

國立清華大學命題紙

97學年度 外國語文學 系(所)外國文學(甲)組碩士班入學考試

科目 English Literature 科目代碼 4001 共 2 頁第 1 頁 *請在【答案卷卡】內作答
(英國文學史)

Part I: Please identify the source (author and work, text and context) of the following quotations. Then, please indicate briefly its implications for literary history of the great Britain (60%)

1. "For oure book saith, 'Al that is writen is writen for oure doctrine,' and that is myn entente. Wherefore I biseeke you meekly, for the mercy of God, that ye praye for me that Crist have mercy on me and foryive me my giltes, and namely of my translacions and enditinges of worldly vanities, the whiche I revoke in my retraccions."
2. "If I would compare him [Jonson] with Shakespeare, I must acknowledge him the more correct poet, but Shakespeare the greater wit. Shakespeare was the homer, or father of our dramatic poets; jonson was the Virgil, the pattern of elaborate writing; I admire him, but I love Shakespeare."
3. "The reason Milton wrote in fetters when he wrote of Angels & God, and at liberty when of devils & Hell, is because he was a true Poet and of the Devil's party without knowing it."
4. "I mean Negative Capability, that is when man is capable of being in uncertainties, Mysteries, doubts, without any irritable reaching after fact & reason."
5. "She was Mrs. Jones, and she was alone, and she had no past and no future. Here I am, she thought, after all these years of being married and having children and playing those roles of responsibility—and I'm just the same."
6. "It is doubtful whether in the course of the centuries, though we have learnt much about making machines, we have learnt anything about making literature. We do not come to write better; all that we can be said to do is to keep moving, now a little in this direction, now in that, but with a circular tendency should the whole course of the track be viewed from a sufficiently lofty pinnacle."

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Part II: Essay Questions (40%)

Please write cogent essays in response to the following questions.

1. In what ways the humor of a medieval literary work like *The Miller's Tale* or *The Second Shepherds' Play* may be said to differ in its form and function within the text as a whole from the humor of *The Volpone* or *Pygmalion*.

Matthew Arnold suggested that the grand power of literature is its interpretative power, the power to interpret "by expressing, with inspired conviction, the ideas and laws of the inward world of man's moral and spiritual nature." The principle of "moral profundity" is most apparent in main stream fiction in which aggressive and egoistic female protagonists, ranging from Moll Flanders to Becky Sharp, are punished. However, there are plenty of "bad" or even "evil" women doing exceptionally well in the English novel. Can you think of one example and elaborate?