

本試題是否可以使用計算機：可使用，不可使用（請命題老師勾選）

English Test for Arts Students

Directions: Write all your answers on the provided *answer book*.

Part I: According to your understanding of the following passages, translate them into Chinese: 60%

1. Unlike the mere devotion to beauty that characterizes aestheticism in other historical periods, nineteenth-century Aestheticism generally held that life should be lived as art and that art should be independent of social, political, or moral teaching. Hence, the doctrine of *l'art pour l'art* ("art for art's sake"), a concept derived from Kant's view of art as "purposiveness without purpose," is central to Aestheticism. Walter Pater, held as the master of Aestheticism, urged his readers to live with aesthetic intensity, "to burn always with a hard, gemlike flame," spoke of the "love of art for art's sake." (20%)
2. In *The Birds*, Hitchcock combined live action, animation, mechanical birds, live trained birds, and complex composite photography to produce an amazing series of shots—over fourteen hundred in this film, more than twice the usual number in a feature. But the deepest logic of *The Birds* is not exposed by elaborating its technical accomplishments, nor by detailing the harrowing experiences everyone sustained during production. More important and more enduring than any of this is the fact that the movie is a profound meditation on human relationships and on the myopic emotional vision that informs most of them. Precisely because the film operates *completely on the level of symbol*, it seems to masquerade as a bizarre, unclassifiable work. Some viewers still take it as a horror story, but in fact it has none of the characteristics of that genre. Others think it's a parable on the bomb, with all that destruction from the air. Still others see it as a weird tale of rebellious nature. But any interpretation along these lines is doomed to failure, for none takes into account the film's images, the rise and fall of the action and the crucial rotation of dialogues with eruptions of mysterious chaos. (40%)

(背面仍有題目,請繼續作答)

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Part II: Read the following passage carefully and then use your own words (Chinese) to explain the implied meaning of the passage. (40%)

3. The aesthetic philosopher Gotthold Ephraim Lessing (1729-1781) in his essay *Laocoon* (1766), treated as a case study the sculpture of **Laocoon and his sons being attacked by a monstrous sea serpent**--attempting to interfere with the fated course of events, Laocoon infuriated the gods who sent sea serpents to destroy him and his sons. The amazing naturalism displayed in the modeling is characteristic of the Hellenistic period--contrasting the adult body with those of the adolescents and contrasting the strained muscles of the father making almost superhuman effort to free himself with the relaxing muscles of his collapsing sons. The difference between visual arts and literature is that literature was absorbed in time, and through conventional signs (e.g. letters and words) which in themselves meant nothing. In the visual arts, on the other hand, the dimension of time hardly existed, and the means of representation were similar to the things which they represented. Thus literature could describe horrible things without using horrible words, while the representational arts could only represent the horrible by showing us the horrible. As that would produce not a noble work of art but one which would put us in much the same distress as Laocoon, producers of visual representations tend to tone down the unpleasant features, and that is why, according to Lessing, Laocoon is not roaring like bull: his jaw is tightly constricted in a position that would enable him to utter only a low groan. Having the mouth open would be indecorous and furthermore, the moment caught in the sculpture is that before the cry. Thus, Lessing's analysis implies that art is fundamentally mimetic. For painting as well as sculpture can only avail itself of one moment of action, and must therefore choose that which is the most pregnant, and by which what has gone before and what is to follow will be most intelligible.