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全国 2005 年 4 月高等教育自学考试 英美文学选读试题 课程代码: 00604

全部题目用英文作答, 并将答案写在答题纸相应位置上, 否则不计分

PART ONE (40 POINTS)

I. Multiple Choice (40 points in all, 1 for each)

Select from the four choices of each item the one that best answers the question or completes the statement. Write your choice on the answer sheet.

- The most significant idea of the Renaissance is ().
A. humanism B. realism
C. naturalism D. skepticism
- Shakespeare's tragedies include all the following except ().
A. *Hamlet* and *King Lear*
B. *Antony and Cleopatra* and *Macbeth*
C. *Julius Caesar* and *Othello*
D. *The Merchant of Venice* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*
- The statement "Studies serve for delight, for ornament, and for ability" opens one of well-known essays by ().
A. Francis Bacon B. Samuel Johnson
C. Alexander Pope D. Jonathan Swift
- In Hardy's Wessex novels, there is an apparent () touch in his description of the simple though primitive rural life.
A. nostalgic B. humorous
C. romantic D. ironic
- Backbite, Sneerwell, and Lady Teazle are characters in the play *The School for Scandal* by ().
A. Christopher Marlowe B. Ben Jonson
C. Richard Brinsley Sheridan D. George Bernard Shaw
- Of all the 18th century novelists Henry Fielding was the first to set out, both in theory and practice, to write specifically a "() in prose," the first to give the modern novel its structure and style.
A. tragic epic B. comic epic
C. romance D. lyric epic

- judged by () rules of order, reason, logic, restrained emotion, good taste and decorum.
- A. classical B. romantic
C. sentimental D. allegorical
16. In his essay "Of Studies," Bacon said: "Some books are to be tasted, others to be swallowed, and some few to be chewed and () ."
- A. skimmed B. perfected
C. imitated D. digested
17. "For I have known them all already, known them all—/Have known the evenings, mornings, afternoons, /I have measured out my life with coffee spoons." The above lines are taken from () .
- A. Wordsworth's "The Solitary Reaper"
B. Eliot's "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock"
C. Coleridge's "Kubla Khan"
D. Yeats's "The Lake Isle of Innisfree"
18. (The) () was a progressive intellectual movement throughout Western Europe in the 18th century.
- A. Romanticism B. Humanism
C. Enlightenment D. Sentimentalism
19. A typical Forsyte, according to John Galsworthy, is a man with a strong sense of () , who never pays any attention to human feelings.
- A. morality B. justice
C. property D. humor
20. The typical feature of Robert Browning's poetry is the () .
- A. bitter satire B. larger-than-life caricature
C. Latinized diction D. dramatic monologue
21. George Bernard Shaw's play, *Mrs. Warren's Profession* is a grotesquely realistic exposure of the () .
- A. slum landlordism B. political corruption in England
C. economic oppression of women D. religious corruption in England
22. The story starting with the marriage of Paul's parents Walter Morel and Mrs. Morel must be () .
- A. Thomas Hardy's *Tess of the D'Urbervilles*
B. D. H. Lawrence's *Sons and Lovers*
C. George Eliot's *Middlemarch*
D. Charlotte Bronte's *Jane Eyre*
23. In American literature the first important writer who earned an international fame on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean is () .
- A. Washington Irving
B. Ralph Waldo Emerson
C. Nathaniel Hawthorne
D. Walt Whitman
24. The American novelist Nathaniel Hawthorne is known for his "black vision." The term "black

A. Hawthorne's observation that every man faces a black wall
B. Hawthorne's belief that all men are by nature evil
C. that Hawthorne employed a dream vision to tell his story
D. that Puritans of Hawthorne's time usually wore black clothes

25. Theodore Dreiser was once criticized for his () in style, but as a true artist his strength just lies in that his style is very serious and well calculated to achieve the thematic ends he sought.

A. crudeness
B. elegance
C. conciseness
D. subtlety

26. "He is the last of the romantic heroes, whose energy and sense of commitment take him in search of his personal Grail; his failure magnifies to a great extent the end of the American Dream." The character referred to in the passage is most likely the protagonist of ().

A. Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*
B. Dreiser's *An American Tragedy*
C. Hemingway's *For Whom the Bell Tolls*
D. Twain's *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*

27. Almost all Faulkner's heroes turned out to be tragic because ().

A. all enjoyed living in the declining American South
B. none of them was conditioned by the civilization and social institutions
C. most of them were prisoners of the past
D. none were successful in their attempt to explain the inexplicable

28. Yank, the protagonist of Eugene O'Neill's play *The Hairy Ape*, talked to the gorilla and set it free because ().

A. he was mad, mistaking a beast for a human
B. he was told by the white young lady that he was like a beast and he wanted to see how closely he resembled the gorilla
C. he was caged with the gorilla after he insulted an aristocratic stroller
D. he could feel the kinship only with the beast

29. In (), Robert Frost compares life to a journey, and he is doubtful whether he will regret his choice or not when he is old, because the choice has made all the difference.

