



北京环球时代学校英语专业考研点睛图书
Cracking Postgraduate Admission Examinations For English Majors

*British Literature And
American Literature*

英语专业考研 名校英美文学模拟试题

【全新精华版】

丛书主编/吴中东 宫玉波
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北京环球时代学校英语专业考研点睛图书

Cracking For English Cracking For English Cracking English Majors

American Literature

英语专业考研

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《北京环球时代学校英语专业考研名校模拟题图书》是集北京环球时代学校的教学课程——英语专业考研强化课程5年来教材之精华编撰而成。

目的是帮助报考英语专业研究生的学生熟悉各名校考题的考试重点、考纲、题型、出题范围和资料来源。特别适合于经过了基础阶段学习之后的拔高阶段使用。

编撰者力图在信度、效度、难度和权威性上贴近各校考题的出题形式和出题内容。本书是国内关于英语专业考研模拟教材方面的首套教材，实属难得。

由于时间紧迫，若有不当之处，敬请广大读者不吝指正。

鸣谢我的学生：秦芳、王丽俐、胡晓俊、程艳、张艳茹、靳姝、郝运慧、王佳。他们在编写过程中付出了辛勤的汗水和劳动，为此书的出版做出了一定的贡献。

吴中东 宫玉波

《英语专业考研名校英美文学模拟试题》为《北京环球时代学校英语专业考研名校模拟题图书》之一，是专门为英语专业学生报考研究生而准备，是针对英语专业英美文学知识的高度总结与拔高。我们在参考国内英语专业硕士研究生英美文学方向的真题题型的基础上，结合自己的命题经验编写。模拟题包括以下题型：名词解释与文学术语、选择题、作品分析、简答题与论述题。这些题不仅完全覆盖了全国各高校英语专业英美文学考试的全部考点，并且各种题型从不同角度和深度、通过完全仿真的练习加强和巩固了考生对知识点的掌握。

编者

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英美文学模拟试题 (一)

I. British Literature

(75 points)

A. Fill out the following blanks. (10 points, 1 for each)

- _____, a typical example of Old English poetry, is regarded as the greatest national epic of the Anglo-Saxons.
- Geoffrey Chaucer is the greatest writer of Middle Ages. His masterpiece _____ presents, for the first time in English literature, a comprehensive realistic picture of the medieval English society and creates a whole gallery of vivid characters from all walks of life.
- It was Chaucer who made _____ the foundation for modern English speech.
- _____ by William Langland is a poem that gives a picture of the life in feudal England. It is a protest against the then social injustice.
- Beowulf* tells of two major adventures in the life of the Geatish hero Beowulf: the first adventure takes place in his youth when he fights and kills a monster named _____ and his revengeful mother, a sea monster; the second adventure occurs after Beowulf has long been king of the Geats.
- _____ is a dominant form of the Medieval English literature.
- Though *The Canterbury Tales* is often referred to as the first collection of short stories in English literature, these stories, unlike modern ones, are written in _____ rather than in prose.
- One of Chaucer's most important contributions to English literature is his development of the resources of the English language for _____ purposes.
- Knights of the Round Table are characters serving _____ in legends, which depict chivalry in early literature.
- _____ conquered England on October 14, 1066. From then on began the medieval period.

B. Define the following terms. (15 points, 3 for each)

- Ballad
- Epic
- Romance
- Alliteration
- Humanism

C. Multiple Choice. (15 points, 0.5 for each)

- Although _____ was essentially a medieval writer, he bore marks of humanism and anticipated a new era of literature to come.
A. William Langland B. John Gower C. Geoffrey Chaucer D. Edmund Spenser
- The statement that a man gained the whole world but lost his own soul makes a good summary of the main plot of _____.
A. *Paradise Lost* B. *The Merchant of Venice*
C. *Hamlet* D. *The Tragic History of Doctor Faustus*
- The essence of humanism is to _____.
A. restore a medieval reverence for the church
B. avoid the circumstances of earthly life
C. explore the next world in which men could live after death
D. emphasize human qualities

