English Lyric Poetry Final Exam: Spring 2023 – Dr. David Turk, Dr. Sue Talley

Your Name: Rebecca Gedeon

Welcome to the Final Exam. In this exam, you will have some multiple-choice questions, especially on terminology and poetic forms, as they can be confusing to remember and spell. Each of 10 questions will be worth 5 points.

5 Essay questions will be relatively short but will be worth 10 points each.

<u>Part 1: Terminology and Poetic Forms</u> (5 points for each correct response, circled)

1) William Shakespeare's works were written in what language? CIRCLE the correct answer. (Yes, Dr. Turk explained this to you, so think back on what he said.)

a) Old English
b) Middle English
c) Modern English

2) Shakespeare's sonnets were primarily written in what poetic form:

a) Iambic pentameter
b) Trochaic pentameter
c) Rhyming couplets

3) Lyric poetry is so-called because:

a) It is only to be read aloud without accompaniment
b) It is only written in a style to look artistic
c) It may be set to music

4) A poetry explication may include:

a) An analysis of poetic form
b) A personal response to content and effectiveness
c) Both a.) and b.)

5) Please look at the following. Using this chart, you will identify the types of feet (example: iambic) and meter (example: pentameter) in the following poetic examples.

If you have trouble identifying the rhythm of a poem, draw lines under the syllables you would normally emphasize in a sentence, like this: "The griz-zly bear is rough and wild".

Draw lines between the feet, and then count the number of feet so you can tell the meter.

Here is an example: "The griz-/ ly bear/ is rough/ and wild." Of course, I had to place slashes between the feet. The examples below are slightly different but in them, a small question mark in a box (heaven knows why) marks the "upbeat" and the slash marks the "downbeat". (Marking is to help you; your answer is the type of feet and meter the line contains.)

Here are examples of feet and meter, taken from "A Poetry Explication":

IAMBIC (the noun is "iamb"): an unstressed syllable followed by a stressed syllable, a pattern which comes closest to approximating the natural rhythm of speech. Note line 23 from Shelley's "Stanzas Written in Dejection, Near Naples":

⏝ / ⏝ / ⏝ / ⏝ /

And walked | with in | ward glo | ry crowned (my underlines—Dr. Sue)

TROCHAIC (the noun is "trochee"): a stressed followed by an unstressed syllable, as in the first line of Blake's "Introduction" to Songs of Innocence:

/ ⏝ / ⏝ / ⏝ /

Piping | down the | valleys | wild

ANAPESTIC (the noun is "anapest"): two unstressed syllables followed by a stressed syllable, as in the opening to Byron's "The Destruction of Sennacherib":

⏝ ⏝ / ⏝ ⏝ / ⏝ ⏝ / ⏝ ⏝ /

The Assyr | ian came down | like the wolf | on the fold

DACTYLIC (the noun is "dactyl"): a stressed syllable followed by two unstressed syllables, as in Thomas Hardy's "The Voice":

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/ ◡ ◡     /  ◡ ◡   / ◡ ◡   / ◡ ◡
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Woman much | missed, how you | call to me, | call to me**En**

Meter refers to the number of feet in a line:

Monometer	one
Dimeter	two
Trimeter	three
Tetrameter	four
Pentameter	five
Hexameter	six

Example 1: 'Tis not alone my inky cloak, good mother,"

Iambic Pentameter

Example 2: "How do you like to go up in a swing?"

Iambic Pentameter

Example 3: "Tell all the truth, but tell it slant"

Iambic Tetrameter

Example 4: "The sky is cloudy, yellowed by the smoke"

Iambic Pentameter

Example 5: "All I could see from where I stood"

Iambic Tetrameter

PART 3. SHORT ESSAY QUESTIONS. Please answer the following in a statement of no less than 25 words, and no more than 50 words:

1) Name one poet from the Harlem Renaissance (you may remember that we set the poetry of one famous poet to jazz music). Briefly explain the importance of the Harlem Renaissance to the history of poetry.

One famous poet from the Harlem Renaissance is Claude Mckay. Claude was a Jamaican immigrant who used his literary skills to give a voice to black immigrants. He was a true trailblazer in the Harlem Renaissance movement, and he influenced many other poets like Langston Hughes.

2) Name one famous woman poet and explain her importance. You may use a particular poem as an example.

Emily Dickinson was one of considered the greatest female poets. She is one of the leading voices of 19th-century American poets. Her unique writing style put her in a class of her own. One of her most famous writings was *Hope is The Thing with Feathers* this poem reminds readers of the power that resides in hope.

3) Explain the difference between simile and metaphor. Please create a sentence illustrating each poetic device (one sentence illustrating simile, another sentence illustrating metaphor).

A simile makes a comparison with the words like or as, while a metaphor is a direct comparison between two things. For example, the sentence she eats like a horse is a simile because it compares the girl's appetite to that of a horse with you the word like. The sentence, the water looks crystal clear is a metaphor because it compares the water to the clarity of a crystal.

4) Explain the use of alliteration in poetry. Create a sentence using several words illustrating alliteration.

Alliteration is a repetition of a word or a sound, when it is used in a poem it is very memorable for the reader. Alliteration is used to inject mood and give emotion into a literary piece. Lastly, alliteration adds both rhythm and emphasis. For example, in Edgar Allen Poe's poem *The Raven,* He uses the phrase "Doubting, dreaming dreams no mortal ever dared to dream" Poe's alliteration gives his poetry a pulse engaging his reader.

5) All poetry does not have the types of feet and meters illustrated above. Please briefly name and explain two other types of poetry often used by modern poets.

Free Verse and Narrative Poetry are two forms of poetry that are used by modern poets. Free verse poetry is an open form of poetry, it doesn't abide by any laws of poetry, hence its name. Narrative poetry tells a story, it is usually written in metered verse, and it doesn't necessarily need to rhyme.