

北京交通大学 2004 年硕士研究生入学考试试卷

考试科目: 316 语言学与英美文学

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注意事项: 答案一律写在答题纸上, 写在试卷上的不予装订和评分!

PART I: LINGUISTICS (75 points)

I: Define the following linguistic terms. (10 points, 2 for each)

1. an isolating language
2. a minimal pair
3. great vowel shift
4. embedding
5. a diachronic view of language

II: Explain the following. (30 points)

1. What are the major functions of language? (5 points)
2. There are various suggestions why women tend to approximate more closely to the standard language than men do. What do you consider to be relevant factors? Why? (10 points)
3. Illustrate the human elements of meaning with examples. How are taboos and euphemistic words related with the human elements? (10 points)
4. What is the relationship between the symbol, concept or thought, and referent? What do you know about the semantic triangle? (5 points)

III: Make comments on the following topics. (30 points)

1. How do power and solidarity influence our actual use of language in society? (10 points)
2. Discuss Taboo and Political correctness. (10 points)
3. What arguments might be presented to support a view that Old English and Modern English are different languages? (10 points)

IV: Disambiguate the following sentences, using the tree-diagram with labels or analyzing their syntactic structures. (5 points)

1. We got down from the geese.
2. Is she really that kind?
3. They are moving footways.
4. Our uncle ate his corned beef with relish.
5. Jill left directions for Jack to follow.

Part II Literature (75 points)

. Directions: There are 20 incomplete sentences in this part. For each sentence there are four choices. Choose the ONE answer that best completes the sentence. (20 points)

. In American literature, _____ was the dominant spirit of the age of Enlightenment.

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- A. humanism B. rationalism C. revolution D. evolution
2. Transcendentalists recognized _____ as the "highest power of the soul."
A. naturalism B. intuition C. humanism D. logic
3. Which of the following works is regarded as the "Declaration of Intellectual Independence"?
A. *Nature* B. *Self-Reliance* C. *Moby Dick* D. *The American Scholar*
4. Ahab is too much of a self-reliant individual to be a good human being. For him the only law is _____.
A. his own will B. the natural law C. the Bible D. the Constitution
5. With Howells, James and Mark Twain active on the scene, _____ became the major trend in the seventies and eighties of the nineteenth century.
A. realism B. romanticism C. naturalism D. esthetics
6. Which of the following is not a principle followed by the Imagist writers?
A. economy of expression B. clear rhythm
C. direct treatment D. beautiful phrases
7. As a poet, Sandburg was associated with the Imagists and his best-known poem is _____.
A. *Birches* B. *Design* C. *Fog* D. *Go Down, Moses*
8. Hemingway's short sentences are powerfully loaded with the _____ which he sees in life.
A. image B. tension C. sense D. commitment
9. In *The Great Gatsby*, Nick Carraway is on the whole a _____ narrator.
A. reliable B. unreliable C. incredible D. credulous
10. Frost wrote very much in the Wordsworthian tradition. _____ appears as an explicator and a mediator for man.
A. Nature B. Society C. Intuition D. Emotion
11. The epoch of Renaissance witnessed a particular development of English _____.
A. dramatic monologue B. drama
C. blank verse D. poetry
12. According to Bacon, studies serve for delight, for _____, and for ability.
A. pleasure B. knowledge C. ornament D. benefit
13. The Puritan influence in general tended to _____ literary art.
A. suppress B. support C. be indifferent to D. praise
14. The most outstanding personality of the epoch of Enlightenment in England was _____ who ruthlessly exposed the dirty mercenary essence of bourgeois relationships.
A. Defoe B. Swift C. Pope D. Goldsmith
15. Wordsworth was a masterhand in searching and revealing the feelings of _____.
A. the common people B. the noble class
C. all the people D. the romanticists
16. "The Rime of the Ancient Mariner" tells a strange story in the form of _____.

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Teach me half the gladness

That thy brain must know,

Such harmonious madness

From my lips would flow

The world should listen then --- as I am listening now.

2. Some to Conceit alone their taste confine,
And glitt'ring thoughts struck out at every line;
Pleased with a work where nothing's just or fit;
One glaring Chaos and wild heap of wit.
Poets like painters, thus, unskill'd to trace
The naked Nature and the living grace,
With gold and jewels cover every part,
And hide with ornaments their want of art.
True Wit is Nature to advantage dress'd,
What oft was thought, but ne'er so well express'd;
Something, whose truth convinced at sight we find,
That gives us back the image of our mind.
As shades more sweetly recommend the light,
So modest plainness sets off sprightly wit.
For works may have more wit than does 'em good,
As bodies perish through excess of blood.

4. What pretty oracles nature yields us on this text in the face and behavior of children, babes and even brutes. That divided and rebel mind, that distrust of a sentiment because our arithmetic has computed the strength and means opposed to our purpose, these have not. Their mind being whole, their eye is as yet unconquered, and when we look in their faces, we are disconcerted. Infancy conforms to nobody: all conform to it, so that one babe commonly makes four or five out of the adults who prattle and play to it.

5. Anecdote of The Jar

I placed a jar in Tennessee,

And round it was, upon a hill.

It made the slovenly wilderness

Surround that hill.

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The wilderness rose up to it,
And sprawled around, no longer wild.
The jar was round upon the ground
And tall and of a port in air.

It took dominion everywhere.
The jar was gray and bare.
It did not give of bird or bush,
Like nothing else in Tennessee.