4. 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 _____.
- A. William Langland's *Piers Plowman* B. Geoffrey Chaucer's *The Canterbury Tales*
C. John Gower's *Confessio Amantis* D. *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*
5. The tragedy of Dr. Faustus, the protagonist in Christopher Marlowe's *The Tragic History of Dr. Faustus*, is the very fact that _____.
- A. man is confined to time
B. he tried to join Africa to Spain
C. he became a man without soul after he sold it
D. he conjured up Helen, the lady who was the very cause of the Trojan War
6. In reading Shakespeare, you must have come across the line "to be or not to be". That is the question by _____.
- A. Iago in *Othello* B. Lear in *King Lear*
C. Shylock in *The Merchant of Venice* D. Hamlet in *Hamlet*
7. "Read not to contradict and confute, nor to believe and take for granted" is one of the epigrams found in _____.
- A. Bacon's *Of Studies* B. Bunyan's *The Pilgrim's Progress*
C. Fielding's *Tom Jones* D. Johnson's *A Dictionary of the English Language*
8. The sentence "Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?" is the beginning of one of Shakespeare's _____.
- A. comedies B. tragedies C. sonnets D. histories
9. 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.
- A. Christian B. knightly C. Greek D. primitive
10. Which of the following historical events does NOT directly help to stimulate the rising of the Renaissance Movement?
- A. The rediscovery of ancient Greek and Roman culture.
B. The new discoveries in geography and astrology.
C. The Glorious Revolution.
D. The religious reformation and the economic expansion.
11. Which of the following statements best illustrates the theme of Shakespeare's *Sonnet 18*?
- A. The speaker eulogizes the power of Nature.
B. The speaker satirizes human vanity.
C. The speaker praises the power of artistic creation.
D. The speaker meditates on man's salvation.
12. *Novum Organum* is a successful treatise written in Latin on methodology. The argument is for the use of _____.
- A. the deductive reasoning B. the inductive reasoning
C. general reasoning D. particular reasoning
13. Among the following plays which is NOT written by Christopher Marlowe?
- A. *Dr. Faustus*. B. *The Jew of Malta*.
C. *Edward II*. D. *The School for Scandal*.

14. Generally, the Renaissance refers to the period between _____ and _____ centuries.
A. 16th/ mid-19th B. 14th/ mid-18th C. 14th/ mid-17th D. 16th/ mid-17th
15. Which of the following is NOT composed by John Milton?
A. *Gulliver's Travels*. B. *Paradise Lost*. C. *Paradise Regained*. D. *Areopagitica*.
16. _____ and William Shakespeare are the best representatives of the English humanism.
A. Thomas More, Christopher Marlowe B. John Milton, Thomas More
C. Edmund Spenser, Christopher Marlowe D. John Donne, Edmund Spenser
17. In his life, _____ shows himself a real revolutionary, a master poet and a great prose writer. He fought for freedom in all aspects as a Christian humanist, while his achievements in literature make him tower over all other English writers of his time and exert a great influence over later ones.
A. Edmund Spenser B. John Milton C. John Donne D. William Shakespeare
18. _____ frequently applied conceits in his poems.
A. John Donne B. John Milton C. Edmund Spenser D. Thomas Gray
19. In the following writings, _____ has been recognized as an important landmark in the development of English prose.
A. *Of Studies* by Francis Bacon B. *The Advancement of Learning*
C. *Essays* by Francis Bacon D. *Novum Organum*
20. _____ used wisdom in saving Antonio from being cut a pound of flesh by Shylock in *The Merchant of Venice*.
A. Judge B. Portia C. Bassanio D. Duke
21. _____ refers to the works of the 17th-century writers who wrote under the influence of John Donne.
A. Romanticism B. Metaphysical poetry
C. Naturalism D. Critical Realism
22. Spenser's masterpiece _____ is a great poem of its time.
A. *The Faerie Queene* B. *The Shepherdes Calender*
C. *The Canterbury Tales* D. *Metamorphoses*
23. Which of the following is NOT among the literary giants of English Renaissance?
A. Edmund Spenser. B. John Donne. C. Samuel Johnson. D. Francis Bacon.
24. Shakespeare's plays are written in a beautiful English language. He created _____ to express his characters.
A. free verse B. short verse C. blank verse D. regular verse
25. _____ is known as the poets' poet.
A. Edmund Spenser B. John Milton C. Christopher Marlowe D. Robert Frost
26. _____ shows how mankind, in the person of Christ, withstands the tempter and is established once more in the divine favor.
A. *Paradise Regained* B. *Paradise Lost* C. *Samson Agonistes* D. *Beowulf*
27. Which of the following writings is the most perfect example of the verse drama after the Greek style in English?
A. *Paradise Lost*. B. *Paradise Regained*. C. *Samson Agonistes*. D. *Beowulf*.
28. Which of the following is NOT true about Renaissance?
A. Humanism is the essence of the Renaissance.

