

考生之友系列丛书

# 英国文学学习指南

英国文学史及选读综合练习

李正栓 李翠亭 编著 郭群英 孙志成 审订



*A  
Companion  
to  
English  
Literature*



清华大学出版社

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内容简介

本书是英国文学史及选读教材习题集。编著者针对英国文学史及作品设计了各种各样的练习,主要有选择填空、找错并改错、辨认、配对、回答问题等形式,内容翔实、全面,能帮助读者全面了解和掌握英国文学史及作品。

本书读者对象为:英语专业高年级学生、高等教育自学考试英语专业本科生、函授本科生、三沟通本科生、报考英美文学专业研究生的考生和广大英国文学爱好者。

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# 前 言

我国大学英语专业高年级、高等教育自学考试英语专业本科段、英语专业函授本科、三沟通本科均开设英美文学史及选读课。全国各级各类出版社已出版大量有关教材,为学生学习和教师教学提供了方便。但是,学生常常感到文学课太难学,苦于无练习可做,不能检验学习效果,考前复习时也不方便。基于这种情况,我们编写了《美国文学学习指南》和《英国文学学习指南》。

《英国文学学习指南》以外语教学与研究出版社出版的吴伟仁教授编写的教材为基本蓝本,练习划分成9个部分,与原教材的时代划分相对应,另外附加一个针对全书而出的配对练习。编写过程中,我们参考了国内外专家编写的英国文学史及选读教材,对吴教授教材的内容进行了补充,使我们编的这本练习书尽量内容翔实,以便使学生在学完本书后对英国文学及作品有一较全面的掌握。

本书部分练习曾在学生中试用,效果不错,很受欢迎,这更坚定了我们编写本书的信心。

《英国文学学习指南》共分两编。第一编为文学史部分,第二编为选读部分,这两编针对英国文学史上的重点作家及重点作品设计了各种各样的练习,主要有选择填空、找错并改错、配对、辨认、简答等形式。需说明的是,我们把 Hardy 从 Part X (The Twentieth-Century Literature) 移到 Part VIII

(The Victorian Age)。另外,在选择和配对练习中,我们有时列了一些非英国的作家和作品,一是作为干扰项,二是因为它们彼此相关。

编写这样一本书尚属尝试,我们只想借这平平常常的工作给广大同学提供实实在在的帮助,希望广大的英语专业本科生、自学考试本科生、函授本科生、三沟通本科生及报考英语专业研究生的同学读此书有很大的收获。

我们非常感谢英语语言文学专业硕士生导师郭群英和孙志成两位教授对书稿进行审阅并提出一些宝贵意见。

由于经验不足,错误或不当之处在所难免。希望读者不吝指正。

编著者

1997. 11. 1

## 致 读 者

目前,在考试竞争日趋激烈,命题日趋精细的形势下,考生迫切需要在临考前对所学知识进行高度概括的回顾,迅速准确地了解考试动向,对答题思路和方法进行有效的强化训练,以加深对所考科目的理解和掌握,将基础知识与实际应用最终结合起来。考生之友系列丛书正是为此目的而组织编写。

本系列丛书的编著者均系多年从事教学工作的优秀教师,具有丰富的迎考指导经验。在本套丛书的编写过程中,他们既使用了教学中行之有效的多年积累,也收集了相关科目的最新资讯;既注重系统性与实用性相结合,又力求针对性与覆盖面并重。

我们相信,本套丛书将帮助考生掌握答题思路与技巧,明显提高知识实用水平,从而大大增强考生的应试信心与能力!

