

## 英美历史与文化试题 (4页)

## I. Fill in the blanks with the answers (1X20):

1. Insisting on the traditions of simplicity, liberty and hard working, the early settlers who were \_\_\_\_\_ built schools and opened the libraries, encouraged learning and reading, making New England comparable to Europe.
2. The well-known English writers from \_\_\_\_\_ are Jonathan Swift, Oscar Wilde, George Bernard Shaw, and James Joyce.
3. American romanticism shows distinctive traits such as \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.
4. In sixteenth century England there occurred an intellectual movement, Renaissance, characterized by \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
5. As a modernist, Faulkner created a literary world of myth based on \_\_\_\_\_ by presenting a particular region to symbolize the general and universal.
6. "An Essay of Dramatic Poetry" by \_\_\_\_\_ established his reputation as a prolific critic and poet in English literature.
7. Addison and Steele founded the first newspaper in England "\_\_\_\_\_", that discussed state affairs, politics, scandals and ethics.
8. The person who 'made the first voyage to the Americas was \_\_\_\_\_, and not until the English men sailed over in the boat \_\_\_\_\_, did the Europeans started to stay in there.

9. Swift's satire attacks \_\_\_\_\_, and Fielding's novels ridicule the weaknesses in human nature which are immorality, betrayal, snobbery, and prejudice.
10. Robin Hood is \_\_\_\_\_ in the popular ballads and was portrayed as a brave outlaw who was leading a group of men to fight \_\_\_\_\_.
11. At the Elizabethan age, there was a period of disputes in religion, then \_\_\_\_\_ declined, and protestants restored the power in English church.
12. Moby Dick in \_\_\_\_\_ novel is the symbol of \_\_\_\_\_. Ahab's challenge to the whale demonstrates men's struggle with nature and society.
13. Rebecca Sharp in Thackeray's \_\_\_\_\_ is a type of \_\_\_\_\_ middle class woman who tries everything including adultery and treachery to climb up in society.
14. Detective stories have enjoyed immense popularity ever since Conan Doyle's book about \_\_\_\_\_. When a crime takes place, the myth and suspense are developed until the truth is exposed.
15. The farmers in the south of the United States employed subordinate workers and made money on plantations that needed a large number of labor supplied by \_\_\_\_\_ which the north fought against.

## II. Explain the following (4X5):

1. dramatic monologue
2. sentimentalism
3. industrial revolution
4. Declaration of Independence

## III. Answer the following questions (4X5):

1. In the first few decades of the century Fitzgerald described the characteristics of the modern time as alienation, fragmentation and meaninglessness. How do his works reflect his opinions about ideal love, American dreams, and corruption?

2. People with good intentions encounter calamities for reasons they do not know or understand. Analyze such characters in Dickens's novels as David Copperfield and Pip in *The Great Expectations* to observe his portrayal of an individual's path of life from ignorance to self discovery and realization of the difficulties they should deal with in society.
3. Explain American political system and the relations between the executive, the legislative and the judicial branches of the government.
4. Tell what you know about Christianity, such as the Bible, Jesus Christ, trinity and resurrection.

**IV. Read the following poem and present your interpretations by answering the questions below(20):**

The Road Not Taken  
Robert Frost

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 sigh  
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.

1. In your own words tell the literal meaning of the poem.
2. What do the two roads in the wood signify to the poet? What messages does the poem imply? Demonstrate the poetic methods that challenge our thoughts and imaginations.

**V. Read the following passage and write a short essay according to the questions below (20):**

Mother Tongue  
Amy Tan

The same was true with word analogies, pairs of words in which you were supposed to find some sort of logical, semantic relationship -- for example, in a multiple choice test you find, *Sunset* is to *nightfall* as \_\_\_\_ is to \_\_\_\_\_. And here you would be presented with a list of four possible pairs, one of which showed the same kind of relationship: *red* is to *stoplight*, *bus* is to *arrival*, *chill* is to *fever*, *yawn* is to *boring*. Well, I could never think that way. I knew what the tests were asking, but I could not block out of my mind the images already created by the first pair, *sunset* is to *nightfall* -- and I would see a burst of colors against a darkening sky, the moon rising, the lowering of a curtain of stars. And all the other pairs of words -- red, bus, stoplight, boring -- just threw up a mass of confusing images, making it impossible for me to sort out something as logical as saying: "A sunset precedes nightfall" is the same as "a chill precedes a fever." The only way I would have gotten that answer right would have been to imagine an associative situation, for example, my being disobedient and staying out past sunset, catching a chill at night, which turns into feverish pneumonia as punishment, which indeed did happen to me.

1. What was the logical differences or similarities between the first pair and other pairs? What was the author supposed to do?
2. Why didn't the author like this kind of test?