- B. Attitudes and feelings which had been characteristic of the 14th and 15th centuries persisted well down into the era of Humanism and Reformation.
- C. It was Chaucer who initiated the Reformation.
- D. The Elizabethan drama, in its totality, is the real mainstream of the English Renaissance.
29. Christopher Marlowe gave new vigor to _____ with his mighty lines.
- A. the Petrarchan sonnet
B. sestina
C. blank verse
D. terza rima
30. Which of the following statements about Shakespeare's greatest tragedies is NOT true?
- A. Macbeth's lust for power stirs up his ambition and leads him to incessant crimes.
B. The Old King Lear who is willing to totally give up his power comes to a good end.
C. Hamlet, the melancholic scholar-prince, faces the dilemma between action and mind.
D. Othello's inner weakness is made use of by the outside evil force.

D. Read the following quotations and answer the questions. (20 points, 4 for each)

1. "...There also was a Nun, a Prioress;
Simpler her way of smiling was and coy.
Her greatest oath was only 'By ST Loy!'
And she was known as Madam Eglantyne.
...
She wore a coral trinket on her arm,
A set of beads, the gaudies tricked in green,
Whence hung a golden brooch of brightest sheen
On which there first was graven a crowned A,
And lower, Amor vincit omnia.
- A. Identify the author and the title of the work from which the passage is taken.
B. What does the name "Madam Eglantyne" imply about the nun?
C. What does the line "Amor vincit omnia" mean?
2. "...Though changed in outward luster, that fixed mind
And high disdain, from sense of injured merit,
That with the Mightiest raised me to contend
And to the fierce contention brought along
Innumerable force of spirits armed,
That durst dislike his reign, and me preferring,
His utmost power with adverse power opposed
In dubious battle on the plains of Heaven,
And shook his throne. ...
- A. Identify the poet and the poem.
B. Who does the Mightiest refer to in the passage?
C. What idea does this passage express?
3. But thy eternal summer shall not fade,
Nor lose possession of that fair thou ow'st:

Nor shall death brag thou wander'st in his shade,
 So long as men can breathe, or eyes can see,
 So long lives this, and this gives life the thee."

- A. Identify the poem and the poet.
- B. What does the word "this" refer to?
- C. What idea does this stanza express?

4. "...

And thus the native hue of resolution
 Is sicklied o'er with the pale cast of thought,
 And enterprises of great pith and moment,
 With this regard, their currents turn awry,
 And lose the name of action."

- A. Identify the author and the title of the work from which the passage is taken.
- B. What does the native hue of resolution mean?
- C. What does the pale cast of thought stand for?

5. "...If he be not apt to beat over matters, let him study the lawyer's cases. So every defect of the mind may have a special receipt."