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# 第一编

文学史练习

(Exercises on Literary History)



## Part I The Anglo-Saxon Period

### I. Fill in the following blanks.

1. Angles, Saxons and \_\_\_\_\_ usually known as Anglo-Saxons are the first Englishmen. Language spoken by them is called the Old English, which is the foundation of English language and literature.
2. The literature of the Anglo-Saxon period falls naturally into two divisions, \_\_\_\_\_ and christian.
3. Among the early Anglo-Saxon poets we may mention \_\_\_\_\_, who wrote a poetic "Paraphrase" of the Bible, and Cynewulf.
4. In the 8th century, Anglo-Saxon prose appeared. The famous prose writers of that period were Venerable Bede and \_\_\_\_\_.
5. " \_\_\_\_\_ " is the oldest poem in the English language, and also the oldest surviving epic in the English language.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ is the first known religious poet of England. He is known as the father of English song.
7. The didactic poem "The Christ" was produced by \_\_\_\_\_.

## II . Choose the best answer for each blank.

1. When we speak of the old English prose, the first name that comes into our minds is \_\_\_\_\_, who is the first scholar in English literature and has been regarded as father of English learning.
  - a. William Shakespeare
  - b. Beowulf
  - c. Julius Caesar
  - d. Venerable Bede
2. The most important work of Alfred the Great is \_\_\_\_\_, which is regarded as the best monument of the old English prose.
  - a. The Song of Beowulf
  - b. The Anglo-Saxon Chronicles
  - c. The Ecclesiastical History of the English People
  - d. Brut
3. \_\_\_\_\_ is not only a prose writer but also a king of Wessex.
  - a. Alfred the Great
  - b. Venerable Bede
  - c. Adam Bede
  - d. King Arthur
4. \_\_\_\_\_ is the first important religious poet in English literature.
  - a. John Donne
  - b. George Herbert
  - c. Caedmon
  - d. Milton
5. In Anglo-Saxon period, "Beowulf" represented the \_\_\_\_\_ poetry.
  - a. pagan
  - b. religious
  - c. romantic
  - d. sentimental

**III. Find the relevant match from column B for each item in column A.**

- | <b>A</b>             | <b>B</b>  |
|----------------------|---|
| 1. Alfred the Great  | a. The Christ                                       |
| 2. Venerable Bede    | b. Paraphrase                                       |
| 3. Cynewulf          | c. The Anglo-Saxon Chronicles                       |
| 4. an unknown scribe | d. The Ecclesiastical History of the English People |
| 5. Caedmon           | e. The Song of Beowulf                              |

**IV. Answer the following questions.**

1. What are the main incidents of the poem “Beowulf”?
2. How many groups does the old English poetry fall into? What are they?
3. What are the main characteristics of Anglo-Saxon literature?

## Part II The Anglo-Norman Period

### I . Fill in the following blanks.

1. In the year 1066, the Normans defeated the Anglo-Saxons at the battle of \_\_\_\_\_.
2. In the 14th century, the two most important writers are \_\_\_\_\_ and Langland.
3. Today Chaucer is acclaimed not only as “the father of English poetry” but also as “the father of English fiction”. His masterpiece is \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The fifteen century has been traditionally described as the barren age in English literature. But it is the spring tide of English \_\_\_\_\_.
5. In the 15th century, there is only one important prose writer whose name is \_\_\_\_\_. He wrote an important work called Morte d’ Arthur.

### II . Choose the best answer for each statement.

1. In 1066, \_\_\_\_\_ led the Norman army to invade and defeat England.
  - a. William the Conqueror
  - b. Julius Caesar
  - c. Alfred the Great
  - d. Claudius
2. In the 14th century, the most important writer is \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Langland                      b. Wyclif  
 c. Gower                          d. Chaucer
3. The prevailing form of Medieval English literature is the \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. French                          b. Latin  
 c. romance                        d. science
4. The story of " \_\_\_\_\_ " is the culmination of the Arthurian romances.
- a. Sir Gawain and the Green Knight  
 b. The story of Beowulf  
 c. Piers the plowman  
 d. The Canterbury Tales
5. William Langland's " \_\_\_\_\_ " is written in the form of a dream vision.
- a. Kubla Khan                      b. Piers the Plowman  
 c. The Dream of John Bull        d. Morte d'Arthur

