

English American  
English  
应试突破

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American  
全国高等教育自学考试

英美文学

选读

主 编 张昌宋  
副主编 肖传芬 李 玲



国防工业出版社  
National Defense Industry Press

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·北京·

**图书在版编目(CIP)数据**

英美文学选读应试突破 / 张昌宋主编. —北京:国防工业出版社, 2006.1

全国高等教育自学考试

ISBN 7-118-04217-X

I. 英... II. 张... III. ①英语-阅读教学-高等教育-自学考试-自学参考资料②文学-作品-简介-英国③文学-作品-简介-美国 IV. H319.4: I

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2005)第 125140 号

国防工业出版社出版发行

(北京市海淀区紫竹院南路 23 号)

(邮政编码 100044)

腾飞胶印厂印刷

新华书店经售

\*

开本 850×1168 1/32 印张 12 $\frac{1}{2}$  316 千字

2006 年 1 月第 1 版 2006 年 1 月北京第 1 次印刷

印数: 1—4000 册 定价: 18.00 元

---

(本书如有印装错误, 我社负责调换)

国防书店: (010)68428422

发行邮购: (010)68414474

发行传真: (010)68411535

发行业务: (010)68472764

## 前 言

为了帮助广大考生顺利通过高等教育自学考试英语本科段最难通过的课程——英美文学选读——的考试,我们以张伯香先生主编的《英美文学选读》为蓝本,根据全国高等教育自学考试委员会颁布的《高等教育英语专业自学考试计划(试行)》及《英语语言文学专业英美文学选读自学考试大纲》,结合多年的教学经验,编写了这本《英美文学选读应试突破》。

全书以教材内容为主要依据,教材以外的作家、作品不加分析。各章节内容及特色如下:

**名词解释与文学术语**将教材中出现的文学名词和术语,提及的人物加以解释说明,便于考生了解文学的一些基本常识。

**历年真题解析**将历年考题按章节、按作家一一列出,并附有答案,便于考生了解该章节的考试重点。

**重点难点精讲**是本书的重点部分,内容有:历史文化背景、艺术特色、作家观点、主要作品介绍、课文解释等,最后指出选文的重点章节,便于考生把握重点。为了便于考生理解,在课文解释部分加入了一些中文。上古及中世纪英国文学简介部分因为内容很少,所以没有这一部分内容。由于市面上一些教辅书都对选文进行了详细的翻译,本辅导书不再效仿。

**作家作品简表**将教材中提到的所有作家的作品按表格形式一一列出,便于考生记忆。

本书编者都是长期从事英美文学选读教学的教师,有着丰富的教学经验,所教授的学生考试通过率高,每年都有部分成绩优异的学生考取研究生。张昌宋同志负责英国文学部分、肖传芬同志

负责美国文学部分的编写,李玲同志负责全书的文学术语、名词解释和模拟试题部分的编写。

在本书编写过程中,我们得到众多师生,尤其是毛浩然老师很多颇有见地的建议,谨此深表敬意!

由于时间和编者水平所限,书中片面、错误、疏漏之处在所难免,希望广大读者不吝指正。

我们衷心希望本书能成为广大自考生的良师益友,切实帮助大家顺利通过英美文学选读考试。

编著者

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# **Part One English Literature**

## **第一部分 英国文学**

### **An Introduction to Old and Medieval English Literature**

#### **上古及中世纪英国文学简介 (450 ~ 1066)**

#### **一、Definitions of Literary Terms (名词解释与文学术语)**

**1. Couplet 对句(指两行尾韵相谐的诗句)**

A couplet is two consecutive lines of poetry that rhyme. The couplet composed of two iambic pentameter lines (五音步抑扬格诗行)—more commonly known as the heroic couplet (英雄偶句诗)—is the most favored form.

**2. Elegy 哀歌、挽歌**

A poem of mourning, usually over the death of an individual. It may also be a lament over the passing of life and beauty or a meditation on the nature of death. An elegy is a type of lyric poem, usually formal in language and structure.

**3. Epic 史诗**

An epic is a long narrative poem telling about the deeds of a great

hero and reflecting the values of the society from which it originated. Many epics were drawn from an oral tradition and were transmitted by song and recitation before they were written down.

4. Exodus (《出埃及记》)

The second book of the Old Testament, containing an account of the departure of the Israelites from Egypt under the leadership of Moses.

5. Genesis A (《创世纪》)

The first book of the Old Testament. It gives an account of the Creation of the world, the Fall, the Flood, the origins of the Hebrews.

6. John Dryden 约翰·德莱顿(1631~1700)

English poet and dramatist, also considered the father of English literary criticism. Dryden's career began around the time of the Restoration (1660, 王政复辟). He became the Poet Laureate (桂冠诗人) in 1668.

7. Homer 荷马

Greek epic poet, probably of the 8th century BC, to whom are ascribed the *Iliad* (《伊利亚特》) and *Odyssey* (《奥德赛》). Nothing is known about his life, nor even of the genesis of the poems.

8. Iambic pentameter 五音步抑扬格诗

英诗的韵律主要包括两方面的内容: 1) 每个音步中轻重音节的排列形式, 即格律。抑扬格指每一音步中含有一个轻音和一个重音; 2) 这种排列形式在一个诗行中出现的次数, 也就是每行内所含有的音步数目。下面以教材中 Thomas Gray 的 *Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard* 为例, 诗歌第一行如下:

\     /   | \   /   | \   /   | \   / | \   /

The curfew tolls the knell of parting day

(\ 表示“抑”, 即轻读的音节, / 表示“扬”, 即重读的音节;  
| 表示音步的分布情况)

9. Lyric 抒情诗

A poem, usually a short one, that expresses a speaker's personal

thoughts or feelings. The elegy, ode, and sonnet are all forms of the lyric. As its Greek name indicates, a lyric was originally a poem sung to the accompaniment of a lyre, and lyrics to this day have retained a melodic quality.