- A. Identify the work from which this quotation is taken from and summarize the main idea of the work.
- B. What does the phrase "beat over matters" mean?
- C. What does the word "receipt" refer to?

E. Discuss the following questions briefly. (15 points, 3 for each)

1. William Shakespeare is one of the most remarkable playwrights and poets the world has ever known. Try to discuss his art of creations.
2. Comment briefly on Hamlet's hesitation in taking revenge.
3. Comment briefly on Geoffrey Chaucer's literary contributions to English literature.
4. According to the setting of the poem *Paradise Lost*, discuss the theme, the author's intention to create it and the implication that the poem expresses.
5. Discuss briefly the main tragic heroes in Shakespeare's four greatest tragedies.

II. American Literature

(75 points)

A. Fill out the following blanks. (10 points, 1 for each blank)

1. _____ was the most leading spirit of the Transcendental Club.
2. Freedom was won as much by the fiery rhetoric of Thomas Paine's and the eloquence of the _____ as by the weapons of Washington or Lafayette.
3. Freneau was _____ by training and taste yet romantic in essential spirit.
4. _____ values were prominent in American politics, art and Philosophy until the Civil War.
5. Cooper's enduring fame rests on his frontier stories, especially the five novels that comprise the _____.

6. In 1817, the stately poem called "*Thanatopsis*" by _____ introduced the best poet to appear in America up to that time.
7. The _____, _____ and _____ for which his poetry was popular during his lifetime were the very qualities that caused the reaction against it after Longfellow's death.

B. Define the following terms. (15 points, 3 for each)

1. Calvinism 2. Free verse 3. Symbol 4. American Romanticism
5. Transcendentalism

C. Multiple Choice. (15 points, 0.5 for each)

1. The convention of the desire for an escape from society and a return to nature in American Literature is particularly evident in _____.
- A. Cooper's *Leather-Stocking Tales* B. Hawthorne's *The Scarlet Letter*
C. Whitman's *Leaves of Grass* D. Irving's *Rip Van Winkle*
2. Hawthorne's works are marked by a preoccupation with the _____ view of original sin and the mystery of evil.
- A. Catholic B. Orthodox C. Calvinistic D. Marxism
3. In Hawthorne's *The Scarlet Letter*, "A" may stand for _____.
- A. Angel B. Adultery C. Able D. all the above
4. In *Leaves of Grass*, _____ is all that concerned Whitman.
- A. individualism B. freedom
C. the spirit of democracy D. all the above
5. _____ is not Melville's work.
- A. *Moby-Dick* B. *The Private Life* C. *White Jacket* D. *Pierre*
6. Washington Irving's social conservatism and literary preference for the past is revealed, to some extent, in his famous story, _____.
- A. *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* B. *Rip Van Winkle*
C. *The Custom-House* D. *The Birthmark*
7. The chief spokesman of New England Transcendentalism is _____.
- A. Nathaniel Hawthorne B. Ralph Waldo Emerson
C. Henry David Thoreau D. Washington Irving
8. In _____, Whitman's own early experience may well be identified with the childhood of a young growing America.
- A. *A Pact* B. *Song of Myself*
C. *There was a Child Went Forth* D. *Cavalry Crossing a Ford*
9. _____ is regarded as the first American prose epic.
- A. *Nature* B. *The Scarlet Letter* C. *Walden* D. *Moby-Dick*
10. Which may NOT be one of the causes for the rise of American Romantic Movement?
- A. The westward territorial expansion. B. The great increase in population.
C. The victory of the settlers in the Indian war. D. The rapid economic transformation.
11. In Irving's *Rip Van Winkle* the drastic political changes in the lapsed 20 years are suggested by all the following except _____.
- A. the flag of the United States B. the portrait of George Washington

