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北京航空航天大学

二 00 四年硕士生试题

题单号: 822

英美文学 (共 7 页)

考生注意: 所有答题务必书写在考场提供的答题纸上, 写在本试题单上的答题一律无效 (本题单不参与阅卷)。

I. Define the following literary terms (40/150, 10 × 4):

1. Characterization
2. Symbol
3. Allusion
4. Irony
5. Neoclassicism
6. Local color
7. Metaphysical verse
8. Tess Durbeyfield
9. Imagism
10. Lady Macbeth

II. Literary Analysis (30/150, 2 × 15)

1. Summarize Ernest Hemingway's literary achievements.
2. Comment on William Wordsworth's literary achievements.

III. Literary Selections and Analysis (80/150, 8×10, answer each question with three or five sentences)

Part One: English Literature

1. By telling two stories on the outward trip

To Canterbury, that's what I intend,

And, on the homeward way to journey's end

Another two tales from the days of old;

And then the men whose story is best told,

That is to say who gives the fullest measure

Of good morality and general pleasure,

He shall be given a supper, paid by all,

Here in this tavern, in this very hall,

When we come back again from Canterbury.

- a. From which work is this passage selected? And who is the author of this work?
- b. According to the author, how many tales should the book contain and how many tales are actually preserved in the book?
- c. What is the metrical form used in this work? Is it invented by the author himself?

2. To be, or not to be—that is the question;
Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to suffer
The slings and arrows of outrageous fortune,
Or to take arms against a sea of troubles,
And by opposing end them? To die, to sleep—
No more; and by a sleep to say we end
The heart-ache and the thousand natural shocks
That flesh is heir to, 'tis a consummation
Devoutly to be wished.

- a. From which work is this passage selected? And who is the author of this work?
- b. What literary form does this work belong to? What metrical form is used in this work?
- c. What is the hero of this work? What spiritual mood does this passage reveal about the hero?

3. “Where do you see the necessity?” he asked, suddenly.

“Where? You, sir, have placed it before me.”

“In what shape?”

“In the shape of Miss Ingram; a noble and beautiful woman—your bride.”

“My bride! What bride? I have no bride!”

“But you will have.”

“Yes;—I will!—I will!” He set his teeth.

“Then I must go:—you have said it yourself.”

“No: you must stay! I swear it—and the oath shall be kept.”

“I tell you I must go!” I retorted, roused to something like passion. “Do you think I can stay to become nothing to you? Do you think I am an automaton?—a machine without feelings? And can bear to have my morsel of bread snatched from my lips, and my drop of living water dashed from my cup? Do you think, because I am poor, obscure, plain, and little, I am soulless and heartless?—You think wrong!—I have as much soul as you—and full as much heart! And if God has gifted me with some beauty, and much wealth, I should have made it as hard for you to leave me, as it is now for me to leave you. I am not talking to you now through the medium of custom, conventionalities, or even of mortal flesh:—it is my spirit that addresses your spirit; just as if both had passed through the grave, and we stood at God’s feet, equal—as we are!”

- a. From which work is the passage selected? And who is the author of this work?
- b. What are the names of the hero and heroine? For what reason does the heroine want to leave the hero away?
- c. What point of view is adopted in this novel? Comment the image of the heroine or the theme of the novel with feminism.

4. By this time Mrs Morel was trembling violently. Struggling of this kind often took place between her and her son, when she seemed to fight for his very life against his own will to die. He took her in his arms. She was ill and pitiful.

“Never mind, Little,” he murmured. “So long as you don’t feel life’s paltry and a

miserable business, the rest doesn't matter, happiness or unhappiness."

She pressed him to her.

"But I want you to be happy," she said pathetically.

"Eh, my dear—say rather you want me to live."

Mrs Morel felt as if her heart would break for him. At this rate she knew he would not live. He had that poignant carelessness about himself, his own suffering, his own life, which is a form of slow suicide. It almost broke her heart. With all the passion of her strong nature she hated Miriam for having in this subtle way undermine his joy. It did not matter to her that Miriam could not help it. Miriam did it, and she hated her.

- a. From what work is this passage selected? Who is the author of this work?
- b. What is the name of the hero of this work? What is the relationship between the hero, Mrs Morel and Miriam?
- c. What literary method is used in this work? Comment the relationship between the hero and Mrs. Morel by using Freud's theory.

Part Two : American Literature

5. Standing on the bare ground,——my head bathed by the blithe air uplifted into infinite space,——all mean egotism vanishes. I become a transparent eyeball; I am nothing; I see all; the currents of the Universal being circulate through me; I am part or particle of God.

- a. From what work is this passage selected? What is the author of this work?
- b. What literary period does the author of this work roughly belong to? What kind of literary form is this work?
- c. What kind of philosophical idea does the author want to express in this passage?

6. I felt good and all washed clean of sin for the first time I had ever felt so in my life, and I know I could pray now. But I didn't do it straight off, but laid the paper down and set there thinking—thinking how good it was all this happened so, and how near I come to being lost and going to hell. And went on thinking. And got to thinking over our trip down the river; and I see Jim before me, all the time, in the day, and in the night-time, sometimes moonlight, sometimes storms, and we a floating along, talking, and singing, and laughing. But somehow I couldn't seem to strike no places to harden me against him, but only other kind. I'd see him standing my watch on top of his'n, stead of calling me, so I could go on sleeping; and see him how gland he was when I come back out of the fog.....

It was a close place. I took it up, and held it in my hand. I was a trembling, because I'd got to decide, forever, betwixt two things, and knowed it. I studied a minute, sort of holding my breath, and then says to myself:

“All right, then, I'll go to hell”—and tore it up.

- a. From which novel is this passage selected? Who is the author of this book?
- b. What period does this author roughly belong to? What is the common feature of the literature in this period?

c. What content does this passage reveal? What event happened before this plot?

7. The apparition of these faces in the crowd;

Petals on a wet, black bough.

a. Who do you think is the author of this short poem? What literary movement did the author once sponsor?

b. What impressed the author to write such a poem?

c. Is there any association between this poem and the Chinese poetry?

8. Because Biff thinks I'm nothing, see, and so he spites me. But the funeral—
Straightening up... that funeral will be massive! They'll come from Maine,
Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire! All the oldtimers with the strange license
plates—that boy will be thunder-struck....because he never realized—I am known!
Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey—I am known....and he'll see it with his eyes once
and for all. He'll see what I am...He's in for a shock, that boy.

a. What work is this passage selected from? Who is the author of this work?

b. Who is the hero of this work? What does he intend to do at the moment?

c. What is the theme of this work?