

I. Identify the authors of the following TWENTY literary works (some may be anonymous), and also describe the theme and spirit of the work. (2% each, total 40%)

1. *Piers Plowman*
2. *The Canterbury Tales*
3. *Second Shepherd's Play*
4. *Everyman*
5. *Sir Patrick Spens*
6. *Tam Lin*
7. *Utopia*
8. *The Defence of Poesy*
9. *Euphues: The Anatomy of Wit*
10. *Unfortunate Traveler, or the Life of Jack Wilton*
11. *Pilgrim's Progress*
12. *The Faerie Queene*
13. "The Flea"
14. "To His Coy Mistress"
15. *All for Love*
16. *Gulliver's Travels*
17. *Robinson Crusoe*
18. *The Expedition of Humphrey Clinker*
19. *The Rape of the Lock*
20. "The Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard"

II. Please choose ONE of the following questions, regarding Romantic poetry, to answer, and also explain how the literary work demonstrates the era's literary spirit. (20%)

1. Please discuss the moral symbolism in Samuel Taylor Coleridge's *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*.
2. Please discuss the Byronic hero as he appears in the persons of Harold and Napoleon in George Gordon Byron's *Childe Harold's Pilgrimage*.

III. Please choose ONE of the following questions, regarding Victorian poetry and prose, to answer, and also explain how the literary work demonstrates the era's literary spirit. (20%)

1. Robert Browning's "My Last Duchess" is a dramatic monologue which hints at a complicated story behind the speaker's description of his first wife's portrait. Please discuss the persona and the situation.

2. Please discuss the role of Lord Henry, and the relationship between Dorian and his portrait in Oscar Wilde's *The Picture of Dorian Gray*.

IV. Please choose ONE of the following questions, regarding Modern poetry, novel and drama, to answer, and also explain how the literary work demonstrates the era's literary spirit. (20%)

1. What is the meaning of the following lines from T. S. Eliot's *The Waste Land*?

What are the roots that clutch, what branches grow  
Out of this stony rubbish? Son of man,  
You cannot say, or guess, for you know only  
A heap of broken images, where the sun beats,  
And the dead tree gives no shelter, the cricket no relief,  
And the dry stone no sound of water. Only  
There is shadow under this red rock,  
(Come in under the shadow of this red rock),  
And I will show you something different from either  
Your shadow at morning striding behind you  
Or your shadow at evening rising to meet you;  
I will show you fear in a handful of dust.

2. Although George Bernard Shaw's *Major Barbara* deals with serious social problem, the play is a comedy. How do the plot and language of the play contribute to its humor?

3. The title of E. M. Forster's novel, *A Passage to India*, alludes to the poem "Passage to India" by the nineteenth-century American poet Walt Whitman. Please discuss in what manner Forster treats Whitman's theme, using the following excerpt from the poem as a springboard. In addition, you may also consider the scene of the Marabar caves which seem to murmur to Mrs. Moore, "Everything exists, nothing has value."

Passage O soul to India!

.....  
Lo, soul, seest thou not God's purpose from the first?  
The earth to be spann'd, connected by network,  
The races, neighbors, to marry and be given in marriage,  
The oceans to be cross'd, the distant brought near,  
The lands to be welded together.

.....  
Passage indeed O soul to primal thought,  
Not lands and seas alone, thy own clear freshness,  
The young maturity of brood and bloom,  
To realms of budding bibles.

4. In the course of Virginia Woolf's *To the Lighthouse*, certain moments of heightened meaning—"epiphanies"—occur, moments conceived of as transcending the daily passage of time. How do these moments confer meaning specifically on the life of Mrs. Ramsay?

5. In James Joyce's *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*, once Stephen has decided to become an artist, he resolves to become "a priest of the eternal imagination." What is the meaning of this phrase, and why is it appropriate, given Stephen's background?

American Literature

1. Name two poems involving a puzzle/riddle in them, one from Emily Dickenson, and the other from Robert Frost. (1) Summarize each poem in one passage. (2) Name one theme of the poem and analyze how each theme is developed. (3) How is each puzzle/riddle constructed and what is the solution (to each puzzle)? (34%)
2. Summarize and compare *deception* in two of the following plays: *Long Day's Journey into Night*, *Glass Menagerie*, and *Death of a Salesman*. (33%)
3. Discuss and compare female characters in three of the following six fictional works: "Rip Van Winkle" (Irving), "Young Goodman Brown" (Hawthorn); *Daisy Miller* (Henry James), "Adventure" (Sherwood Anderson), "A Rose for Emily" (William Faulkner), and *Seize the Day* (Saul Bellow). Focus on only one female character from each work of your choice. (33%)

## Literature and Society

*Write a coherent essay to discuss the relationships between literature and society. You may use concrete and specific examples to talk about how literature affects or contributes to the modern society. You may also approach this issue from a historic perspective and illustrate how literature affected a particular historical period. Or you may hold a pessimistic view and lament the futility of literature in its influence on society. Your essay must have an introductory paragraph for your central argument, a main body for specific examples to support your argument, and a conclusion to summarize your ideas. (100%)*