- C. the graves of the dead Union soldiers D. the mention of election and Congress
12. In *Moby-Dick* after the whaling ship the Pequod sinks, Melville writes: ... then all collapsed, and the great shroud of the sea rolled on as it rolled five thousand years ago. The author might imply that _____.
- A. nothing changes in the 5,000 years of human history
B. man's desire to conquer nature can only end in his own destruction
C. nature is evil as it was 5,000 years ago
D. nature has the ultimate creative power
13. After the night in the forest in Hawthorne's *Young Goodman Brown*, Brown dreaded that the church roof might "thunder down" while the priest was giving his eloquent sermon. The reason for such dread is perhaps that _____.
- A. the church was badly in need of repair
B. too large a crowd had gathered to listen
C. the minister had betrayed himself as a big liar
D. Brown had committed a sinful act
14. The Transcendentalists believe that, first, nature is ennobling; and second, the individual is _____.
- A. insignificant B. vicious by nature C. divine D. forward-looking
15. Here is a short passage from a story: "He recognized on the sign, however, the ruby face of King George, under which he had smoked so many a peaceful pipe, and underneath was painted in large characters, GENERAL WASHINGTON. The story must be _____.
- A. Cooper's *Leather-Stocking Tales*
B. Hawthorne's *Young Goodman Brown*
C. Irving's *Rip Van Winkle*
D. Hemingway's *Indian Camp*
16. In Hawthorne's novels and short stories, intellectuals usually appear as _____.
- A. commentators B. observers C. villains D. saviors
17. Which of the following is NOT a typical feature of the American Romantic writings?
- A. Expression of the artist's imaginations, emotions, impressions, or beliefs.
B. Emphasis on rules of order, reason, logic, restrained emotion, good taste and decorum.
C. Love for the remote, supernatural, mysterious, exotic and illogical quality of things.
D. To see nature as a source of mental cleanness and spiritual understanding.
18. Which of the following writings is not finished by Ralph Waldo Emerson?
- A. *Nature*. B. *Essays*. C. *The Over-Soul*. D. *Of Studies*.
19. Statement " _____ " is wrong in describing Nathaniel Hawthorne.
- A. One source of evil that Hawthorne is concerned most is over-reaching intellect
B. Hawthorne is also a great allegorist
C. Hawthorne is also a master of symbolism
D. Hawthorne is a realistic writer
20. Which of the following comments on the writings by Herman Melville is not true?
- A. *Bartleby, the Scrivener* is a short story.
B. *Benito Cereno* is a novella.
C. *The Confidence-Man* has something to do with the sea and sailors.

- D. *Moby-Dick* is regarded as the first American Prose epic.
21. *Leaves of Grass* commands great attention because of its uniquely poetic embodiment of _____, which are written in the founding documents of both the Revolutionary War and the American Civil War.
- A. the democratic ideals
B. the romantic ideals
C. the self-reliant spirits
D. the religious ideals
22. It is on his _____ that Washington Irving's fame mainly rested.
- A. tales about America
B. early poetry
C. childhood recollections
D. sketches about his European tours
23. Hester Prynne, Dimmesdale, Chillingworth, and Pearl are most likely the names of the characters in _____.
- A. *The Scarlet Letter*
B. *The House of the Seven Gables*
C. *The Portrait of a Lady*
D. *The Pioneers*
24. According to Whitman, the genuine participation of a poet in a common cultural effort was to behave as a supreme _____.
- A. democrat
B. individualist
C. romanticist
D. leader
25. Which of the following is NOT a typical feature of Hawthorne's *Young Goodman Brown*?
- A. Allegory.
B. Ambiguity.
C. Interior monologue.
D. Symbolism.
26. "I celebrate myself, and sing myself,
And what I assume you shall assume,
For every atom belonging to me as good belongs to you."
Who could have written these lines?
- A. Edgar Allen Poe.
B. Walt Whitman.
C. Ralph Waldo Emerson.
D. Henry David Thoreau.
27. What kind of narrative point of view is adopted in *Moby-Dick*?
- A. The first person.
B. The second person.
C. The third person limited.
D. The third person omniscient.
28. One typical feature of Irving's writing is _____.
- A. always preaching
B. his best classic style
C. short and difficult to understand
D. symbolic
29. Transcendentalists recognized _____ as the "highest power of the soul".
- A. intuition
B. logic
C. data of the senses
D. thinking
30. The finest example of Hawthorne's symbolism is the recreation of Puritan Boston in _____.
- A. *The Scarlet Letter*
B. *Young Goodman Brown*
C. *The Marble Faun*
D. *The Ambitious Guest*

