# 淡江大學 98 學年度進修學士班轉學生招生考試試題

系別: 英文學系三年級

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科目:英國文學(一)

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#### I. Answer briefly the following questions. 40%

- 1. Who wrote the twelfth-century Breton lay about a knight who is loved by a fairy, breaks the taboo which she imposes, loses her as a result, but regains her in the end?
- What is the literary genre of which The Nun's Priest's Tale (from Chaucer's The Canterbury Tales) is an example? (The tale is about a proud rooster who listens to a fox's flattery and nearly dies as a result.)
- 3. What do we call those medieval dramatizations of significant events of the Old and the New Testaments?
- 4. In which poem can we find the adventures of the Knight of the Red Crosse to rescue the parents of his lady Una from a dragon?
- 5. What is the title of Christopher Marlowe's poem about a young man who has to swim across the sea and climb a tower to reach his lover?
- 6. In which literary genre did John Milton write *Lycidas* to commemorate the death by shipwreck of a young friend?
- 7. Who wrote the prose fiction about the life story of an African prince who is sold into slavery, then inspires a slaves' revolt, but is betrayed and cruelly beaten?
- 8. Which poem by Alexander Pope is a mock epic about a drawing-room war between the sexes?

#### II. In your own words, paraphrase the following passage. 20%

But at my back I always hear
Time's winged chariot hurrying near;
And yonder all before us lie
Deserts of vast eternity.
Thy beauty shall no more be found,
Nor, in thy marble vault, shall sound
My echoing song; then worms shall try
That long preserved virginity,
And your quaint honor turn to dust,
And into ashes all my lust:
The grave's a fine and private place,
But none, I think, do there embrace.

From Andrew Marvell, "To His Coy Mistress"

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### III. Essay questions. Choose TWO of the following topics. 40%

- 1. In Sir Gawain and the Green Knight what tests does the hero have to go through in the forest castle? What do these tests have to do with the hero's being the pre-eminent knight of the Round Table?
- What are some of the laws and customs of the island country Utopia as described in Sir Thomas More's book *Utopia*? Why does the narrator of the book say that he "would wish rather than expect to see" many of these Utopian features in his own society?
- 3. First, summarize the plot of Shakespeare's *King Lear*. Then, discuss the function in this play of the subplot of Gloucester and his two sons.
- 4. To what extent does Milton's *Paradise Lost* observe the epic tradition? And to what extent does it depart from that tradition?
- 5. What are the contrasts between the Houyhnhmms and the Yahoos in Part 4 of *Gulliver's Travels*? What satirical purposes do these contrasts serve?