**III. Find the relevant match from column B for each item in column A.**

- | A                           | B                                     |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. ( ) William Langland     | a. Morte d'Arthur                     |
| 2. ( ) Geoffrey Chaucer     | b. The Canterbury Tales               |
| 3. ( ) Thomas Malory        | c. Piers the Plowman                  |
| 4. ( ) Layamon              | d. The History of the King of Britain |
| 5. ( ) Geoffrey of Monmouth | e. Brut                               |

**IV. Answer the following questions.**

1. What is the influence of the Norman Conquest upon English language and literature?
2. What are the essential features of romance in the Medieval English literature?
3. Make comments on the romance "Sir Gawain and the Green Knight".

## Part III Geoffrey Chaucer

### I . Fill in the following blanks.

1. "The Canterbury Tales" contains in fact a general Prologue and only \_\_\_\_\_ tales, of which two are left unfinished.
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ provides a framework for the tales in "The Canterbury Tales", and it comprises a group of vivid pictures of various medieval figures.
3. "The Canterbury Tales" is Chaucer's greatest work and written for the greater part in \_\_\_\_\_ couplets.
4. The name of the "jolly innkeeper" in "The Canterbury Tales" is \_\_\_\_\_, who proposes that each pilgrim of the 32 should tell two tales on the way to Canterbury and two more on the way back.
5. "The Canterbury Tales" opens with a general Prologue where we are told of a company of pilgrims that gathered at \_\_\_\_\_ Inn in Southwark, a suburb of London.
6. The pilgrims in "The Canterbury Tales" are on their way to the shrine of St. Thomas a Becket at a place named \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Chaucer's work " \_\_\_\_\_ " gives us a picture of the condition of English life of his day, such as its work and

play, its deeds and dreams, its fun and sympathy.

**II . From a, b, c or d, choose the best one to complete each statement.**

1. \_\_\_\_\_, the “father of English poetry” and one of the greatest narrative poets of England, was born in London about 1340.
  - a. Geoffrey Chaucer
  - b. Sir Gawain
  - c. Francis Bacon
  - d. John Dryden
2. Chaucer died on the 25th of October 1400, and was buried in \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Flanders
  - b. France
  - c. Italy
  - d. Westminster Abbey
3. \_\_\_\_\_ was the first to be buried in the Poet’s Corner of Westminster Abbey.
  - a. Chaucer
  - b. Keats
  - c. Southey
  - d. Tennyson
4. Chaucer’s earliest work of any length is his “\_\_\_\_\_”, a translation of the French “Roman de la Rose” by Guillaume de Lorris and Jean de Meung, which was a love allegory enjoying widespread popularity in the 13th and 14th centuries not only in France but throughout Europe.
  - a. Romance of the Rose
  - b. A Red, Red Rose
  - c. Piers the Plowman
  - d. Troilus and Criseyde
5. The second period of Chaucer’s literary career includes



mainly the three longer poems written prior to "The Canterbury Tales". Choose the three from the following.

- a. The House of Fame
  - b. Troilus and Criseyde
  - c. The Legend of Good Women
  - d. The Book of the Duchess
6. In his life time Chaucer served in a great variety of occupations which had impact on the wide range of his writings. Which one is not his career?
- a. engineer
  - b. courtier
  - c. office-holder
  - d. soldier
  - e. ambassador
  - f. legislator
7. \_\_\_\_\_ creative work vividly reflected the changes which had taken root in English culture of the second half of the 14th century.
- a. Chaucer's
  - b. Byron's
  - c. Shelley's
  - d. Eliot's
8. Apart from original poems, Chaucer translated various works of French authors, among them is the famous "\_\_\_\_\_".
- a. The Canterbury Tales
  - b. The Romance of the Rose
  - c. The Parliament of Fowls
  - d. The House of Fame
9. Chaucer composes a long narrative poem named