

淡江大學 104 學年度博士班招生考試試題

系別：英文學系 A 組

科目：英美文學

考試日期：5 月 23 日 第 1 節

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I. Essay questions: Please answer FIVE of the following questions (20% each).

1. In the *Norton Anthology of English Literature*, 9th ed., the editors argue that *King Lear*, one of William Shakespeare's greatest tragedies, actually "underscore[s] the crucial importance in the play of the body despite the author's exploration of "the extremes of the mind's anguish and the soul's devotion." The editors insist that Shakespeare "never forgets that his characters have bodies as well." Do you agree? Please use examples from the play to support your argument.
2. Jonathan Swift's most famous satire, *Gulliver's Travels*, is a fascinating travel writing. Please give examples to discuss its enduring satire and travel narrative.
3. "Nature" is a concept that has preoccupied many Romantic poets. Please discuss one or two major Romantic poets who address this controversial term. You need to refer to particular poems in your analysis.
4. Herman Melville's novel *Moby Dick* is praised by D. H. Lawrence as "the greatest book of the sea ever written." Please discuss the relationship between whale hunting and colonialism.
5. Emily Dickinson, generally considered one of the most important American poets, is "heralded as the greatest woman poet in the English language by Adrienne Rich, who believes that "Dickinson's identity as a woman poet has brought her power." Do you agree? Please discuss Dickinson especially from a feminist perspective.
6. *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, a novel by Mark Twain, is "among the first in major American literature to be written throughout in vernacular English, characterized by local color regionalism." It is also particularly noted for "scathing satire on entrenched attitudes, particularly racism." Do you agree with these comments? Please give examples from the novel to support your argument.