

系所組別： 外國語文學系甲組

考試科目： 英國文學

考試日期：0225，節次：2

part I 50%

Choose 2 of the 3 questions and construct an essay with an arguable thesis and support from the texts indicated.

Medieval Period:

Discuss how various medieval authors, such as Geoffrey of Monmouth, the Gawain-Poet, Chaucer, and Malory, use stories of Arthur and his knights to construct and comment on chivalric ideals.

Renaissance Period:

The term “renaissance” means “rebirth.” Choose works from 3 different English Renaissance authors and discuss how they illustrate or make use of the concept of “rebirth.”

17th Century:

Discuss how Milton explores ideas about heroism in *Paradise Lost*.

(背面仍有題目,請繼續作答)

Part II: Answer 2 of the 3 following essay questions and develop an analytical essay with a specific thesis and concrete support from the related works to illustrate your points. Each question will be worth 25% of the score.

1. The natural scene is a primary subject in Romantic poetry, but, as William Wordsworth said in his Prospectus to *The Recluse*, it is not nature but “the Mind of Man,” that is “my hunt, and the main region of my song.” In fact, Wordsworth is not the only Romantic poet whose vivid descriptions of nature in poems serve as a stimulus or reflection of emotional problems or personal crisis. **Cite examples from at least two British Romantic poets.** Examine the natural scenes in their works and discuss how they reflect or stimulate the poets’ emotions or thought.
2. The Industrial Revolution and the political revolutions of the Victorian age provided a basis for change in woman’s position in terms, for example, of education and working opportunities. Not only in novels (and short stories) but in poetry, prose, and drama do writers explore woman’s role in society. **Choose examples from two different genres,** and discuss how the two works you choose challenge traditional assumptions of women.
3. In *The Principles of Psychology*, William James coins the term “stream of consciousness” to talk about the nature of consciousness. He writes as follows:

Consciousness, then, does not appear to itself chopped up in bits. Such words as ‘chain’ or ‘train’ do not describe it fitly as it presents itself in the first instance. It is nothing jointed; it flows. A ‘river’ or a ‘stream’ are the metaphors by which it is most naturally described. In talking of it hereafter, let us call it the stream of thought, of consciousness, or of subjective life. (239)

The term “stream of consciousness” is actually as important as a psychological concept as a literary technique in modern literature. **Cite examples from at least two British modern writers** and discuss how the “stream of consciousness” technique works and what modern issues it helps to bring up in their works.