

國立彰化師範大學 102 學年度碩士班招生考試試題

系所：英語學系

組別：乙組

科目：美國文學史

☆☆請在答案紙上作答☆☆

共 2 頁，第 1 頁

Pick **ONE** out of the following two questions to answer: (30%)

1. Race and gender are some of the most important social issues that are reflected in modern literary works. Please pick at least two works from different twentieth century writers to discuss these issues.
2. What is the meaning of the so called “American dream”? Try to define the term and explain how it works and is expressed in two literary works of your choice.

Pick **ONE** out of the following two questions to answer: (20%)

3. Which two American poets do you admire most? Explain the reasons by analyzing the theme, techniques, and other elements of their poems.
4. Many of American playwrights focus on the theme of family tragedy in their works. Pick two American modern plays to analyze the characteristics of the main tragic figures and the causes of the tragedy.
5. Identify the author and work of each of the following passages and discuss the passages in detail.

Choose **ANY TWO** of the following passages. (50%)

(a) I see young men, my townsmen, whose misfortune it is to have inherited farms, houses, barns, cattle, and farming tool; for these are more easily acquired than got rid of. Better if they had been born in the open pasture and suckled by a wolf, that they might have seen with clearer eyes what field they were called to labor in. Who made them serfs of the soil?

(b) There is that in me—I do not know what it is—but I know it is in me.

Wrench'd and sweaty—calm and cool then my body becomes,

I sleep—I sleep long.

I do not know it—it is without name—it is a word unsaid,

It is not in any dictionary, utterance, symbol.

Something it swings on more than the earth I swing on,

To it the creation is the friend whose embracing awakes me.

Perhaps I might tell more. Outlines! I plead for my brothers and sisters.

Do you see O my brothers and sisters?

It is not chaos or death—it is form, union, plan—it is eternal life—it is Happiness.

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- (c) Pain—has an Element of Blank—
It cannot recollect
When it begun—Or if there were
A time when it was not—
It has no Future—but itself—
It's Infinite contain
It's Past—enlightened to perceive
New Periods—Of Pain.