

國立成功大學外文研究所九十一學年度碩士班入學考美國文學試題

注意事項：

1. 答案一律寫在答案紙上，不必抄題，但需標明題號。
2. 試題與答案紙一併繳回。

1. Arthur Barlowe and Thomas Harriot were English explorers between the latter half of the sixteenth century and the beginning of the seventeenth century. Even though Thomas Harriot accompanied Arthur Barlowe in the 1584 English expedition to the new land of America, they held very different attitudes towards the Native Americans. Compare the following two passages and illustrate how their attitudes are different. 25%

[T]hey [the inhabitants of Secotan—Native Americans] wondered marvelously when we were among them at the whiteness of our skins, ever coveting to touch our breasts, and to view the same. Besides, they had our ships in marvelous admiration, and all things else were so strange unto them [that] it appeared that none of them had ever seen the like. When we discharged any piece, [. . .] they would tremble thereat for very fear, and for the strangeness of the same, for the weapons which [they] themselves use are bows and arrows, [and] the arrows are but [made from] small canes, headed with a sharp shell or tooth of a fish, [though] sufficient enough to kill a naked man. Their swords [are] of wood, hardened; likewise they use wooden breastplates for their defense. They have besides a kind of club, on the end whereof they fasten the sharp horns of a stag or other beast. [. . .]
--Barlowe, *The First Voyage Made to the Coasts of America* (1589)

Most things they saw with us—[such] as mathematical instruments; sea compasses; the virtue of the load-stone in drawing iron; a perspective glass guns; hooks; writing and reading; spring-clocks that seem to go of themselves; and many other things that we had—were so strange unto them, and so far exceeded their capacities to comprehend the reason and means how they should be made and done, that they thought they were rather the works of gods than of men, or at the [least] they had been given and taught [to] us [by] the gods. Which made many of them to have such [an] opinion of us, that if they knew not the truth of God and Religion already, it was rather to be had from us whom God so specially love, than from a people that were so simple, as they found themselves to be in comparison [with] us. Where-upon greater credit was given unto that

[which] we spoke of, concerning such matters.

--Harriet, "Of the Nature and Manners of the People" from *A Brief and True Report of the New Found Land of Virginia* (1588)

2. Compare TWO marginal characters in terms of their relationship to the community. You may begin by identifying what communities these characters are in. Some of these characters are Irving's Rip Van Winkle, Melville's Bartleby (the scrivener), and Twain's Huck Finn. 25%
3. Explain the term "imagism" with the examples provided below. 25%

In a Station of the Metro

by Ezra Pound

The apparition of these faces in the crowd;
Petals on a wet, black bough.

The Red Wheelbarrow

by William Carlos Williams

so much depends
upon

a red wheel
barrow

glazed with rain
water

beside the white
chickens.

Heat

by H. D.

O wind, rend open the heat,
cut apart the heat,
rend it to tatters.

fruit cannot drop
through this thick air—
fruit cannot fall into heat

that presses up and blunts
the points of pears
and rounds the grapes.

Cut the heat—
plow through it,
turning it on either side
of your path.

4. Compare women characters created by TWO male writers of different periods or different traditions. Before you compare, identify the writers, the works, and the periods/traditions. Make your comparison in relation to the differences and/or similarities between the writers. 25%