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《英国文学简史》(第3版)(刘炳善主编,河南人民出版社)

刘炳善《英国文学简史》(第3版)

笔记和考研真题详解

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内 容 提 要

本书是英美文学经典教材《英国文学简史》(第3版)(刘炳善主编,河南人民出版社)的学习辅导书。全书完全遵循该教材的章目编排,共分9章,每章由两部分组成:第一部分为复习笔记(中英文对照),总结本章的重点难点;第二部分是考研真题与典型题详解,精选名校近年(含2010年)考研真题及相关习题,并提供了详细的参考答案。

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序 言

国内外经典教材辅导系列是一套全面解析当前国内外各大院校权威教科书的辅导资料。我国各大院校一般都把国内外通用的权威教科书作为本科生和研究生学习专业课程的参考教材，这些教材甚至被很多考试(特别是硕士和博士入学考试)和培训项目作为指定参考书。这些国内外优秀教材的内容一般有一定的广度和深度，这给许多读者在学习专业教材时带来了一定的困难。为了帮助读者更好地学习专业课，我们有针对性地编著了一套与国内外教材配套的复习资料，整理了各章的笔记，精选了部分名校考研真题和典型习题，并提供了详细的参考答案。

《英国文学简史》(第3版)(刘炳善主编，河南人民出版社)一直被用作高等院校英语专业英国文学教材，被许多院校指定为英语专业考研必读书和学术研究参考书。作为该教材的学习辅导书，本书具有以下几个方面的特点：

1. 梳理章节脉络，浓缩内容精华。每章的复习笔记以该教材为主并结合其他教材对本章的重难点知识进行了整理，并参考了国内名校名师讲授该教材的课堂笔记，因此，本书的内容几乎浓缩了经典教材的知识精华。

2. 中英双语对照，突显难点要点。本书章节笔记采用了中英文对照的形式，强化对重要难点知识的理解和运用。

3. 精选考研真题，补充难点习题。本书精选名校近年考研真题及相关习题，并提供答案和详解。所选真题和习题基本体现了各个章节的考点和难点，但又不完全局限于教材内容，是对教材内容极好的补充。

需要特别说明的是：我们深深感谢刘炳善教授和河南人民出版社为我们提供了这样一本优秀的英国文学教材。

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第 1 章 早期和中世纪的英国文学

1.1 复习笔记

早期英国文学

Early English Literature

I. Background Knowledge—The Making of England

1. The Roman Conquest (55 B. C-410 A. D.)

A. Brief Introduction

Before the Roman Conquest, the early inhabitants in the island we call England were Britons, a tribe of Celts.

In 55 B. C., Britain was invaded by Julius Caesar, the Roman conqueror. Britain was not completely subjugated to the Roman Empire until 78 A. D. But at the beginning of the fifth century, the Roman Empire was in the process of declining. In 410 A. D., all the Roman troops went back to the continent and never returned.

B. Influence

- ① The Roman mode of life was brought into Britain while the native Britons were treated as slaves.
- ② The Romans brought Christianity to the island and this religion was spread widely. (This is a profound religious effect up to today).
- ③ Roman road was built for military purposes.
- ④ Along the Roman roads, many towns grew up, London was one of them, and it became an important trading center.

2. The English Conquest

A. Brief Introduction

While the Romans retreated, the Britain was invaded by swarms of pirates. They were three tribes from Northern Europe: the Angles, Saxons and Jutes. Before the conquest, they still lived in the tribal society.

By the 7th century, a united kingdom called England, or, the land of Angles was established.

