

國立成功大學

111學年度碩士班招生考試試題

編 號： 14

系 所： 外國語文學系

科 目： 英國文學

日 期： 0219

節 次： 第 2 節

備 註： 不可使用計算機

※ 考生請注意：本試題不可使用計算機。請於答案卷(卡)作答，於本試題紙上作答者，不予計分。

Select FOUR from the following questions and answer them with well-organized paragraphs with clearly-defined topic sentences. Relate your arguments to specific literary texts from British literature and support your ideas with precise, balanced, and sufficient evidence. Indicate clearly which question you are responding to by writing the question number at the beginning of your answer. Write on the provided answer book. (Each question is worth 25 points.)

1. Although a significant number of medieval poets had been active and prolific beforehand, only Geoffrey Chaucer has won the title of "The Father of English Poetry." Discuss the factors, both inside and outside his works, which contribute to this elevated evaluation of Chaucer's literary achievements. Note in particular the styles, contents, production & distribution of his poetry as well as its influences on the poets of later generations.
2. In every historical period, certain connections exist between literary productions and political situations. However, in England of the 16<sup>th</sup> and early 17<sup>th</sup> centuries the connections were particularly tortuous and tense, because the court was both the predominant center of literary patronage and the harsh censor of political dissidence, especially when political stance and religious faith were intricately entangled. Discuss the situation by analyzing at least three literary texts of the times and their contemporary reception.
3. Focus on Individual inner emotions and thoughts is the defining core feature of the Romantic poetry in the 19<sup>th</sup> century; all the other traits commonly associated with the poetry, such as being consciousness-centered, solipsistic in relation to others, solitary in face of the wild nature, original in expression, supernatural in perception, etc.—can be traced to this primary focus. Cite at least three examples from the poetry to discuss the connection of each of the traits with the defining core feature of the literary Romanticism.
4. A predominant scenario in the plots of Victorian novels is how an individual is pitted against overwhelming social, cultural, technological forces that he or she cannot fully understand or control. Choose the works of three Victorian novelists and discuss to what extent each novelist considers a protagonist's share of spiritual or material (mis-)fortune in the story morally justified or not. Note that one of the novelists should be female and that one case of the scenario should be in a domestic setting.
5. Many British writers active in the 20th century were not born on the British Isles; they either came from far-flung former colonies of the disintegrating British Empire or simply immigrated from non-British countries. Cite at least three such writers and discuss how they look upon their own relationship with Britain, the connection of their works to the British literary traditions, and their use of English probably as the second language.