

北京航空航天大学 2005 年 硕士研究生入学考试试题

科目代码: 822

英美文学 (共 4 页)

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

I. Define the following literary terms or characters in literary works (40/150, 10x4):

1. Ahab as in Moby Dick
2. Heathcliff as in Wuthering Heights
3. Yossarian as in Catch 22
4. Robinson Crusoe
5. Realism
6. Romanticism
7. Foreshadowing
8. Allegory
9. Feminist criticism
10. The Graveyard School

II. Literary Analysis (30/150, 3x10)

1. Briefly introduce Ezra Pound's view on the Imagist poetry.
2. What makes Mark Twain one of the giant figures in the world of literature? Discuss the question from the following aspects: his major works, his language, his style, etc.
3. William Shakespeare is one of the most remarkable playwrights and poets the world has ever known. Briefly discuss his artistic achievements in characterization, plot construction and language.

III. Questions about Literary Works. (80/150, 8x10)

1. When Miss Sharp had performed the heroical act mentioned in the last chapter, and had seen the Dixonary flying over the pavement of the little garden, fall at length at the feet of the astonished Miss Jemima, the young lady's countenance, which had before worn an almost livid look of hatred, assumed a smile that perhaps was scarcely more agreeable, and she sank back in the carriage in an easy frame of mind, saying, 'So much for the Dixonary; and thank God, I'm out of Chiswick.'

- a. Identify the author and the work from which the passage is selected.
- b. Where does the title of the work come from? And what is the theme of the book?
- c. What's the subtitle of the work? Comment on the meaning of the subtitle.

2. Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?

Thou art more lovely and more temperate.
 Rough winds do shake the darling buds of May,
 And summer's lease hath all too short a date.
 Sometimes too hot the eye of heaven shines,
 And often is his gold complexion dimmed;
 And every fair from fair sometimes declines,
 By chance, or nature's changing course, untrimmed;
 But thy eternal summer shall not fade,
 Nor lose possession of that fair thou ow'st
 Nor shall Death brag thou wand'st rest in his shade,
 When in eternal lines to time thou grow'st.
 So long as men can breathe or eyes can see
 So long live this, and this gives life to thee.

- a. Identify the author and the work from which the passage is selected.
- b. What kind of sonnet is employed in the selection? What are the features of this kind of sonnet?
- c. Comment on the theme of the poem.

3. [A Voyage to Lilliput] As to the first, you are to understand, that for above seventy moons past, there have been two struggling parties in this empire, under the names of Tramecksan, and Slamecksan, from the high and low heels on their shoes, by which they distinguish themselves.

It is alleged indeed, that the high heels are most agreeable to our ancient constitution: but however this be, his Majesty hath determined to make use of only low heels in the administration of the Government, and all offices in the gift of the Crown; as you cannot but observe; and particularly his Majesty's imperial heels are lower at least by a *druur* than any of his court (*drurr* is a measure about the fourteenth part of an inch.) The animosities between these two parties run so high, that they will neither eat nor drink, nor talk with each other. [...] It is allowed on all hands, that the primitive way of breaking eggs before we eat them, was upon the larger end: but his present Majesty's grand-father, while he was a boy, going to eat an egg, and breaking it according to the ancient practice, happened to cut one of his finger, whereupon the emperor his father, published an edict,

commanding all his subjects, upon great penalties, to break the smaller end of their eggs.

- a. Identify the author and the work from which the passage is selected.
- b. What is the theme of this work?
- c. What are the four parts of the work? How are four organic parts are structured in the work?

4. It is a truth universally acknowledged that a single man in possession of a good fortune must be in want of a wife.

However little known the feelings or views of such a man may be on his first entering a neighborhood, this truth is so well fixed in the minds of the surrounding families, that he is considered as the rightful property of some one or other of their daughters,

"My dear Mr. Bennet," said his lady to him one day, "have you heard that Netherfield Park is let at last?"

Mr. Bennet replied that he had not.

"But it is," returned she; "for Mrs. Long has just been here, and she told me all about it."

Mr. Bennet made no answer.

"Do you not want to know who has taken it?" cried his wife impatiently.

"You want to tell me, and I have no objection to hearing it."

This was invitation enough.

- a. Identify the author and the work from which the passage is selected.
- b. Comment on the two major characters of the work, Darcy and Elizabeth.
- c. What are the writing features of the author?

5. But the point which drew all eyes, and, as it were, transfigured the wearer, — so that both men and women, who had been familiarly acquainted with Hester Prynne, were now impressed as if they beheld her for the first time, — was that scarlet letter, so fantastically embroidered and illuminated upon her bosom. It had the effect of a spell, taking her out of the ordinary relations with humanity, and inclosing her in a sphere by herself.

- a. Identify the author and the work from which the passage is selected.
- b. Comment on the symbolic meaning of the letter the heroine wears.
- c. What is the theme of the work?

6. But all this part of it seemed remote and unessential. I [Nick] found myself on Gatsby's side, and alone. From the moment I telephoned news of the catastrophe to West Egg Village, every surmise about him, and every

practical question, was referred to me.

- a. Identify the author and the work from which the passage is selected.
- b. How do you understand the word "great," which is used to describe the titular hero? Is he really great?
- c. What is the theme of the work?

7. Caroline, or Sister Carrie, as she had been half affectionately termed by the family, was possessed of a mind rudimentary in its power of observation and analysis. Self-interest with her was high, but not strong. It was, nevertheless, her guiding characteristic.

- a. Identify the author and the work from which the passage is selected.
- b. Comment on the heroine of the work?
- c. Which literary trend does the author belong to? What are the features of this literary trend?

8. Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel both
And be one traveler, long I stood
And looked down one as far as I could
To where it bent in the undergrowth;

Then took the other, as just as fair,
And having perhaps the better claim,
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;
Though as for that, the passing there
Had worn them really about the same,

And both that morning equally lay
In leaves no step had trodden black.
Oh, I kept the first for another day!
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,
I doubted if I should ever come back.

I shall be telling this with a sign
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I -
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference.

- a. Identify the author and the work from which the passage is selected.
- b. Why the poet's choice of "less traveled path" "has made all the difference" ?
- c. Analyze the philosophical idea revealed in the poem.