I. 背景知识——英国的形成

1. 罗马征服(公元前 55 年—公元 410 年)

A. 简介

罗马征服之前,在英格兰岛上居住的早期居民被称为不列颠人(Britons),不列颠人是凯尔特(Celt)部落的一支。

公元前 55 年,该岛被罗马的朱利尤斯·凯撒(Julius Caesar)侵略。直到公元 78 年,不列颠才完全臣服于罗马帝国,但是在 5 世纪初,罗马帝国开始没落。公元 410 年,所有的罗马军队撤离该岛。

B. 影响

- ① 罗马人的生活方式被带到了英国,而当地的不列颠人却沦为奴隶。
- ② 罗马人带来了基督教,基督教得以广泛传播。
- ③ 出于军事目的,罗马人修建罗马大路。
- ④ 沿着罗马大路,许多城镇得以发展,伦敦就是其中之一,并在那时成为重要的商业城市。

2. 盎格鲁-撒克逊征服

A. 简介

当罗马人撤离不列颠的同时,大群海盗入侵岛内。他们是来自北欧的三支部落:盎格鲁,撒克逊和朱特。征服之前,他们仍旧过着部落生活。

到 7 世纪,一个统一的王国——英国成立了,也被称作盎格鲁人之国。

B. Influence

- ① The three tribes had developed into a whole people called English. And the three dialects had grown into a single language called Anglo-Saxon, or Old English.
- ② The Britons experienced a transition from tribal society to feudalism because of the English Conquest.
- ③ The Anglo-Saxons were heathen people, believing in old mythology of Northern Europe. Later, The Anglo-Saxons were Christianized in the 7th century.

II. Literary Features of Early English Literature

The settlement of Anglo-Saxons in England marked the beginning of English literature. The early English literature mainly consisted of the Anglo-Saxon poetry, which was sung by the minstrels to the chiefs and warriors in praising of the old heroes' deeds in the feasting hall. The Old English regularly used alliterations and rhymes, at the same time, metaphors and understatements were also put into the poetry. *Beowulf* is the most widely spread early poem.

III. Literary Terms

1. Anglo-Saxon poetry

Poems or, songs by the Anglo-Saxon minstrels who sang of the heroic deeds of old time to the chiefs and warriors in the feasting-hall. The typical work of Anglo-Saxon is *Beowulf*.

2. Alliteration

It means the repetition of the initial consonant sounds in poetry. There are generally 4 accents in a line, three of which show alliteration. There is an obvious use of alliteration in *Beowulf*.

IV. Major Writers and Works

◆ *Beowulf*

English literature began with the Anglo-Saxon settlement. *Beowulf* is an Anglo-Saxon poetry and the national epic of the English people.

1. The Story of *Beowulf*

Beowulf tells a story of Beowulf fighting against monsters Grendel and his mother, winning the battle and protecting his people.

B. 影响

- ① 这三支部落发展成一个统一的民族称为英国人。三种方言逐渐成为一种单一的语言，称为盎格鲁—撒克逊语言，即古英语。
- ② 不列颠人经历了从原始部落社会向封建社会过渡的时期。
- ③ 盎格鲁—撒克逊人是无神论民族，相信古老的北欧神话，但后来在7世纪被基督教化了。

II. 早期英国文学的特征

英国文学始于盎格鲁—撒克逊人在英国定居时期。古英国文学中所保留的作品多为诗歌或者盎格鲁—撒克逊游吟诗人所唱的歌曲，这些游吟诗人在宴会大厅里为那些首领和勇士歌唱古时的英雄事迹。古英语中有规律地运用了头韵和韵律，同时也用到了比喻和轻描淡写手法。流传最广的早期英语诗歌是《贝奥武甫》。

