淡江大學 98 學年度碩士班招生考試試題

系別:英文學系

科目:英國文學

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I. Briefly explain four of the following terms. 20%

P.

- 1. alliteration
- 2. anti-hero
- 3. catharsis
- 4. The Enlightenment
- 5. gothic novel
- 6. morality play
- 7. Orientalism
- 8. utopia

II. Identify the author and title of the following passages. 20%

- 1. All changed, changed utterly: / A terrible beauty is born.
- April is the cruelest month, breeding / Lilacs out of the dead land, mixing / Memory and desire, stirring / Dull roots with spring rain.
- 3. The best laid schemes o' mice an' men / Gang aft a-gle, / An' lea'e us nought but grief an' pain, / For promised joy.
- I wander thro' each charter'd street, / Near where the charter'd Thames does flow,
 / And mark in every face I meet / Marks of weakness, marks of woe.
- 5. In all my dreams, before my helpless sight, / He plunges at me, guttering, choking, drowning.
- 6. The main conclusion arrived at in this work, namely that man is descended from some lowly-organized form, will, I regret to think, be highly distasteful to many persons. But there can hardly be a doubt that we are descended from barbarians.
- 7. A savage place! as holy and enchanted / As e'er beneath a waning moon was haunted / By woman wailing for her demon lover!
- 8. There is no such thing as a moral or an immoral book. Books are well written, or badly written. That is all.
- 9. What a piece of work is a man! How noble in reason, how infinite in faculties, in form and moving how express and admirable, in action how like an angel, in apprehension how like a god!
- 10. A writer of dictionaries; a harmless drudge, that busies himself in tracing the original, and detailing the signification of words.

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III. Essay Questions

P. 2

- "Mr Wordsworth's genius is a pure emanation of the Spirit of the Age. Had he
 lived in any other period of the world, he would never have been heard of," says
 William Hazlitt (1778-1830) in his essay on the poet. Do you agree or disagree
 with Hazlitt? Explain. 20%
- 2. Read the following essay by Francis Bacon (1561-1626). First write a summary of the essay. Then write a comment. 40%

Of Marriage and Single Life

HE THAT hath wife and children hath given hostages to fortune; for they are impediments to great enterprises, either of virtue or mischief. Certainly the best works, and of greatest merit for the public, have proceeded from the unmarried or childless men; which both in affection and means, have married and endowed the public. Yet it were great reason that those that have children, should have greatest care of future times; unto which they know they must transmit their dearest pledges. Some there are, who though they lead a single life, yet their thoughts do end with themselves, and account future times impertinences. Nay, there are some other, that account wife and children, but as bills of charges. Nay more, there are some foolish rich covetous men, that take a pride, in having no children, because they may be thought so much the richer. For perhaps they have heard some talk, Such an one is a great rich man, and another except to it, Yea, but he hath a great charge of children; as if it were an abatement to his riches. But the most ordinary cause of a single life, is liberty, especially in certain self-pleasing and humorous minds, which are so sensible of every restraint, as they will go near to think their girdles and garters, to be bonds and shackles. Unmarried men are best friends, best masters, best servants; but not always best subjects; for they are light to run away; and almost all fugitives, are of that condition. A single life doth well with churchmen; for charity will hardly water the ground, where it must first fill a pool. It is indifferent for judges and magistrates; for if they be facile and corrupt, you shall have a servant, five times worse than a wife. For soldiers, I find the generals commonly in their hortatives, put men in mind of their wives and children; and I think the despising of marriage amongst the Turks, maketh the vulgar soldier more base. Certainly wife and children are a kind of discipline of humanity; and single men, though they may be many times more charitable, because their means are less exhaust, yet, on the other side, they are more cruel and hardhearted (good to make severe inquisitors), because their tenderness is not so oft called upon. Grave natures, led by custom, and therefore constant, are commonly loving husbands, as was said of Ulysses, vetulam suam praetulit immortalitati. Chaste women are often proud and froward, as presuming upon the merit of their chastity. It is one of the best bonds, both of chastity and obedience, in the wife, if she think her husband wise; which she will never do, if she find him jealous. Wives are young men's mistresses; companions for middle age; and old men's nurses. So as a man may have a quarrel to marry, when he will. But yet he was reputed one of the wise men, that made answer to the question, when a man should marry, -A young man not yet, an elder man not at all. It is often seen that bad husbands, have very good wives; whether it be, that it raiseth the price of their husband's kindness, when it comes; or that the wives take a pride in their patience. But this never fails, if the bad husbands were of their own choosing, against their friends' consent; for then they will be sure to make good their own folly.