

- Answer altogether **FOUR** essay questions (TWO from Group A and TWO from Group B) and each question is worth 25 points. Please budget your time accordingly.
- Please read carefully the questions before you respond. When you write, make sure to provide concrete and specific illustrations and supports.

Group A:

Answer **TWO** of the following three questions from Group A (25% each)

1. The relationship between humans and natural world is important in literature. What is man's relationship with his physical environment? Discuss the nature-culture dialectic and choose **three** texts—one in Old English, one in Middle English, and one from the sixteenth century—to support your argument. (25%)
2. John Milton once described Edmund Spenser as the "sage and serious" poet who was "a better teacher than Scotus or Aquinas", while Spenser praised Geoffrey Chaucer as a "well of English undefiled" and the "pure well head of Poesie". Speaking of Chaucer, Spenser, and Milton, what kind of continuity/discontinuity do you observe with regard to the literary tradition? Use their work(s) to support your argument. (25%)
3. The use of the supernatural is not rare in drama. Choose one medieval play and two Elizabethan plays (of two different playwrights) to discuss how/whether the supernatural is employed as the agent of the Good and Evil in medieval and Elizabethan plays. (25%)

Group B:

Answer **TWO** of the following three questions from Group B (25% each)

1. Elucidate the figure of a traveller in the nineteenth-century poetry. Please cover works chosen from at least one Romantic poet and one Victorian poet. (25%)
2. Briefly trace the gothic novel from the late eighteenth century to the end of the nineteenth century by also exploring how the aspiration to modernity is presented in this genre. Then compare and contrast in detail one novel from the Romantic period and another from the Victorian, (25%)
3. Choose three significant writings in English (excluding American literature) across the twentieth century and examine how the writers experiment forms of language/poetry/the novel to express experiences of the city. Choices should not be limited to works within the first thirty years of the century. (25%)

試題隨卷繳回