

2026 年 4 月高等教育自学考试

英美文学选读试题

课程代码:00604

1. 请考生按规定用笔将所有试题的答案涂、写在答题纸上。
2. 答题前,考生务必将自己的考试课程名称、姓名、准考证号用黑色字迹的签字笔或钢笔填写在答题纸规定的位置上。

选择题部分

注意事项:

每小题选出答案后,用 2B 铅笔把答题纸上对应题目的答案标号涂黑。如需改动,用橡皮擦干净后,再选涂其他答案标号。不能答在试题卷上。

一、单项选择题:本大题共 20 小题,每小题 1 分,共 20 分。在每小题列出的备选项中只有一项是最符合题目要求的,请将其选出。

Multiple Choice (20 points in all, 1 for each)

Complete each of the following statements by choosing one appropriate answer from the four options given.

1. Cædmon holds an important place in literary history as the founder of English _____ poetry.
A. satirical
B. political
C. vernacular
D. romantic
2. Thomas Malory's romance is considered the first _____ account in English of the rise and fall of the legendary King Arthur.
A. prose
B. poem
C. fable
D. legend
3. In Thomas More's *Utopia*, "Sheep devour men" metaphorically expresses the nature of _____ and suffering of the people at the beginning of the sixteenth century.
A. economic crisis
B. capitalist expansion
C. human evolution
D. industrial development



4. *The Tragical History of Doctor Faustus* tells the story of a Doctor Faustus who wishes to pursue the worldly _____, luxury, and sensual pleasure by magic.
 A. reputation
 B. love
 C. satisfaction
 D. power
5. As an English philosopher, statesman and writer, _____ produced a famous work *Essays*.
 A. Francis Bacon
 B. John Dryden
 C. William Shakespeare
 D. John Milton
6. John Donne's work greatly influenced other seventeenth-century poets who were known as the "_____" school of poets.
 A. symbolic
 B. realistic
 C. neo-classical
 D. metaphysical
7. In 1765, Samuel Johnson published his great work *The Plays of William Shakespeare*, which is an outstanding work of _____.
 A. artistic style
 B. critical value
 C. linguistic entertainment
 D. cultural recognition
8. The first of Thomas Gray's works to appear in print is _____.
 A. *Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard*
 B. *Songs of Innocence and of Experience*
 C. *Ode on a Distant Prospect of Eton College*
 D. *The Marriage of Heaven and Hell*
9. "A Hymn to the Morning" is written by Phillis Wheatley, the first _____ American of either sex to publish a collection of poetry in colonial America.
 A. Italian
 B. German
 C. African
 D. French
10. In "The Isles of Greece", _____ calls for the Greeks to rise from their servitude and free themselves from the tyrannical rule of the Ottomans, but he ends in despair.
 A. Thomas Hardy
 B. James Joyce
 C. John Keats
 D. George Gordon Byron
11. All the following are Bertrand Russell's classics **EXCEPT** _____.
 A. *The Analysis of Mind*
 B. *Jacob's Room*
 C. *The Principles of Mathematics*
 D. *The Problems of Philosophy*



12. In W. B. Yeats's collection *The Winding Stair and Other Poems*, the poems celebrate _____ and the victory of the "Self" over the abstraction of the "Soul".
 A. revolution B. heroes
 C. life D. changes
13. William Bradford's _____ is regarded as one of the major works of Colonial American literature.
 A. *Of Plymouth Plantation* B. *A Description of New England*
 C. *Diary* D. *Letters from an American Farmer*
14. In "Contemplations", Anne Bradstreet holds the idea that man thinks not of eternal life but focuses on his _____ on Earth.
 A. memories B. struggles
 C. temptations D. joys
15. In English literature, _____ puts that "poetry is the spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings recollected in tranquillity".
 A. William Wordsworth B. Charles Lamb
 C. John Henry Newman D. Daniel Defoe
16. Benjamin Franklin is known as an American "_____", helping shape most of the important political, social, and intellectual developments in eighteenth-century America.
 A. hero B. thinker
 C. educator D. saint
17. *My Garden Acquaintance and A Good Word for Winter* is written by _____.
 A. Washington Irving B. Henry David Thoreau
 C. D. H. Lawrence D. James Russell Lowell
18. In Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's "The Slave's Dream", a slave dreams about his former _____ and is then able to release his pain and die in peace.
 A. life in Africa B. work in America
 C. marriage in France D. freedom in Europe
19. In James Gibbons Huneker's *New Cosmopolis: A Book of Images*, the first part is about the description of _____.
 A. Great White Way B. Broadway's history
 C. New York's night D. American diversity
20. The character Hurstwood is from Theodore Dreiser's _____.
 A. *A Book About Myself* B. *Sister Carrie*
 C. *Dawn* D. *The Financier*



