

淡江大學九十學年度碩士班招生考試試題

系別：西洋語文研究所

科目：美國文學

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I. Identification. For questions 1 through 10, identify the author; for questions 11 through 15, identify the author and the title. 20% (1% for each answer).

1. *Of Plymouth Plantation*
2. "The Author to Her Book"
3. *The Awakening*
4. *Long Day's Journey into Night*
5. "Barn Burning"
6. *Invisible Man*
7. "This is my letter to the World / That never wrote to Me—"
8. *The Portrait of a Lady*
9. "The Snows of Kilimanjaro"
10. *The Education of Henry Adams*
11. "Failing to fetch me at first keep encouraged, / Missing me one place search another, / I stop somewhere waiting for you."
12. "Perhaps the time is already come, when it ought to be, and will be something else; when the sluggard intellect of this continent will look from under its iron lids and fill the postponed expectation of the world with something better than the exertions of mechanical skill. Our days of dependence, our long apprenticeship to the learning of other lands, draws to a close."
13. "Here is no water but only rock / Rock and no water and the sandy road / The road winding above among the mountains / Which are mountains of rock without water"
14. "For the listener, who listens in the snow, / And, nothing himself, beholds / Nothing that is not there and the nothing that is."
15. "I'm always in a race with the junkyard! I just finished paying for the car and it's on its last legs. The refrigerator consumes belts like a goddam maniac. They time those things. They time them so when you finally paid for them, they're used up."

II. Explain briefly the following terms. 20%

1. trickster (2%)
2. captivity narrative (3%)
3. Harlem Renaissance (3%)
4. local color writing (3%)
5. little magazine (3%)
6. "death of the novel" (3%)
7. canon (3%)

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III. Essay Questions. 60% (20% each)

1. The *Norton Anthology of American Literature* (5th ed., 1998) posited the beginnings of American literature in the writings of such Europeans as Columbus, Cortés, or Castillo, and the creation stories of Native Americans. In what sense are these writings “American literature”? Is the term “American literature” appropriate here? Why or why not?
2. In the 1940s through the 1960s, a number of major critical texts centered their attention on a constellation of New England writers (Emerson, Thoreau, Hawthorne, Melville, and Whitman). Inscribed, among other things, with American democratic and individualist ideals, their writings are hailed to be “American writing at its best.” Do you agree? Cite at least two of the writers above to illustrate your points.
3. Name your favorite modernist writer. Discuss his or her works in detail and demonstrate why these works are “modernist.”