

國立清華大學 106 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

考試科目（代碼）：科目：英國文學史，代碼：3501

共 3 頁，第 1 頁 *請在【答案卷】作答

You are being evaluated on your knowledge of British literature. The purpose of this examination is to show your grader as much as you can the extent and depth of your knowledge of British literature. N.B. Express your understanding of British literature in analytical and meaningful terms. **DO NOT** repeat or overlap material and ideas in different answers and parts of this examination. Also, references to authors and literary works should be clear, precise, and correct. Correct spelling in such references is all important. Remember to identify your answer by part (A, B, or C) and by number.

Part A. 10 points. Choose five of the following works and identify the author of each one. You will not receive extra credit for answering more than five. If you choose to answer more than five, your grader will evaluate just the first five answers:

1. *Goblin Market*
2. *Tess of the d'Urbervilles*
3. *Mimic Man*
4. *Brave New World*
5. *The Rape of the Lock*
6. *Ecclesiastical History of the English People*
7. *An Apology for the Life of Mrs. Shamela Andrews*
8. *Sailing to Byzantium*
9. *Reflections on the Revolution in France*
10. *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*

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Part B. 50 points. Choose five of the following terms. Identify and comment on the significance of each of the five in at least a paragraph (that is, each of the five answers must be at least one paragraph in length). You will not receive extra credit for answering more than five. If you choose to answer more than five, your grader will evaluate just the first five answers:

1. Shylock
2. John Bunyan
3. novel of manners
4. carpe diem
5. Pre-Raphaelites
6. Big Brother
7. William Caxton
8. Clarissa Dalloway
9. Houyhnhnms
10. euphuism

Part C. 40 points. Answer one of the following essay questions. Again, you will not receive extra credit for writing more than one essay. Your grader will evaluate the first essay written in your answer book:

(1) In a literary work, the author centers the narrative on a particular “hero” and focuses on the characterization, action, and standpoint of such a hero to investigate and express the author’s own ideas and values. Discuss and analyze **at least three, but not more than four** of the most famous heroes in English literature and the heroism that they embody. How does the focus on the hero in the literary work reflect the author’s construction of identity and community? Is a hero always a perfect person? How does the hero qualify to be a hero, when he or she is flawed? What is the difference between a hero and an anti-hero? Is there a difference? What marks a hero from the rest of the characters in the literary work? Does the hero deserve more happiness than others? Why or why not? Does a hero carry out justice or achieve an

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ideal value in a more effective or remarkable fashion than others? Why or why not? How does the hero accomplish his or her aims or goals? What is the social class, gender, and/or belief system of the hero? Do such social factors (class, gender, belief) matter in the making of a hero? How?

(2) Periodization is vital to understanding the historical development and evolution of English literature. From Anglo-Saxon, Middle English, to Romantic, and Victorian periods, period designation, along with the historical context to which it refers, is fundamental to the study of English literature. What is your favorite historical period for English literature, and what are your favorite works for this period? Name and discuss in depth **at least three but not more than four** literary works of your favorite historical period in English literature. Are there other names for the period designation you discuss in this essay? Why do you think that there is a debate over a particular period designation, that is, the precise name to call a historical period? For instance, should the designation of the “Renaissance” be replaced with the “early modern” and/or the “long seventeenth century”? Should the Restoration be included in the study of the “long seventeenth century” or should be it set apart as a separate historical period? Should the “Victorian” period be subsumed under the “long nineteenth century” or should it stand alone as a separate period? You **do not have to discuss all of the historical periods in English literature**. Instead, **focus on just one period in English literature**, that is, your favorite historical period, examine the rationale over the period designation (why the period is known by such a name) and any debate or discussion over such a designation (whether such a designation also concerns other names of periodization). Analyze three to four literary works from your favorite period and discuss how they reflect the ethos of the period.

(3) Writers project onto different spaces in their literary works the characteristics of Paradise, a space of perfection and ideal, where human beings live without worry, fear, suffering, and in complete harmony and peace. Discuss and examine **at least three, but not more than four** such spaces in English literature that, in your opinion, are modeled after Paradise as the place of perfection and completion. Do these spaces take on social characteristics and do they express any political message or carry any cultural or political values? Do race, gender, and social class have a place in such spaces? Why or why not? How do the values, ideals, and messages associated with such spaces underline the writers’ understanding of perfection? What is the logical relation of such perfection to the real world as the writers see it?