非选择题部分

注意事项:

用黑色字迹的签字笔或钢笔将答案写在答题纸上,不能答在试题卷上。

二、填空题:本大题共 10 小题,每小题 3 个空,每个空 1 分,共 30 分。

Blank Filling (30 points in all, 1 for each blank)

Complete each of the following quotes by filling in the blanks with words/phrases given in parentheses.

21. The following is from Thomas Malory's *Le Morte D' Arthur* showing one of the famous ending scenes of the romance:

...and there came an arm and a _____ above the _____ and met it, and caught it, and so shook it thrice and brandished, and then vanished away the hand with the _____ in the water.
(sword, hand, water)

22. "Under the Greenwood Tree" is a lyric in William Shakespeare's comedy *As You Like It*:

Under the greenwood _____
Who loves to lie with me,
And turn his merry _____
Unto the sweet bird's _____, ... (note, throat, tree)

23. "Of Parents and Children" is from Francis Bacon's *Essays*:

Children sweeten _____, but they make _____ more bitter; they increase the _____ of life, but they mitigate the remembrance of death. (misfortunes, labours, cares)

24. Edward Gibbon lives forever with his *The History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*:

The minds of men were gradually reduced to the same _____, the _____ of genius was extinguished, and even the military _____ evaporated. (fire, level, spirit)

25. In *The Idea of a University Defined and Illustrated*, John Henry Newman explains what makes a gentleman:

Hence it is that it is almost a _____ of a gentleman to say he is one who never inflicts _____. This _____ is both refined and, as far as it goes, accurate. (pain, definition, description)

26. Presented here is Virginia Woolf's most beautiful and fatalistic essay entitled "The Death of the Moth":

The _____ was already scoring the field opposite the window, and where the _____ had been, the earth was pressed flat and gleamed with _____. (share, moisture, plough)

27. The following stanza is taken from Edward Taylor's "Upon a Spider Catching a Fly":

Thou sorrow, venom Elfe:

Is this thy _____,



To spin a _____ out of thyself

To Catch a _____?

For Why?

(web, Fly, play)

28. Below is an excerpt from “What is an American?”:

The American is a new man, who acts upon new _____; he must therefore entertain new _____, and form new _____. (ideas, principles, opinions)

29. This is an extract from Edgar Allan Poe’s “The Cask of Amontillado”:

“Be it so,” I said, replacing the _____ beneath the cloak and again offering him my _____.

He leaned upon it heavily. We continued our _____ in search of the Amontillado.

(arm, route, tool)

30. The following lines are from “I Continue to Dream” by Langston Hughes:

I take my dreams and make of them a bronze _____

and a round _____ with a beautiful _____ in its center.

(statue, vase, fountain)

三、正误判断题:本大题共 10 小题, 每小题 1 分, 共 10 分。

True or False Questions (10 points in all, 1 for each)

Read each of the following statements. Decide whether it is true or false. Write “T” for true and “F” for false in the bracket provided.