III. 文学术语

1. 盎格鲁—撒克逊诗歌

是由盎格鲁—撒克逊游吟诗人吟唱的古英雄事迹的诗歌或者歌曲。这些诗歌或者歌曲主要是在宴会厅唱给首领或者武士们。代表作是《贝奥武甫》。

2. 头韵

就是诗歌里开头辅音字母的重复。一行诗歌里一般有4个音节，三个音节能够显示出头韵的效果。在《贝奥武甫》里对头韵有明显的运用。

IV. 英国早期主要作家及作品

◆《贝奥武甫》

英国文学始于盎格鲁—撒克逊人的定居。《贝奥武甫》是一首盎格鲁—撒克逊诗歌，同时也是一首英国人民的国家史诗。

1. 《贝奥武甫》主要情节

该书讲述了贝奥武甫这位英勇的武士与怪物格兰戴和他母亲斗争取得胜利并保护了他的人民的故事。

<p>2. Analysis of Its Content</p> <p>Beowulf is a folk legend brought to England by Anglo-Saxons from their continental homes. Its main stories are folk legends of primitive Northern tribes.</p> <p>Beowulf is a brave hero whose spirit and deeds reflect the life of tribal society on the continent. The historical significance of Beowulf lies in reflecting the features of the tribal society of ancient times.</p> <p>3. Artistic Features of Beowulf</p> <p>a. The most striking feature is the use of alliteration.</p> <p>b. Other features of this work are the use of metaphors and of understatements.</p>	<p>2. 《贝奥武甫》内容评析</p> <p>《贝奥武甫》是一部民间传说，由盎格鲁—撒克逊人从他们本土带到英格兰。它的主要故事情节来源于原始北欧部落的民间传说。</p> <p>贝奥武甫是一个英雄，他的精神和行为都反映了当时的部落生活。它的历史意义在于反映了古代部落社会的特征。</p> <p>3. 《贝奥武甫》的文学特征</p> <p>a. 多用头韵。</p> <p>b. 多用暗喻和轻描淡写手法。</p>
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中世纪英国文学

Medieval English Literature

<p>I. Background Knowledge</p> <p>1. The Danish Invasion</p> <p>About 787, the English began to be troubled by bands of Danish Vikings. Before 1031, King Alfred the Great (849 - 901) succeeded in driving the Danes off with force. He was the one who also laid emphasis on education and literature. In 1031, the Danes occupied the country and held it for 30 years.</p> <p>2. The Norman Conquest</p> <p>A. Brief Introduction</p> <p>In 1066, the French-speaking Normans came under Duke William and defeated the English at Hastings. The Norman Conquest marks the establishment of feudalism in England. The chief feature of the feudal society was distinct division into class, mainly two classes: landlords and peasants.</p> <p>B. Influence</p> <p>a. The establishment of feudalism in England.</p> <p>b. The Old English was influenced by French words.</p> <p>3. The Rising of 1381</p> <p>In 1381, the famous Peasants Rising broke out in England. Its leaders were Wat Tyler and John Ball.</p>	<p>I. 背景知识</p> <p>1. 丹麦人入侵</p> <p>约 787 年，英国开始为成群的丹麦海盗所困。1031 年之前，阿尔弗雷德大帝 (King Alfred the Great) 成功击退了丹麦人。1031 年，丹麦人占领了英国并盘踞 30 年。</p> <p>2. 诺曼征服</p> <p>A. 简介</p> <p>在 1066 年，说法语的诺曼底人在威廉公爵 (Duke William) 的带领下入侵，并在赫斯汀打败了英国人。诺曼征服标志着封建制度在英国的建立。封建国家的主要特征是明显的等级划分，主要是地主和农民两个阶级。</p> <p>B. 影响：</p> <p>a. 在英国建立了封建制度。</p> <p>b. 古英语受法语单词影响。</p> <p>3. 1381 年农民起义</p> <p>1381 年爆发农民起义。领导者为瓦特·泰勒 (Wat Tyler) 和约翰·鲍尔 (John Ball)。</p>
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II. Literary Features of Middle English Literature

1. Values of Christianity began to influence English literature.
2. The Middle Ages constantly emphasized the spirit of chivalry, which was showed in the prevailing literary genre—romance, of that period. Romances of Middle Ages are written by and for the court.
3. The popular folk literary form—ballad is the oral literature. The typical ballads of Middle Ages are the ballads about Robin Hood.
4. The writer and work that should be especially emphasized is Chaucer and his *Canterbury Tales*.

III. Literary Terms

1. The Romance

(1) The Content of the Romance

Romance was the most prevailing kind of literature in feudal England. It was a long composition, sometimes in verse, sometimes in prose, describing the life and adventures of a noble hero. The central character of romances was the knight, a man of noble birth skilled in the use of weapons. The code of manners and morals of a knight is known as chivalry.

