

## 淡江大學 99 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

科目：英國文學(一)

本試題共 3 大題，2 頁

*English Literature. Middle English period to the Eighteenth century.*

1. Answer the following questions. 40%

- i. What is the name of the verse form used in *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*?  
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- ii. What is the title of Geoffrey Chaucer's most famous writing (2.5%) and in what century was it written (2.5%)? \_\_\_\_\_
- iii. Who was responsible for introducing the sonnet into English (2.5%) and what is one difference between the "English" form and the "Italian" form in English poetry (2.5%)?  
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- iv. The "Elizabethan Age" is a term often used to describe what period of English literature?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- v. What is John Milton's most famous work (2.5%) and in what century was it written (2.5%)? \_\_\_\_\_
- vi. Name the political and religious group led by Oliver Cromwell (1649-1660).  
\_\_\_\_\_
- vii. The Restoration refers to what major political event in English history?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- viii. What writing by Samuel Johnson was his greatest contribution to the English language (2.5%) and when was it written (2.5%)?  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Paraphrase the following sonnet by William Shakespeare. 20%

#19

Devouring Time, blunt thou the lion's paws,  
 And make the earth devour her own sweet brood;  
 Pluck the keen teeth from the fierce tiger's jaws,  
 And burn the long-lived phoenix in her blood;  
 Make glad and sorry seasons as thou fleet'st,  
 And do whate'er thou will, swift-footed Time  
 To the wide world and all her fading sweets,  
 But I forbid thee one most heinous crime:  
 O care not with thy hours my love's fair brow,  
 Nor draw no lines there with thine antique pen;  
 Him in thy course untainted do allow  
 For beauty's pattern to succeeding men.

Yet do thy worst, old Time; despite they wrong,  
 My love shall in my verse ever live young

本試題雙面印刷

背面尚有試題

3. Essay questions. Write a response to any two of the following five topic questions. 40%

- i. In the medieval poem *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* (ca. 1375-1400), although the Green Knight is represented as immortal and invulnerable and Sir Gawain is represented as mortal and vulnerable, the world that Sir Gawain belongs to (King Arthur's court at Camelot) represents the cultural capital of England, not the grassy green "mound" (small hill) of the Green Knight. In what ways, therefore, can the poem be read as a text about the displacement or marginalisation of the nonhuman world of nature (represented by the Green Knight) by the seemingly highly sophisticated and civilised world of the human (represented by Sir Gawain and King Arthur's court at Camelot)? How are Sir Gawain and the court of King Arthur represented? How is the Green Knight represented? How does the Green Knight's court, a simple grassy "mound" (a small hill) contrast with King Arthur's court at Camelot.
- ii. Discuss any one of Shakespeare's tragedies OR any one of Shakespeare's history plays. If you choose one of Shakespeare's tragedies, discuss the moral issues it addresses. If you choose one of the history plays, discuss the key historical and political figures and events in English history it refers to or narrates.
- iii. In what ways can the *The Faerie Queene* (1596) by Edmund Spenser be read as a Christian allegory? In what ways can it be read as an epic? In what ways is it a celebration of Elizabeth I (1558-1603), whom Spenser served under for much of his life? In what ways is it an attack on the Roman Catholic Church and Ireland, a predominantly Catholic country and colony of England that was brutally oppressed by its English rulers? (You may answer any one or more of these questions.)
- iv. Identify and discuss the battle, the heroes, the supernatural characters, and the journey to the underworld in Alexander Pope's mock epic *The Rape of the Lock* (1714). How does this content parody the epic? What political or social institutions does the poem also satirize?
- v. In Jonathan Swift's satire, "A Modest Proposal" (1729), Swift uses irony, or says the opposite of what he means. His text ostensibly criticizes Ireland for being overpopulated and offers a solution to problem of overpopulation. What is Swift actually attacking? Who is he actually criticizing? What does his text tell us about English colonialist attitudes towards the Irish (a colonized country) at this time?