of the first person (pronoun "I") to assess experience, to give form and perspective to their work. The first-person point of view has by no means been limited to fictional narrative but has likewise been a literary strategy in poetry, in essay, and in other forms of non-fiction prose. Select **two** writers from the list below and explain the distinctive use to which he or she puts the "I" or first-person speaker. (What kind of persona, for example, does the writer present? What attitude or attitudes does the "I" take toward the experience confronting him or her? What does the "I" contribute to the work as a whole?) You may wish to focus on an individual work for some writers, or several works for others. (20%)

Henry David Thoreau

Mark Twain

Herman Melville

Edgar Allan Poe

Emily Dickinson

Scott Fitzgerald

Robert Frost

Sylvia Plath

(5) Choose **one** author from each of the **three** groups below and discuss his or her work in terms of its social content or social criticism. What are the subjects of that content or criticism? Do you think this social concern injures or enhances the integrity of the work? Be as specific as possible in answering all of these questions. (20%)

(I) Eugene O'Neill

(II) Mark Twain

(III) E. E. Cummings

Arthur Miller

Kate Chopin

Adrienne Rich

Tennessee Williams

Henry James

Anne Sexton