

FINAL EXAM

12/15/21

Section I is worth 1pt. each (20 points) – Upon completion of Sections 1-3, please submit *ONLY* * the short answers portion * of your exam to the drop box labeled *SHORT ANSWERS (1-3) on E360 in our course shell.*

I. Multiple Choice & Fill in the blank – from selected readings

1. In *Metamorphosis*, what is Gregor Samsa's occupation?
 - a. mechanic
 - b. sweat-shop owner
 - c. magician
 - d. traveling salesman

2. Why does Gregor feel that he can't quit his job?
 - a. He doesn't know if he will find another position.
 - b. He is worried that he will be unable to collect unemployment.
 - c. He is paying off a debt that his parents owe to his boss.
 - d. He wants to save money so that he can get engaged.

3. The Cold War pitted which two superpowers against each other?
 - a. The United States and Vietnam
 - b. The Soviet Union and China
 - c. China and the United States
 - d. The United States and the Soviet Union

4. Postcolonial writers tend to favor which of the following literary techniques?
 - a. Experimentation
 - b. Meta-fiction
 - c. Hybridity
 - d. Homogeneity

5. How do postmodernist writers primarily differ from modernist writers?
 - a. Postmodernist writers believe that there are limitations in literature's ability to find meaning in the world
 - b. Postmodernist writers rediscovered the power of religion and its ability to influence political decisions
 - c. Postmodernist writers delved even more deeply into the layers of the subconscious and unconscious mind
 - d. Postmodernist writers experienced World War II, so they only write about the destructive elements of humanity

6. In *Death Constant Beyond Love*, why does the senator have trouble motivating himself to put his full heart into his reelection campaign?

- a. He is distracted by his increased wealth.
- b. He has only a few months left to live.
- c. He knows that he is going to lose the election.
- d. He is running largely unopposed.

7. Why does the senator travel with cardboard cutouts of a village and ocean liner during his electoral campaign?

- a. as a method of fund-raising for the campaign, because villagers can rent the scenery
- b. because it represents the evils attendant with capitalism, as the senator is a socialist
- c. in order to show people the prosperity they will achieve if he is reelected
- d. because it is a diversion from the people's plain and dull, everyday lives

8. What does the senator ultimately request of Laura Farina?

- a. that she pay a bribe to get her father's documents
- b. that she sleep next to him for companionship
- c. that she leave his presence immediately
- d. that she retrieve the key for her chastity belt

9. In *Death and the King's Horseman*, how did the Not-I bird get its name, according to Elesin's song?

- a. No one wanted to be responsible for the bird's care, so no one owned it.
- b. It was the bird that Death found when everyone else hid from him.
- c. All of the villagers cast the bird out of the village because it was noisy.
- d. The bird refused to accept responsibility for stealing fruit from the market.

10. How were the Pilkingses acquainted with Elesin prior to his attempt to kill himself as the king's horseman?

- a. Elesin refused to accept colonial rule, so he was temporarily imprisoned.
- b. The Pilkingses had invited the chief for a visit to their home out of courtesy.
- c. The Pilkingses helped Elesin's son, Olunde, get into medical school.
- d. Elesin had asked the British officials to protect his village from raids.

11. In Kincaid's "Girl" which of the following adjectives best describes the tone of this short story?

- a. Somber
- b. sarcastic
- c. reverent
- d. instructional

12. In what format is the short story written?

- a. call-and-response
- b. one continuous sentence

- c. interior monologue
- d. stream of consciousness

13. What are the most frequently occurring images in the short story?

- a. clothes and food
- b. computers and technology
- c. animals and nature
- d. machinery and weapons

14. What is the girl's mother's greatest fear?

- a. having a "slut" for a daughter
- b. losing her husband in an accident
- c. being discriminated against in town
- d. becoming ostracized at her church

15. In *The Old Chief Mshlanga*, a young English girl is brought up in _____ with the prejudiced, entitled attitudes of her parents regarding the African natives.

16. Chike, like his sisters _____ was brought up 'in the ways of the white man,' which meant the opposite of _____.

17. While in a drunken sleep at a tavern, the narrator dreams of a _____ and experiences contentment, awakening to discover Zaabalawi had been with him but then disappeared.