10. Motif 主题、母题

A motif generally contributes in some way to the theme of a short story, novel, poem, or play. At times, motif is used to refer to some commonly used plot or character type in literature. It can also be motive, a main subject, pattern, etc. on which a work of art is based, or from which it is developed.

11. New Testament 《新约全书》

The part of the Bible which contains the life and teachings of Christ recorded by his followers, together with their own experiences and teachings. It is the second of the two principal divisions of the Christian Bible.

12. Old Testament 《旧约全书》

The earlier and larger part of the Bible, which contains the religious and social laws of the Hebrews, a record of their history, their important literature, and writings of their prophets.

13. Romance 骑士传奇、浪漫文学

Any imaginative literature that is set in an idealized world and that deals with heroic adventures and battles between good characters and villains or monsters. Originally, the term referred to a medieval tale dealing with the loves and adventures of kings, queens, knights, and ladies, and including unlikely or supernatural happenings.

14. Verse 韵文

Form of writing arranged in lines, each containing a pattern of accented and unaccented syllables; or group of lines forming a unit in a rhyme scheme.

## 二、Examination Questions over the Years

### (本章历年考题)

1. Romance, which uses narrative verse or prose to tell stories of \_\_\_\_\_ adventures or other heroic deeds, is a popular literary form in the medieval period. (2002 年第 1 题)  
A. Christian    B. knightly    C. Greek    D. primitive
2. Among the great Middle English poets, Geoffrey Chaucer is known for his production of \_\_\_\_\_. (2002 年第 2 题)  
A. Piers Plowman    B. Sir Gawain and the Green Knight  
C. Confessio Amantis    D. The Canterbury Tales
3. The work that presented, for the first time in English literature, a comprehensive realistic picture of the medieval English society and created a whole gallery of vivid characters from all walks of life is most likely \_\_\_\_\_. (2001 年第 1 题)  
A. William Langland's Piers Plowman  
B. Geoffrey Chaucer's The Canterbury Tales  
C. Gower's Confessio Amantis  
D. Sir Gawain and the Green Knight

参考答案:

BDB

## 三、Writers and their Works

### (作家作品简表)

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| John Gower       | <i>Sir Gawain and the Green Knight</i> |
| William Langland | <i>Piers Plowman</i>                   |

(续)

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Geoffrey Chaucer (“ <b>the father of English poetry</b> ”, “ <b>the English Homer</b> ”, introduced from France the rhymed stanzas of various types to English poetry) | <i>The Canterbury Tales; The Romaunt of the Rose; The Legend of Good Women</i> |
| Religious poems  | <i>Genesis A; Genesis B; Exodus; The Dream of the Rood</i>                     |
| Secular poems  | <i>The Wanderer; Deor; The Seafarer; The Wife's Complaint</i>                  |
| English national epic poem   | <i>Beowulf</i>   |

注：该表仅限于教材中提及的作家及作品，作品栏中的黑体部分为教材中的选读篇目(全书同)。

# Chapter 1 The Renaissance Period

## 第一章 文艺复兴时期 (14th ~ mid-17th Century)

### 一、Definitions of Literary Terms (名词解释与文学术语)

#### 1. Allegory 寓言

A story that is told to explain or teach something, especially a long and complicated story with an underlying meaning different from the surface meaning of the story itself.

#### 2. Auden 奥登 (1907~1973)

English poet and a major influence on modern poetry, particularly during the 1930s when his highly energetic, often witty verse probed and laid bare Europe's ailing culture in the years that were to lead to WWII.

#### 3. Blank Verse 无韵体诗

Blank verse is verse written in unrhymed iambic pentameter . It is the verse form used in some of the greatest English poetry, including that of William Shakespeare and John Milton.

#### 4. Catholicism 天主教

The faith, doctrine, organization, and methods of the Roman Catholic Church.

#### 5. Dante 但丁 (1265~1321)



Italy's greatest poet, author of *The Divine Comedy*(《神曲》).

6. Drama 戏剧

It is a genre of literature, in which the words are mainly dialogue. People talking is the basic dramatic action. Wordless activity may interrupt the talk, but it is the context of dialogue that gives significance to such activity.

7. Erasmus 伊拉斯谟 (1466?~1536)

Dutch Roman Catholic, humanist and advocate of church and social reform.

8. Foot 音步

A unit in the scansion of verse, containing in English poetry one strong or accent. It is applied within a single line, indicating how many meters are employed in that line.

9. Imagery 意象

Comparisons, descriptions, and figures of speech that help the mind form forceful or beautiful pictures. Poetry often contains imagery.

10. Kipling 吉卜林 (1835~1936)

English writer, born in India.

11. Martin Luther 马丁·路德 (1483~1546)

German reformation leader and founder of Lutheranism. (路德主义)

12. Meter 格律

The word is derived from the Greek word "metron," meaning "measure." In English when applied to poetry, it refers to the regular pattern of stressed and unstressed syllables. The analysis of the meter is called scansion. (格律分析或音步划分, 格律的形式有: 抑扬格, 扬抑格, 抑抑扬扬格和扬抑抑格等。)

13. Montaigne 蒙田 (1533~1592)

French writer, generally regarded as the inventor of modern essay,