

國立清華大學 104 學年度碩士班考試入學試題

系所班組別：外國語文學系 甲組（外國文學組）

考試科目（代碼）：英國文學史（3401）

共__3__頁，第__1__頁 *請在【答案卷、卡】作答

Part I. Please choose **SIX** out of the following ten quotations and identify the source (the Author 2% & the title of the Original Work 3%) of each quote. (30%)

1. Suit the action to the word, the word to the action, with this special observance, that you o'erstep not the modesty of nature: for any thing so o'erdone is from the purpose of playing, whose end, both at the first and now, was and is, to hold as 'twere the mirror up to nature: to show virtue her feature, scorn her own image, and the very age and body of the time his form and pressure.
2. The quality of mercy is not strain'd,/ It droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven/
Upon the place beneath. It is twice blest:/ It blesseth him that gives and him that takes./ 'Tis mightiest in the mightiest, it becomes/ The throned monarch better than his crown.
3. Though wise men at their end know dark is right,
Because their words had forked no lightning they
Do not go gentle into that good night.
4. The trumpet of a prophecy! O Wind,
If Winter comes, can Spring be far behind?
5. Heard melodies are sweet, but those unheard
Are sweeter; therefore, ye soft pipes, play on;
Not to the sensual ear, but, more endeared,
Pipe to the spirit ditties of no tone:
Fair youth, beneath the trees, thou canst not leave
Thy song, nor ever can those trees be bare;
Bold Lover, never, never canst thou kiss,
Though winning near the goal – yet, do not grieve;

She cannot fade, though thou hast not thy bliss,
Forever wilt thou love, and she be fair!

6. And with them eke, O Goddess heavenly bright,
Mirrour of grace and Majestie divine,
Great Lady of the greatest Isle, whose light
Like Phoebus lampe throughout the world doth shine,
Shed they faire beames into my feeble eyne,
And raise my thoughts too humble and too vile,
To thinke of that true glorious type of thine,
The argument of mine afflicted stile:
The which to heare, vouchsafe, O dearest dred a-while.
7. The human frame being what it is, heart, body and brain all mixed together, and not contained in separate compartments as they will be no doubt in another million years, a good dinner is of great importance to good talk. One cannot think well, love well, sleep well, if one has not dined well.
8. Come live with me, and be my love,
And we will all the pleasures prove
That valleys, groves, hills and fields,
Woods, or steepy mountain yields.
9. For all good poetry is the spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings: but though this be true, poems to which any value can be attached, were never produced on any variety of subjects but by a man who, being possessed of more than usual organic sensibility, had also thought long and deeply.
10. But at my back I always hear
Time's winged chariot hurrying near;
And yonder all before us lie
Deserts of vast eternity.
Thy beauty shall no more be found,
Nor, in thy marble vault, shall sound
My echoing song;

Part II. Please select any **SIX** out of the following ten literary terms. Briefly define each term that you have selected and provide an example for each term to illustrate your point. (30%: 5% each)

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| 1. Mimesis | 6. Irony |
| 2. Blank Verse | 7. Foil |
| 3. Carpe diem | 8. Epiphany |
| 4. Alliteration | 9. Ballad |
| 5. Heroic couplet | 10. Fin de siècle |

Part III. Essay Questions. 40% (20% for each essay)

Please answer **TWO** of the following questions in well-organized, coherent essays.

1. In “A Defence of Poetry,” P. B. Shelley concludes that “Poets are the unacknowledged legislators of the World,” while in “The Decay of Lying” Oscar Wilde opines that “Life imitates art far more than art imitates life.” The above two statements seemingly reverse the conventional notion of mimesis. What is your opinion? Do you agree with Shelley or Wilde? Does art or literary language construct one’s world? Do you see people’s lives as “a mimicry” and their passion “a quotation”? Or do you see art as an insufficient measurement or representation of life? (Please draw your reference from British Literature)
2. In her essay “Mr. Bennett and Mrs. Brown” Virginia Woolf talks about the greatest task of a novelist is to create lifelike, realistic characters. In your opinion, which character in British Literature seems most real to you? And Why? Please analyse the properties and techniques that make such character seem and feel real to you?
3. Throughout the entire human history, humans continue to imagine a good and happy life. However, as social and political animals, the living condition of humans can hardly be fully exempted from its socio-political circumstances. Personal sacrifices and mutual compromises must be made. Thereby, ideas of an escape into another, perfect world are constantly entertained. In your opinion, what would be a good and happy life? According to your reading of any relevant work/text in British Literature, are humans capable of arriving at such an ideal? What are the conditions that would make such an ideal possible? Or, does the very drive that underlies such a pursuit make such an ideal attainment impossible?