

电子科技大学

2010年攻读硕士学位研究生入学试题

考试科目：845 英美文学基础知识及应用

注：所有答案必须写在答题纸上，写在试卷或草稿纸上均无效。

1. Choose the right answer among the four given choices. (20 points)

1) Published in 1823, _____ was the first of the *Leatherstocking Tales*, in their publication time, and probably the first true romance of the frontier in American literature.

- A) The Prairie
B) The Deerslayer
C) The last of Mohicans
D) The pioneers

2) As a philosophical and literary movement, _____ flourished in New England from the 1830s to the Civil War.

- A) Modernism
B) Rationalism
C) Transcendentalism
D) Sentimentalism

3) Henry David Thoreau was often alone in the woods or by the pond, lost in spiritual communication with _____.

- A) nature
B) transcendentalist ideas
C) human beings
D) celestial beings

4) Edgar Allan Poe's first collection of short stories is _____.

- A) Tales of a Traveler
B) Tales of Two Cities
C) Canterbury Tales
D) Tales of the Grotesque and Arabesque

5) *An American Tragedy* is a masterpiece by _____.

- A) Mark Twain
B) Theodore Dreiser
C) Nathaniel Hawthorne
D) Washington Irving

6) F. Scott Fitzgerald's fictional world is the best embodiment of the spirit of _____.

- A) the Jazz Age
B) the Romantic Period
C) the Renaissance Period
D) the Neoclassical Period

7) _____ showed great interest in Chinese literature and translated the poetry of Li Po into English, and was influenced by Confucian ideas.

- A) E. E. Cummings
B) Robert Frost
C) Ezra Pound
D) T. S. Eliot

- 8) Most of Eugene O'Neill's plays are tragedies, dealing with _____.
- A) class conflicts
B) human existence and predicament
C) racial discrimination
D) domestic affairs
- 9) _____ is the author of the work *The Grapes of Wrath*.
- A) John Steinbeck
B) Eugene O'Neill
C) F. Scott Fitzgerald
D) Theodore Dreiser
- 10) In Faulkner's *The Sound and the Fury*, he used a technique called _____, in which the whole story was told through the thoughts of one character.
- A) stream of consciousness
B) imagism
C) symbolism
D) naturalism
- 11) One of the main features of the Elizabethan time is _____.
- A) the domination of epic writing
B) the rising of realistic novel
C) the flourishing of drama
D) the close-down of all the theatres
- 12) Chaucer's main contributions to English poetry and language lie in _____.
- A) introducing sonnet from France to England
B) writing purely in English
C) writing in blank verse
D) making the dialect of London the foundation of Modern English
- 13) Blake's *Songs of Experience* paints a world of _____ with a melancholy tone.
- A) misery, poverty, disease, war and repression
B) happiness and love and romantic ideals
C) misery, poverty mixed with love and happiness
D) loss and institutional cruelty with sufferings
- 14) "Ode on a Grecian Urn" shows the contrast between the _____ of art and the _____ of human passion.
- A. glory, ugliness
B. permanence, transience
C. transience, sordidness
D. glory, permanence
- 15) The representative novelist of the British Romantic period is _____.
- A) John Keats
B) Jane Austen
C) Walter Scott
D) Thomas Gray
- 16) Through his poems, George Byron created the "Byronic hero" who is _____.
- A) a brave and stubborn rebel figure of noble origin
B) a proud, mysterious rebel figure of noble origin
C) a proud, mysterious rebel figure of lower origin
D) a brilliant, independent and romantic figure of his time

17) Which of the following can't be included in the critical realists of the Victorian Period?

- A) Charlotte and Emily Bronte B) Charles Dickens and William M. Thackeray
C) Thomas Hardy and George Eliot D) D. H. Laurence and James Joyce

18) The 20th century has witnessed a great achievement in English poetry, which was mainly represented by the following except _____.

- A) Thomas Hardy B) Mathew Arnold
C) T. S. Eliot D) W. B. Yeats

19) In _____'s hands, "dramatic monologue" reaches its maturity and perfection.

- A) Alfred Tennyson B) Robert Browning
C) William Shakespeare D) George Eliot

20) Which of the following is not James Joyce's works?

- A) *Dubliners* B) *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*
C) *Ulysses* D) *Rainbow*

2. Define the following literary terms (20 points)

- 1) Lake poets 2) Round character
3) Metaphysical poetry 4) Lost generation

3. Read the following literary passages and answer the questions (60 points)

Passage 1

I celebrated myself, and sing myself,
And what I assume you shall assume.
For every atom belonging to me as good belongs to you.

