

考生注意：1. 依次序作答，只要標明題號，不必抄題。

2. 答案必須寫在答案卷上，否則不予計分，並限以藍黑色筆作答。

3. 試題隨卷繳回。(餘詳詳閱試場規則)

History of American Literature

Part I. Text Identification (30%)

Identify the authors of the passages below by writing the letter of the correct answer on your answer sheet.

1. But if a man would be alone, let him look at the stars. The rays that come from those heavenly worlds, will separate between him and vulgar things. One might think the atmosphere was made transparent with this design, to give man, in the heavenly bodies, the perpetual presence of the sublime. Seen in the streets of cities, how great they are! If the stars should appear one night in a thousand years, how would men believe and adore; and preserve for many generations the remembrance of the city of God which had been shown!

(A) Henry David Thoreau	(B) Ralph Waldo Emerson	(C) Herman Melville
(D) Jonathan Edwards	(E) Henry W. Longfellow	

2. It had begun to be present to him after the first fortnight, it had broken out with the oddest abruptness, this particular wanton wonderment; it met him there--and this was the image under which he himself judged the matter, or at least, not a little, thrilled and flushed with it--very much as he might have been met by some strange figure, some unexpected occupant, at a turn of one of the dim passages of an empty house. The quaint analogy quite hauntingly remained with him, when he didn't indeed rather improve it by a still intenser form: that of his opening a door behind which he would have made sure of finding nothing, a door into a room shuttered and void, and yet so coming, with a great suppressed start, on some quite erect confronting presence, something planted in the middle of the place and facing him through the dusk.

(A) W. D. Howells	(B) Edith Wharton	(C) Henry James
(D) Herman Melville	(E) William Faulkner	

3. There is a singer everyone has heard,
Loud, a mid-summer and a mid-wood bird,
Who makes the solid tree trunks sound again.
He says that leaves are old and that for flowers—
Mid-summer is to spring as one to ten.

(A) Robert Frost	(B) Carl Sandburg	(C) E. A. Robinson
(D) Ezra Pound	(E) Robert Lowell	

4. As I sit at my window this summer afternoon, hawks are circling about my clearing; the tantivy of wild pigeons, flying by in twos and threes athwart my view, or perching restless on the white-pine boughs behind my house, gives a voice to the air; a fishhawk dimples the glassy surface of the pond and brings up a fish; a mink steals out of the marsh before my door and seizes a frog by the shore; the sedge is bending under the weight of the reed-birds flitting hither and thither; and for the last half hour I have heard the rattle of railroad cars, now dying away and then reviving like the beat of a partridge, conveying travellers from Boston to the country.

(A) Ralph Waldo Emerson	(B) Nathaniel Hawthorne	(C) Walt Whitman
(D) Henry David Thoreau	(E) Willa Cather	

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5. When it occurs to a man that nature does not regard him as important, and that she feels she would not maim the universe by disposing of him, he at first wishes to throw bricks at the temple, and he hates deeply the fact that there are no bricks and no temples. Any visible expression of nature would surely be pelleted with his jeers.

(A) W. D. Howells	(B) Theodore Dreiser	(C) Jack London
(D) Mark Twain	(E) Stephen Crane	

6. Dead letters! does it not sound like dead men? Conceive of a man by nature and misfortune prone to a pallid hopelessness, can any business seem more fitted to heighten it than that of continually handling these dead letters, and assorting them for the flames? For by the cart-load they are annually burned. Sometimes from out the folded paper the pale clerk takes a ring;--the finger it was meant for, perhaps, moulders in the grave; a bank-note sent in swiftest charity;--he whom it would relieve, nor eats nor hungers any more; pardon for those who died despairing; hope for those who died unhoping; good tidings for those who died stifled by unrelieved calamities. On errands of life, these letters speed to death.

(A) Herman Melville	(B) Henry James	(C) Sherwood Anderson
(D) Nathaniel Hawthorne	(E) Washington Irving	

7. I believe in the flesh and the appetites,
Seeing, hearing, feeling, are miracles, and each part and tag of me is a miracle.
Divine am I inside and out, and I make holy whatever I touch or am touch'd from,
The scent of these arm-pits aroma finer than prayer,
This head more than churches, bibles, and all the creeds.

(A) Allen Ginsberg	(B) Walt Whitman	(C) Henry W. Longfellow
(D) Robert Frost	(E) Langston Hughes	

8. 'Dont you see?' he cried. 'Dont you see? This whole land, the whole South, is cursed, and all of us who derive from it, whom it ever suckled, white and black both, lie under the curse? Granted that my people brought the curse onto the land, maybe for that reason their descendants alone can--not resist it, not combat it--maybe just endure and outlast it until the curse is lifted. Then your peoples' turn will come because we have forfeited ours. But not now. Not yet. Dont you see?'

(A) Richard Wright	(B) Ralph Ellison	(C) Eudora Welty
(D) William Faulkner	(E) Toni Morrison	

9. I like a look of Agony,
Because I know it's true
Men do not sham Convulsion,
Nor simulate, a Throe
The Eyes glaze once and that is Death
Impossible to Feign
The Beads upon the Forehead
By homely Anguish strung.

(A) Anne Bradstreet	(B) Edgar Allan Poe	(C) T. S. Eliot
(D) Sylvia Plath	(E) Emily Dickinson	

國立暨南國際大學九十三年度碩士班研究生入學考試試題

第 2 節美國文學史 適用：(外文所文學組 132)

(本試題共三頁，第三頁)

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10. "Bemis, is all that true, just as you have stated it?" "I wish I may rot in my tracks and die the death of a dog if it isn't." "Well, we can't refuse to believe it, and we don't. But if there were some proofs--" "Proofs! Did I bring back my lariat?" "No." "Did I bring back my horse?" "No." "Did you ever see the bull again?" "No." "Well, then, what more do you want? I never saw anybody as particular as you about a little thing like that." I made up my mind that if this man was not a liar he only missed it by the skin of his teeth.

(A) Mark Twain	(B) Ambrose Bierce	(C) Jack London
(D) Charles W. Chesnutt	(E) Bret Harte	

Part II. Author Identification (20%)

Following is a list of authors from different periods of American literature. Arrange the authors in pairs, based on the period they lived in, and arrange the pairs in chronological order. Choose one of the authors from each pair and write one or two sentences describing his or her contributions to American literature. (Choosing more than five authors, or writing more than one or two sentences will **not** receive extra credit!)

Ernest Hemingway, Anne Bradstreet, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Henry James, Toni Morrison, Edward Taylor, William Dean Howells, Alice Walker, Herman Melville, F. Scott Fitzgerald

Part III. Choose one of the following topics and write an essay with at least three paragraphs. (25%)

1. American Poetry in the Twentieth Century
2. The Origins of American Naturalist Fiction
3. The Development of African American Writing
4. The Influence of Religion on American Literature

Part IV. Respond to the following statement, in at least three paragraphs. (25%)

F. O. Matthiessen, a famous American literary scholar, called the period from approximately 1830 to 1860 the American Renaissance. Other scholars, however, refer to the overall writing style of this period as American Romanticism. In what way is this period a Renaissance? In what way is its writing, or prevalent way of thought, Romantic? Which of these do you think is more appropriate? Why? What are some problems with such attempts to characterize the literature or thought of a particular era?