Typical representative work is *Le Morte D' Arthur*, a collection of stories about King Arthur, translated from French by Sir Thomas Malory.

(2) The Romance Cycles

The romances are divided into such groups or cycles as the “matters of Britain”, “matters of France” and “matters of Rome”. The “matters of Britain” are about adventures of King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table. The “matters of France” are of Emperor Charlemagne and his peers. The “matters of Rome” are about Alexander the Great and so forth.

(3) The Class Nature of the Romance

The theme of loyalty to king and lord was repeatedly emphasized in romances, as loyalty was the corner-stone of feudal morality. The romances had nothing to do with the common people. They were composed for the noble, of the noble.

II. 中世纪英国文学特征

1. 基督教的世界观渗透到中世纪英语时期的文学中。
2. 中世纪文学不断强调骑士精神, 这种精神通常反映在封建英国最流行的文学形式——传奇文学中, 它们取材于贵族, 为贵族而创作。
3. 与之对应的是民间的口头文学——歌谣, 这一时期歌谣的典型代表是罗宾汉系列歌谣。
4. 尤其需要注意的文学者和作品是乔叟和他的《坎特伯雷故事集》。

III. 文学术语

1. 传奇文学

(1) 传奇定义

传奇文学是封建英国最为盛行的文学体裁。它一般是长篇作品, 主要描述高尚的英雄的生平和冒险。传奇的中心人物是武士, 武士出身高贵并且善使武器。武士以其侠气著称。

传奇典型代表作是由托马斯·马洛里由法语翻译成的《亚瑟王之死》, 是关于亚瑟王生平故事的选集。

(2) 传奇分类

传奇可分为“英国类”, “法国类”和“罗马类”。“英国类”传奇是关于亚瑟王和他的圆桌武士的冒险。“法国类”是关于查理曼大帝和他的贵族们。“罗马类”是关于亚历山大大帝。

(3) 传奇的阶级本质

对国王和主上的忠诚是传奇中反复强调的主题。传奇与平民无关, 传奇是由贵族而作也是为贵族而写的。

2. Ballad

- (1) Ballads are oral literature of the English people.
- (2) A ballad is a story told in song, usually in 4-line stanzas, with the second and fourth lines rhymed.
- (3) The subjects of ballads are various such as the struggle of young lovers against their feudal-minded families, the conflict between love and wealth, the cruelty of jealousy, and the criticism of the civil war.
- (4) "Robin Hood" is the most important ballad of that time.

IV. Major Writers and Works

1. *the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle*

It was written under the encouragement and supervision of King Alfred the Great and is a monument of Old English prose.

2. The "Robin Hood" Ballads

The various ballads of Robin Hood are gathered into a collection called *The Geste of Robin Hood*. Robin Hood, a partly historical and partly legendary character, is depicted in the ballads as a valiant outlaw, famous in archery, living under the greenwood tree with his merry men, taking from the rich and giving to the poor, fighting against bishops. The dominant key in his character is his hatred for the cruel oppressors and his love for the poor and downtrodden.

3. Malory

◆ *Le Morte D' Arthur*

Translated by Malory from French, the legends of King Arthur are the foundation of *Le Morte D' Arthur*. Malory selected the most interesting parts, such as the adventures of the Knights of the Round Table, the quest of the Holy Grail, the death of Arthur, and the dissolution of the fellowship of the Knights of the Round Table. Malory treated the legends in the spirit of medieval knighthood and chivalry and used simple, idiomatic English prose and told the stories in a vivid manner.

4. William Langland

◆ *Piers the Plowman*

A. Social Significance of this Work

- (1) The poem sets forth a series of wonderful dreams, through which we can see a picture of feudal England.

