

※ 注意：請於試卷內之「非選擇題作答區」作答，並應註明作答之題號。

Instructions: there are four prompts, including a warm-up question worth 10% and three essay prompts each worth 30%. Write all answers in legible English, answering rather than restating the prompts. Answers are assessed primarily on ability to formulate and communicate an academic argument about literature, though also on familiarity with the field, and written English fluency.

Tips:

- Read through all questions, then budget your time to answer all questions satisfactorily.
- Outline your arguments and brainstorm evidence + relevant vocabulary before writing.
- Strong answers will be concise, content-rich, logical arguments using evidence to support a claim, and will ideally reference literary theory (quality > quantity).
- Aim to demonstrate higher-order cognition such as analysis and persuasion, not just lower-order thinking such as memorization and summary (ideas > information).

1. In 1–2 sentences, what is your favorite work of US literature and why? (10%)
2. Choose a significant work of US literature, and present an argument about that work's cultural and/or political context. (30%)
3. Choose a literary movement (other than modernism), and present an argument about 2–3 US literary texts displaying defining characteristics of the movement. (30%)
4. Present an argument about the Phillis Wheatley poem below. (30%)

“On Virtue” by Phillis Wheatley (1766)

O thou bright jewel in my aim I strive
To comprehend thee. Thine own words declare
Wisdom is higher than a fool can reach.
I cease to wonder, and no more attempt
Thine height t'explore, or fathom thy profound.
But, O my soul, sink not into despair,
Virtue is near thee, and with gentle hand
Would now embrace thee, hovers o'er thine head.
Fain would the heaven-born soul with her converse,
Then seek, then court her for her promised bliss.

Auspicious queen, thine heavenly pinions spread,
And lead celestial *Chastity* along;
Lo! now her sacred retinue descends,
Arrayed in glory from the orbs above.
Attend me, *Virtue*, thro' my youthful years!
O leave me not to the false joys of time!
But guide my steps to endless life and bliss.
Greatness, or *Goodness*, say what I shall call thee,
To give an higher appellation still,
Teach me a better strain, a nobler lay,
O Thou, enthroned with Cherubs in the realms of day!