

- Directions:** 1. Answer all of the following questions. Indicate clearly which question you are answering by writing the right numbers at the beginning of your essay.
2. Each question is differently weighted (as indicated in parentheses at the end of each question). So allocate your time wisely.
3. Use the provided **answer book** for all your writing.

I. Identify the source of each of the following terms and then explain, in two or three sentences, its significance in relation to the source: 30% (3 points each)

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| 1. Heorot | 2. Tabard Inn | 3. Bower of Bliss |
| 4. Pandemonium | 5. Cave of Spleen | 6. Brobdingnag |
| 7. Bridge of Sighs | 8. Shylock's bridge | 9. The Shields of Achilles |
| 10. Unreal City | | |

II. The epic as a genre is antiquated "with a hardened and no longer flexible skeleton," according to Mikhail Bakhtin. In contrast, the novel is a genre that continues to develop. "We cannot foresee all its plastic possibilities," so says Bakhtin. Do you agree with such a distinction? Cite at least two examples from each genre to support your points. (19%)

III. Homoeroticism, usually the sexual attraction between males, is an important, if not dominant, feature of Renaissance literature. Is it merely a reflection of popular taste, a direful defiance against hypocritical Christian morality, or a new, mysterious and terrifyingly ambiguous dynamic of the Renaissance to range forbidden realms? Cite two or three examples to prove and elaborate your points. (15%)

IV. "Romanticism" is a rather comprehensive term. It incorporates poets at polar ends of the spectrum of ideology. Sometimes their ideology is so inherently contradictory to each other that it is difficult to believe that they are grouped together under the rubric of "romantics." Compare and contrast at least two romantics in terms of their writing and their philosophy toward nature. (18%)

V. Not until the emergence of Samuel Beckett and Harold Pinter did contemporary British theatre break away from the tradition of pictorial realism or neorealism. If so, compare and contrast two representative playwrights, each from a different camp, to illustrate such a disparity. (18%)