A. "After Apple-Picking"
B. "The Road Not Taken"
C. "Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening"
D. "Fire and Ice"

30. Though Walt Whitman and Emily Dickinson were romantic poets in theme and technique, they differ from each other in a variety of ways. For one thing, whereas Whitman likes to keep his eye on human society at large, Dickinson often addresses such issues as (), immortality, religion, love and nature.

A. progress
B. freedom
C. beauty
D. death

31. The Romantic Writers would focus on all the following issues EXCEPT the () in the

- American literary history.
- A. individual feeling
C. strong imagination
- B. survival of the fittest
D. return to nature
32. Generally speaking, all those writers with a naturalistic approach to human reality tend to be ().
- A. transcendentalists
C. pessimists
- B. optimists
D. idealists
33. With Howells, James, and Mark Twain active on the literary scene, () became the major trend in American literature in the seventies and eighties of the 19th century.
- A. Sentimentalism
C. Realism
- B. Romanticism
D. Naturalism
34. American writers after World War I self-consciously acknowledged that they were (a) “(),” devoid of faith and alienated from the Western civilization.
- A. Lost Generation
C. Sons of Liberty
- B. Beat Generation
D. Angry Young Men
35. In (), Washington Irving agrees with the protagonist on his preference of the past to the present, and of a dream-like world to the real world.
- A. “Young Goodman Brown”
C. “Rappaccini’s Daughter”
- B. “Rip Van Winkle”
D. “Bartleby, the Scrivener”
36. Hester Prynne, Dimmesdale, Chillingworth and Pearl are most likely characters in ().
- A. *The House of the Seven Gables*
C. *The Portrait of a Lady*
- B. *The Scarlet Letter*
D. *The Pioneers*
37. Like Nathaniel Hawthorne, () also manages to achieve the effect of ambiguity through symbolism and allegory in his narratives.
- A. Mark Twain
C. R. W. Emerson
- B. Henry James
D. Herman Melville
38. In his realistic fiction, Henry James’s primary concern is to present the ().
- A. inner life of human beings
C. life on the Mississippi River
- B. American Civil War and its effects
D. Calvinistic view of original sin
39. Which of the following is NOT a typical feature of Mark Twain’s writing style? ()
- A. Simple vernacular.
C. Lengthy psychological analyses.
- B. Local color.
D. Richness of irony and humor.
40. Which of the following statements about E. Grierson, the protagonist in Faulkner’s story “A Rose for Emily,” is NOT true? ()
- A. She has a distorted personality.
B. She is physically deformed and paralyzed.
C. She is the symbol of the old values of the South.
D. She is the victim of the past glory.

PART TWO (60 POINTS)

II. Reading Comprehension (16 points, 4 for each)

Read the quoted parts carefully and answer the questions in English. Write your answer

in the corresponding space on the answer sheet.

41. “Words are like leaves; and where they most abound,
Much fruit of sense beneath is rarely found”

Questions:

- A. Identify the poem and the poet.
- B. What idea do the two lines express?

42. “To be so distinguished, is an honor, which, being very little accustomed to favors from the great, I know not well how to receive, or in what terms to acknowledge.”

Questions:

- A. Identify the work and the author.
- B. What is the tone of author?

43. “ ‘Faith! Faith!’ cried the husband. ‘Look up to Heaven, and resist the Wicked One.’ ”

Questions:

- A. Identify the work and the author.
- B. What idea does the quoted sentence express?

44. “We passed the School, where Children strove
At Recess—in the Ring—
We passed the Fields of Gazing Grain—
We passed the Setting Sun—”

Questions:

- A. Identify the poem and the poet.
- B. What do “the School,” “the Fields” and “the Setting Sun” stand for respectively?

III. Questions and Answers (24 points in all, 6 for each)

Give brief answers to each of the following questions in English. Write your answers in the corresponding space on the answer sheet.

45. As a rule, an allegory is a story in verse or prose with a double meaning: a surface meaning, and an implied meaning. List two works as examples of allegory. What is the implied meaning an allegory is usually concerned with?

46. “Let it not be supposed by the enemies of ‘the system,’ that during the period of his solitary incarceration, Oliver was denied the benefit of exercise, the pleasure of society, or the advantages of religious consolation.”

What do you think Charles Dickens intends to say in the above ironic statement taken from *Oliver Twist*?

47. Whitman has made radical changes in the form of poetry by choosing free verse as his medium of expression. What are the characteristics of Whitman’s free verse?

48. Some of Hemingway’s heroes are regarded as the Hemingway code heroes. Whatever the differences in experience and age, they all have something in common which Hemingway

values. What are the characteristics of the Hemingway code hero?

IV. Topics for Discussion (20 points in all, 10 for each)

Write no less than 150 words on each of the following topics in English in the corresponding space on the answer sheet.

49. Elizabeth Bennet, the heroine in *Pride and Prejudice*, is often regarded as the most successful character created by Jane Austen. Make a brief comment on Elizabeth's character.

50. Take Mark Twain's *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* as an example to illustrate the statement that Mark Twain was a unique writer in American literature.