

國立中正大學

115 學年度碩士班招生考試

試題

[第 2 節]

科目名稱	文學作品分析
系所組別	外國語文學系

—作答注意事項—

※作答前請先核對「試題」、「試卷」與「准考證」之系所組別、科目名稱是否相符。

1. 預備鈴響時即可入場，但至考試開始鈴響前，不得翻閱試題，並不得書寫、畫記、作答。
2. 考試開始鈴響時，即可開始作答；考試結束鈴響畢，應即停止作答。
3. 入場後於考試開始 40 分鐘內不得離場。
4. 全部答題均須在試卷（答案卷）作答區內完成。
5. 試卷作答限用藍色或黑色筆（含鉛筆）書寫。
6. 試題須隨試卷繳還。

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Toni Morrison was one of the most important American writers, known for her ability to portray characters' inner worlds and to emphasize the power of storytelling. Read the two excerpted paragraphs from Morrison's *A Mercy* (2008) and answer the following questions **based on your close reading of the passage**:

1. Before answering, look closely at the speaker's language and the life she describes. What is her life like? How does she feel about it? Choose **two or three details** from the text that show her living conditions, daily work, or feelings. (50%)
2. The character talks about two ways of telling a story in these paragraphs:
 1. the words she writes down ("**These words cover the floor**") and
 2. the story she imagines telling with her voice ("**You won't read my telling**").

According to the passage, what is different about these two ways of telling a story? You may think about the following questions:

- How does the speaker write her words?
- Where are the words written?
- Does she expect people to understand her written words?
- When she imagines telling the story with her voice, is she limited by space?

Choose at least **two details** from the text to support your answer. (50%)

"...If you are live or ever you heal you will have to bend down to read my telling, crawl perhaps in a few places. I apologize for the discomfort. Sometimes the tip of the nail skates away and the forming of words is disorderly. Reverend Father never likes that. He raps our fingers and makes us do it over. In the beginning when I come to this room I am certain the telling will give me the tears I never have. I am wrong. Eyes dry, I stop telling only when the lamp burns down. Then I sleep among my words. The telling goes on without dream and when I wake it takes time to pull away, leave this room and do chores. Chores that are making no sense. We clean the chamber pot but are never to use it. We build tall crosses for the graves in the meadow then remove them, cut them shorter and put them back. We clean where Sir dies but cannot be anywhere else in this house. Spiders reign in comfort here and robins make nests in peace. All manner of small life enters the windows along with cutting wind. I shelter lamp flame with my body and bear the wind's cold teeth biting as though winter cannot wait to bury us. Mistress is not mindful of how cold the outhouses are nor is she remembering what night chill does to an infant. Mistress has cure but she is not well....

There is no more room in this room. These words cover the floor. From now you will stand to hear me. The walls make trouble because lamplight is too small to see by. I am holding light in one hand and carving letters with the other. My arms ache but I have need to tell you this. I cannot tell it to anyone but you. I am near the door and at the closing now. What will I do with my nights when the telling stops? Dreaming will not come again. Sudden I am remembering. You won't read my telling. You read the world but not the letters of talk. You don't know how to. Maybe one day you will learn. If so, come to this farm again, part the snakes in the gate you made, enter this big, awing house, climb the stairs and come inside this talking room

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in daylight. If you never read this, no one will. These careful words, closed up and wide open, will talk to themselves. Round and round, side to side, bottom to top, top to bottom all across the room. Or. Or perhaps no. Perhaps these words need the air that is out in the world. Need to fly up then fall, fall like ash over acres of primrose and mallow. Over a turquoise lake, beyond the eternal hemlocks, through clouds cut by rainbow and flavor the soil of the earth. Lina will help. She finds horror in this house and much as she needs to be Mistress' need I know she loves fire more.”