

國 立 清 華 大 學 命 題 紙

95 學年度 外國語文學 系(所) 甲 組碩士班入學考試

科目 美國文學史 科目代碼 4402 共 3 頁第 1 頁 *請在【答案卷卡】內作答

GRADUATE ADMISSIONS TEST FOR AMERICAN LITERATURE

PART ONE

ANSWER **ONE** OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS. 30 MINUTES/30 POINTS

- 1] Whitman's longest poem is called "Song of Myself." What do you think is the fundamental subject matter of this 50 page poem? Is it just about himself or is it about something else, or various other things, as well?
- 2] Describe Emily Dickinson's portrayal of love in her poetry. What kinds of love does she talk about? Is her experience of love positive or negative? Is it merely heterosexual love or are there other aspects (such as same sex love or love of God, for example)?
- 3] In Hawthorne's style the dream-like and allegorical and the realistic seem to mingle. Choose one novel or story and show how these contrasting elements function to express the author's meaning.
- 4] Even today Poe is controversial: some critics think of him as a great and innovative writer, while others view his work as exaggerated, vulgar, implausible, and poorly written. Make a case for viewing him one way or the other. Refer to one story or one novel or one poem.
- 5] The French philosopher Malebranche wrote "Attention is the natural prayer of the soul." How does this remark relate to the view of life Thoreau puts forward in his Writing? Refer to one work.

PART TWO

ANSWER **ONE** OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS 30 MINUTES/30 POINTS

- 1] Henry James is often praised for his use of suggestion rather than direct statement. Choose one novel or story and show how he uses suggestion, mood, and the unstated to achieve his objectives.

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- 2] Faulkner is thought by some as being unable to represent African-Americans in a way that is free of racist ideas. Do you agree or disagree? Explain why, making reference to one work.
- 3] Hemingway is sometimes thought of as being overly preoccupied with masculinity of a rather narrow kind. Do you agree or disagree with this idea? Explain why, making reference to one work.
- 4] F. Scott Fitzgerald's most famous work is *The Great Gatsby*. What is his essential theme in this short novel?
- 5] What is innovative about the work of American poets of the 20th century? Choose ONE poet (from the following list) and discuss what makes his/her work modern: Wallace Stevens, Robert Frost, T.S. Eliot, William Carlos Williams, Elizabeth Bishop, and Marianne Moore. How does the writer in question write differently from poets of the 19th century?

PART THREE

Answer ONE of the following questions. 40 minutes/40 points

In answering the question you may refer to any literary genres you like – poetry, fiction, drama, essay. You may also use examples from any time period. The object is to give an overview of how these broad themes have been dealt with in American literature.

Note: In choosing examples, use different writers than the ones you have already discussed in the previous two questions.

- 1] Using TWO different writers, describe the ways immigrants have been viewed in American literature.
- 2] Using TWO different writers, describe how the experience of war has been portrayed in American literature.

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- 3] Using TWO different writers, describe how the world of business has been portrayed in American literature.
- 4] Using TWO different writers, describe how animals have been presented in American literature.
- 5] Using TWO different writers, describe how the theme of marriage has been presented in American literature.