

# 靜宜大學 103 學年度碩士班招生考試試題

學系：英國語文學系

科目：英國文學

## Academic Year 2014 M.A. Program Entrance Examinations English Literature

I. Explain **Any Six** of the following terms meaningfully, using as many concrete examples as possible to illustrate. 30%

- |                         |                                |                     |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Heroic poetry        | 2. medieval romance            | 3. sonnet           |
| 4. satire               | 5. <i>Biographia Literaria</i> | 6. comedy           |
| 7. burlesque            | 8. realist novel               | 9. post-modernism   |
| 10. story of initiation | 11. Theater of the Absurd      | 12. Angry Young Men |

II. Choose **Any Two** of the following passages and answer the questions set: 16% @

1. Now hast thou but one bare hour to live,  
And then thou must be damned perpetually.  
Stand still, you ever-moving spheres of heaven,  
That time may cease, and midnight never come.  
Fair Nature's eye, rise, rise again, and make  
Perpetual day, or let this hour be but  
A year, a month, a week, a natural day,  
That [I] may repent and save [my] soul.
  - a. Identify this passage and tell who is speaking.
  - b. What does the speaker want to do?
  - c. In what context does the speaker say the above?
  - d. Does this passage signify any feature of the age? What is it?
  
2. The mare soon after my entrance, rose from her mat, and coming up close, after having nicely observed my hands and face, gave me a most contemptuous look; then turning to the horse, I heard the word Yahoo often repeated betwixt them; the meaning of which word I could not then comprehend, although it were the first I had learned to pronounce. . . for the horse beckoning to me with his head, and repeating the word, "Hhuun, Hhuun."
  - a. Identify this passage and the speaker of it.
  - b. Where is the locale (country) of this described place?
  - c. How does the speaker like the way he is received? How does he/she feel?
  - d. How would you describe this type of writing?
  
3. Five years have past, five summers, with the length  
Of five long winters! And again I hear  
These waters, rolling from their mountain-springs . . .  
The day is come when I again repose  
Here, under this dark sycamore, and view  
These plots of cottage-ground, these orchard-tufts . . .  
. . . Once again I see . . . these pastoral farms,  
Green to the very door; and wreaths of smoke  
Sent up, in silence, from among the trees!
  - a. Who is the author of this passage and the title of it?

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- b. What tone does the author use in this passage? Explain your reasons.  
c. What does the author intend to convey by using the underlined diction?  
d. Bear in mind the scene the author refers to, what particular feature of poetry does the poet want to express?
4. In life, there is right and wrong, good and bad, all the time. But what is right in one case is wrong in another. And in the novel you see one man becoming a corpse, because of his so-called goodness, another going dead because of his so-called wickedness. Right or wrong is an instinct: but an instinct of the whole consciousness in a man, bodily, mental, spiritual at once. And only in the novel are *all* things given full play, or at least, they may be given full play, when we realize that life itself, and not inert safety, is the reason for living. For out of the full play of all things emerges the only thing that is anything, the wholeness of a man, the wholeness of a woman, man live, and live woman.
- a. Presuming you have not read this passage before, who do you suppose to have written this?  
b. What makes you think so?  
c. What does the author really want to say in this piece?  
d. Would you call this piece an essay, literary criticism, cultural critique, or face book comments? Why?
5. An aged man is but a paltry thing,  
A tattered coat upon a stick, unless  
Soul clap its hands and sing, and louder sing  
For every tatter in its mortal dress,  
Nor is there singing school but studying  
Monuments of its own magnificence;  
And therefore I have sailed the seas and come  
To the holy city of Byzantium.
- a. Identify this passage and the author.  
b. What is the speaker talking about  
c. What is the significance of Byzantium in this passage?  
d. What kind of dominant images can you gather from this passage?
- III Answer **Any Two** of the following meaningfully: 19%@
1. Between William Shakespeare and Bernard Shaw which particular play of either playwright do you like best? Explain the reason of your choice and describe the outstanding features of the genre of this play.
2. Would you consider the eighteenth century or the nineteenth century the age of novels? Explain your reason with illustrative examples.
3. Between T. S. Eliot and W. H. Auden, whose poetry do you like better? Explain your choice with illustrations.