Questions:

- 1) Identify the author and the work.
2) Whom does "you" refer to?
3) What are the two principle beliefs that the poet set forth in this poem? Explain them a bit.

Passage 2

To go into solitude, a man needs to retire as much from his chamber as from society. I am not solitary whilst I read and write, though nobody is with me. 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! But every night come out these preachers of beauty, and light the universe with their admonishing smile.

Questions:

- 1) Identify the author and the work.
- 2) Give a brief comment on this passage.

Passage 3

The woods are lovely, dark and deep.
But I have promised to keep.
And miles to go before I sleep,
And miles to go before I sleep.

Questions:

- 1) Identify the author and the work.
- 2) How do you understand the dark but lovely woods?
- 3) What kind of feeling does this stanza convey?

Passage 4

While Tom was eating his supper, and stealing sugar as opportunity offered, Aunt Polly asked him questions that were full of guile, and very deep—for she wanted to trap him into damaging revelations. Like many other simple-hearted souls, it was her pet vanity to believe she was endowed with a talent for dark and mysterious diplomacy, and she loved to contemplate her most transparent devices as marvels of tow cunning. Said she:

"Tom, it was middling warm in school, warn't it?"

"Yes'm."

"Powerful warm, warn't it?"

"Yes,m."

"Didn't you want to go in a-swimming, Tom?"

A bit of a scare shot through Tom—a touch of uncomfortable suspicion. He searched Aunt Polly's face, but it told him nothing. So he said:

"No'm--well, not very much."

Questions:

- 1) Identify the author and the work.
- 2) Analyze the language style according to the dialogues in this passage.

Passage 5

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.

Questions:

- 1) Identify the author and the work.
- 2) What makes the poet think that "thou" can be more lovely than summer?
- 3) Explain the term sonnet.

Passage 6

“Justice” was done, and the President of the Immortals had ended his sport with Tess. And the d’Urbervilles knights and dames slept on in their tombs unknowing. The two speechless gazers bent themselves down to the earth, as if in prayer, and remained there a long time, absolutely motionless: the flag continued to wave silently.

Questions:

- 1) Identify the author and the work.
- 2) How does the passage indicate the author’s view on life and his attitude towards the heroine?

Passage 7

North Richmond Street, being blind, was a quiet street except at the hour when the Christian Brothers’ School set the boys free. An uninhabited house of two stories stood at the blind end, detached from its neighbors in a square ground. The other houses of the street, conscious of decent lives within them, gazed at one another with brown imperturbable faces.

Questions:

- 1) Identify the author and the work.
- 2) What is the significance of the setting description in the passage?

Passage 8

What though the field be lost?
 All is not lost; the unconquerable will,
 And study of revenge, immortal hate,
 And courage never to submit or yield;
 And what is else not to be overcome?
 That glory never shall his wrath or might
 Extort from me.

Questions:

- 1) Identify the author and the work.
- 2) Who is the persona of the passage?
- 3) What is the significance of the characterization of the persona?

4. Reading, translation and appreciation. (20 points)

A Sick Rose

-----by William Blake

O Rose, thou art sick!
 The invisible worm
 That flies in the night,
 In the howling storm,
 Has found out thy bed
 Of crimson joy,
 And his dark secret love
 Does thy life destroy.

A Red. Red Rose (excerpt)

----by Robert Burns

O my Luve's like a red, red rose
 That's newly sprung in June:
 O my Luve's like the melodie
 That's sweetly play'd in tune.

As fair art thou, my bonnie lass,
 So deep in luve am I:
 And I will luve thee still, my dear,
 Till a' the seas gang dry:

Tasks:

- 1) Translate Blake's rose poem into Chinese. (5 points)
- 2) Write a comment on Blake's poem. In your comment, you should cover the following questions: (15 points)

Who has destroyed the life of rose? What's relationship between the rose and the worm?

Why is the worm invisible? How do you understand his "dark secret love"?

Compared with Burn's rose poem, do you think the connotations of rose are same in these two poems? If not, please state your interpretation on their different symbolic meanings.

5. Basic knowledge on linguistics (30 points)

- 1) Define the following two terms with examples if necessary (10 points, 5 points each):

(1) linguistics

(2) hyponymy

- 2) Make a judgment and an evaluation of the following two statements with your own reasons (10 points, 5 points each):

(1) Some linguists emphasize the importance of context by saying, "The word exists only through the context and is nothing in itself."

(2) Language is *socially shaped* and *socially shaping*—or *socially constitutive*.

- 3) Please make a linguistic analysis of the following paragraph taken from *A Tale of Two Cities* by Charles Dickens: (15 points)

It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of light, it was the season of darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair, we had everything before us, we had nothing before us...