

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：美國文學史，代碼：3502

共 2 頁，第 1 頁

*請在【答案卷】作答

You are being evaluated on your knowledge of American literature. The purpose of this examination is to show your grader as much as you can the extent and depth of your knowledge of American literature. N.B. Express your understanding of American 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 or B) and by number.

Part A. 60% Choose **SIX** of the works listed in the following. For each of the six works you choose, write a full summery indicating the main ideas put forward in the work and discuss its author's overall achievement as a writer in the history of American literature. You will not receive extra credit for answering more than six. If you choose to answer more than six, your grader will evaluate just the first six answers:

1. "Young Goodman Brown"
2. *The Last of the Mohicans*
3. Edgar Allen Poe's *The Philosophy of Composition*
4. *Rip Van Winkle*
5. *The Grapes of Wrath*
6. *America Is in the Heart*
7. *Of Plymouth Plantation*
8. *Howl*
9. "In a Station of the Metro"
10. *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave*

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Part B. 40 points. Write an essay on **ONE** of the following topics. Use specific examples to support your argument. It is required that you use proper essay format, which include introductory and concluding paragraphs as well as several body paragraphs. Again, you will not receive extra credit for writing more than one essay.

1. Cosmopolitan fiction is a term referring to narratives about people who live and think beyond the national boundary. Discuss and analyze at least two but not more than three examples of cosmopolitan fiction with a consideration of the following: How does the work reflect the author's view on the tension between national identity and transnational experience? What possible dangers and/or advantages of being a "cosmopolitan" are presented in the work? What insights do these works in your discussion offer respectively on the modern life conditioned by international flow of people, capital, and culture?
2. The conflict between the individual and the society is a recurrent theme in American literature. Take up at least two but not more than three American writers to demonstrate how their works embody the conflict between the individual and the society. What specific constraint is shown to be imposed upon the individual in the work? How does the individual strive to cope with the constraint? What insight about the human condition is provided through the embodiment of the conflict in the work?