

淡江大學九十二學年度博士班甄試入學招生考試試題

系別：英文學系 (A 組)

科目：英文(含英美文學議題)

准帶項目請打「○」否則打「×」	
簡單型計算器	×
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本試題共 1 頁

Answer the following questions in essay form.

1. (This question is worth 40 percent of the total exam points.)

A meaning only reveals its depths once it has come into contact with another, foreign meaning: they engage in a kind of dialogue, which surmounts the closedness and one-sidedness of these particular meanings, these cultures. [...]
Such a dialogic encounter of two cultures does not result in merging or mixing. Each retains its own unity and *open* totality, but they are mutually enriched.

—Mikhail Bakhtin

Choose three (3) of the following topics, and associate them with the quotation given above:

- Contemporary Chinese-American writers
- "Foreign" influences on academic culture in contemporary Taiwan
- Discourses concerning Islam and "the West" since September 11, 2001
- Reading the Bible "as literature"

2. Literacy theorist Walter Ong has argued that "we need enemies and fighting to sharpen our thinking; he speculates that the Chinese failed to develop logic because they failed to institutionalize combat in oral rhetoric" (qtd. in Peter Elbow, *Embracing Contraries*). Comment on Ong's idea in relation to university education in Taiwan today. (30 percent)

3. Nowadays, departments of English are made up of professors with a wide variety of academic backgrounds and scholarly agendas. Some specialize in "literature," some in "language." Quite often, one English professor will hold a theoretical perspective or engage in a pedagogical practice that is very much at odds with the theory and practice of another professor. Discuss your understanding of current trends that may lead to conflict among faculty and students in graduate programs in English in Taiwan. In your opinion, what can be done to ensure that everyone work together in a mature, harmonious way, to promote a collegial atmosphere that is conducive to the aims of higher education? Cite at least one well-known thinker to support your response to this question. (30 percent)