18. "Girl" is a single, winding _____. The speaker is a mother giving _____ to her daughter on the rules and rites of _____.

19. For the narrator in *This Way for the Gas, Ladies and Gentlemen*, the extermination camp of Birkenau in which he is imprisoned is an enclosed space of hierarchical authority and the struggle for _____.

20. Baldwin's narrative technique of flashbacks, associations, etc. is said to _____ the _____ of his own life.

Section II is worth 2 pts. Each (10 points)

A. Cite the full name of the author of the work for credit.

1. *Her books held tales of alien fairies, her rivers ran slow and peaceful, and she knew the shape of the leaves of an ash or an oak, the names of the little creatures that lived in English streams, when the words 'the veld' meant strangeness, though she could remember nothing else.*

2. *Some of them simply filled him with elation. 'Periwinkle' was such a word. He had now forgotten how he learned it or exactly what it was. He had a vague private meaning for it and it was something to do with fairyland.*

3. *Whenever I was overcome by weariness or my inspiration failed me, he would punch me playfully in the chest and joke with me, and I would bubble over with melodies, and thus I continued working till I finished the most beautiful piece I have ever composed.*

4. "I looked at ... for an instant and there was something ancient and dark—something I could feel in my stomach—in his eyes . . ."

5. *They preferred the invention because this invention expressed and corroborated their hates and fears so perfectly. It is just as well to remember that people are always doing this. Perhaps many of those legends, including Christianity, to which the world clings began their conquest of the world with just some such concerted surrender to distortion...*

Section III is worth 3 pts. Each (30 points)

"The Old Chief Mshlanga"

1. What is the main conflict of the story?

2. In the story, the mother is said to mock the chief's son, who works in her kitchen, and disrespects his family line. Why does she do so?

"Yellow Woman"

3. As the story begins, what has happened to the narrator?

4. Who is Silva? What lifestyle does he have? What is it that he does?

“The Old Gun”

5. What is the history of Dasuo’s connection to his dead father and the old gun?

6. How does “The Old Gun” come to closure? What evidence can you see in the text to support your answer?

“The Perforated Sheet”

7. How does *Aadam Aziz* come to meet his wife?

“Requiem”

8. What is the selection “Requiem” about? Cite a major theme of the work.

“Notes of a Native Son”

9. How does *Baldwin’s* essay begin? What is his essay about?

A Room of One’s Own

10. Virginia Woolf chose to fictionalize a sister for Shakespeare, of all possible writers. Why is Shakespeare said to be the most effective choice for Woolf’s argument?

End of Sections 1-3

Section IV- Short Answer (Essay Section) 40 pts.

Select **ONE** of the **5** essay questions listed below and respond to the question in **400-500 words**. Please use examples from the text to support your answer. Your essay should be written in the proper *MLA* format. ***Upon completion, please submit ONLY * the essay portion * of your exam to the drop box labeled **SHORT ANSWER ESSAY on E360 in our course shell.****

1. What role does **gender play** in the story and in Gregor's experience? Compare and contrast the roles of the female characters—Grete, the mother—and the male characters—the father, the general manager, the lodger. Discuss how the ending supports or undoes the observations you make about gender in the novella.
2. Discuss the depiction of physical bodies in the story “This way for the Gas, Ladies and Gentlemen,” by **comparing and contrasting** two passages that use the imagery of physical bodies. How and why is a reader's attention drawn to both individual bodies and masses of bodies?
3. James Baldwin concludes his essay by arguing that to overcome prejudice, “one would have to hold in the mind forever two ideas which seemed to be in opposition” (742). What **are those** two opposed ideas? Discuss Baldwin's suggestion. What does it (*what would this*) look like in practice?
4. *What does the “perforated sheet” symbolize? Use evidence from the story to support your argument.*
5. Analyze a selection from one of the following poets: *Rainer Maria Rilke, Anna Akhmatova, or Pablo Neruda*. Discuss the major themes of the work and show how the poet achieved the portrayal of those specific theme/s. How did the poet's environment impact their perspective? Are poets the product of their times? Please use examples from the text to support your answers.