31. () The Venerable Bede, a saintly historian and scholar in the history of English letters, is generally considered the “father of English history”.
32. () Edmund Spencer was perhaps the most articulate spokesman for the values and attitudes of the Elizabethan Age.
33. () John Donne’s epic poem *Paradise Lost* is a reflection of the failure of the Commonwealth period that he supported ardently.
34. () Samuel Johnson who stressed the “grandeur of generality” in literature was the first of the great neoclassical writers.
35. () *Lyrical Ballads* by William Wordsworth marks the beginning of the Romantic movement in literature.
36. () *Mrs Dalloway* and *To the Lighthouse* were considered by critics the greatest of Virginia Woolf’s contributions to modern English literature.
37. () Jane Austin is ranked as the first American woman poet and the first American poet.
38. () “What is an American?” is from Michel Guillaume Jean de Crèvecoeur’s *Letters from an American Farmer*, which occupies a unique place in American literary history.



39. () Briefly, Transcendentalism is an American literary, philosophical, religious, and political movement led by Emily Dickinson.
40. () “My People” by Langston Hughes is a beautiful lyric that sings the beauty of black people.

四、简答题:本大题共 4 小题, 41~42 题, 每题 6 分, 43~44 题, 每题 9 分, 共 30 分。

Short Answer Questions (30 points in all, 12 for the first two, 18 for the last two)

41. **Read the following excerpt from William Blake’s famous poem “The Tyger”. Briefly summarize your understanding of its themes within 100 words.**

Tyger, tyger, burning bright
In the forests of the night,
What immortal hand or eye
Could frame thy fearful symmetry?

In what distant deeps or skies
Burnt the fire of thine eyes?
On what wings dare he aspire?
What the hand dare seize the fire?

And what shoulder and what art
Could twist the sinews of thy heart?
And, when thy heart began to beat,
What dread hand and what dread feet?

What the hammer? what the chain?
In what furnace was thy brain?
What the anvil? what dread grasp
Dare its deadly terrors clasp?

42. **Read the following excerpt from Percy Bysshe Shelley’s “Ode to the West Wind”. Briefly summarize the similes and metaphors and their effectiveness in highlighting the poet’s imagination within 100 words.**

O wild West Wind, thou breath of Autumn’s being,
Thou, from whose unseen presence the leaves dead
Are driven, like ghosts from an enchanter fleeing,

...



Drive my dead thoughts over the universe
Like withered leaves to quicken a new birth!
And, by the incantation of this verse,

Scatter, as from an unextinguished hearth
Ashes and sparks, my words among mankind!
Be through my lips to unawakened earth

The trumpet of a prophecy! O, Wind,
If Winter comes, can Spring be far behind?

43. **Make comments on Bertrand Russell's life attitude on the basis of "What I have Lived For" from his *Autobiography* within 150 words.**

Three passions, simple but overwhelmingly strong, have governed my life: the longing for love, the search for knowledge, and unbearable pity for the suffering of mankind. These passions, like great winds, have blown me hither and thither, in a wayward course, over a great ocean of anguish, reaching to the very verge of despair.

...

This has been my life. I have found it worth living, and would gladly live it again if the chance were offered me.

44. **Make comments on the following excerpt from Ralph Waldo Emerson's "Nature" within 150 words. Tell about Emerson's beliefs regarding the relationship between humankind and nature.**

To go into solitude, a man needs to retire as much from his chamber as from society. I am not solitary whilst I read and write, though nobody is with me. But if a man would be alone, let him look at the stars.

...

In the woods, we return to reason and faith. There I feel that nothing can befall me in life,—no disgrace, no calamity, (leaving me my eyes,) which nature cannot repair. Standing on the bare ground,—my head bathed by the blithe air, and uplifted into infinite space,—all mean egotism vanishes. I become a transparent eye-ball; I am nothing; I see all; the currents of the Universal Being circulate through me; I am part or particle of God. The name of the nearest friend sounds then foreign and accidental: to be brothers, to be acquaintances,—master or servant, is then a trifle and a disturbance. I am the lover of uncontained and immortal beauty. In the wilderness, I find something more dear and connate than in streets or villages.



In the tranquil landscape, and especially in the distant line of the horizon, man beholds somewhat as beautiful as his own nature.

五、论述题:本题 10 分。

Essay Question (10 points)

45. **Write a short essay of 250~300 words in English on the use of soliloquy in revealing Hamlet's mental state and character on the basis of "Act I, Scene ii" from *Hamlet* by William Shakespeare.**