D. Read the following quotations and answer the questions. (20 points, 4 for each)

1. (A lot of common objects have been enumerated before, and here are the last two lines of "*There Was a Child Went Forth*")
- The horizon's edge, the flying sea-crow, the fragrant of salt marsh and shore mud.
These became part of that child who went forth every day, and who now goes,
And will always go forth every day.
- A. Who is the author of this poem?

- B. What does the "child" stand for in the poem?
C. In one or two sentences, interpret the implied meaning of the two line.
2. "Poor little Faith!" thought he, for his heart smote him. 'What a wretch am I, to leave her on such an errand! She talks of dreams, too. Methought, as she spoke, there was trouble in her face, as if a dream had warned her what work is to be done tonight. But, no, no!' it would kill her to think it. Well; she's a blessed angel on earth; and after this one night, I'll cling to her skirts and follow her to Heaven."
- A. Identify the author and the title of the work from which this passage is taken?
B. Who is Faith?
C. How do you interpret the speaker's feeling?
3. To go into solitude, a man needs to retire as much from his chamber as from society. I am not solitary whilst I read and write, though nobody is with me. But if a man would be alone, let him look at the stars. The rays that come from those heavenly worlds, will separate between him and vulgar things. One might think the atmosphere was made transparent with this design, to give, in the heavenly bodies, the perpetual presence of the sublime. Seen in the streets of cities, how great they are! If the stars should appear one night in a thousand years, how would men believe and adore; and preserve for many generations the remembrance of the city of God which had been shown! But every night comes out preaches of beauty, and light the universe with their admonishing smile.
- A. This paragraph is taken from a famous essay entitled _____.
B. Who is the author?
C. What does the author say would happen if the stars appeared one night in a thousand years?
D. Give a peculiar term to cover the author's belief.
4. "God knows, I'm not myself — I'm somebody else — ... and I'm changed, and I can't tell what's my name, or who I am."
- A. Identify the work and the author.
B. The speaker says he is changed. Do you think he is changed, or the social environment has changed?
C. What idea does the quoted sentence express?
5. Whether fagged by the three days' running chase, and the resistance to his swimming in the knotted hamper he bore; or whether it was some latent deceitfulness and malice in him: whichever was true, the white Whale's way now began to abate, as it seemed, from the boat so rapidly nearing him once more; though indeed the whale's last start had not been so long a one as before. And still as Ahab glided over the waves the unpitying sharks accompanied him; and so pertinaciously stuck to the boat; and so continually bit at the plying oars that the blades became jagged and crunched, and left small splinters in the sea, at almost every dip.
- A. From which novel is the paragraph taken?
B. What is the name of the novelist?
C. Who is Ahab?

D. What is the name of the white Whale?

E. What is the theme of the novel?

E. Discuss the following questions briefly. (15 points, 3 for each)

1. Emerson is generally known as an essayist. What is the style of his prose?
2. Whitman is a giant of American Letters. Discuss Whitman's art of poem: the language, the characters, etc..
3. Being a period of the great flowering of American literature, the Romantic Period is called "the American Renaissance". Briefly discuss what the features of American literature in this period are.
4. *Moby Dick* is regarded as the first American prose epic. Who is the author of the work? What figure of speech is adopted to show the theme? Discuss the question.
5. Comment briefly on the symbolic significance of *The Scarlet Letter*.