2. 歌谣

- (1) 歌谣是英国人民大众的口头文学。
- (2) 歌谣是以歌的形式讲述的故事,通常由4行组成一节,其中第二和第四行押韵。
- (3) 歌谣内容多样,有关于年轻爱侣反对封建家长的,有爱情和财富冲突的,有关于嫉妒残忍行动的,有批判国内战争的。
- (4) 其中,罗宾汉歌谣是最重要的。

IV. 中世纪主要作品作家

1. 《盎格鲁-撒克逊 编年史》

它是在罗阿尔弗雷德大帝(King Alfred the Great)的鼓励和监督下写成,是古英语散文史上的丰碑。

2. 罗宾汉歌谣

关于罗宾汉的歌谣被收集在《绿林英雄罗宾汉民谣》。罗宾汉是一个部分属实部分是传奇的人物。在歌谣中,他是一个勇敢的亡命之徒,以其箭术闻名,同他的伙伴们一起逍遥地生活在绿林中,劫富济贫,与教会作斗争。罗宾汉最明显的性格特征便是对压迫者的仇视和对受难者的热爱。

3. 马洛里

◆《亚瑟王之死》

经马洛里由法语译成,《亚瑟王之死》是基于亚瑟王的一生传奇。但是马洛里选择了其中最有趣的部分,例如圆桌武士的冒险,寻找圣杯,亚瑟之死,圆桌武士的志同道合的关系的消亡。马洛里用中世纪的骑士精神和侠气处理了传奇,并且是用简单,惯用的英语,讲述了栩栩如生的故事。

4. 威廉姆·朗兰德

◆《农夫皮尔斯》

A. 作品的社会影响

- (1) 这首诗设置了一系列的梦境。通过梦境我们能够看到一幅描写中世纪英国的画卷。

- (2) Piers is not the conservative of the most oppressed section of the peasantry and he has no intention of upsetting the feudal order of society, which speaks for the conservatism of his political attitude.
- (3) In spite of this limitation, the poem remains a classic of popular literature. The exaltation of the oppressed kindled the peasants' sense of human dignity and equality. The poem played a part in arousing the oppressed people's sentiment on the eve of the Rising of 1381.

B. Artistic Features of *Piers the Plowman*

- It is written in the old alliterative verse.
- It is written in the form of a dream vision.
- The poem is an allegory which uses symbolism to relate truth. But in the main, it is a realistic picture of medieval England.
- Its artistic merit may be shown by its portraits of the Seven Deadly Sins.

5. Chaucer (1340 - 1400)

(1) Life

Geoffrey Chaucer, born about in 1340 in London, is the founder of English poetry. He was the son of a wine merchant who had connections with the Court.

Chaucer's learning was wide in scope. He obtained a good knowledge of Latin, French and Italian. He had broad and intimate acquaintance with persons high and low in all walks of life, and knew well the whole life of his time, which left great impressions upon his works and particularly upon the variegated picture of the English society of his time.

He died in 1400 and was buried in Westminster Abbey, thus founding the "Poets' Corner".

(2) Chaucer's Literary Career

Chaucer's literary career can be divided into three periods, which is closely related to his life experiences. The first period consists of works translated from French; the second consists of works adapted from the Italian, as *Troilus and Criseyde*. The third period includes *The Canterbury Tales*, which is purely English.

- (2) 皮尔斯不是最底层的农民的代表, 这说明了他在政治态度上的保守主义。
- (3) 虽然作品存在这样的局限性, 但是作品中描述的农民受压迫剥削的事件点燃了受苦人民的斗志。1381年的农民起义便受到了此作品的影响。

B. 《农夫皮尔斯》的文学特征

- 采用旧时的头韵诗体。
- 以梦境手法来叙述。
- 本身是个寓言, 运用象征与现实联系起来, 但主要是中世纪英国的现实主义的描写。
- 主要艺术特色在于对七宗罪的描写。

5. 乔叟 (1340 - 1400)

(1) 生平

杰弗里·乔叟于1340年出生于伦敦, 他是英语诗歌的创始者。他是一个与宫廷有联系的酒商的儿子。

乔叟知识渊博。他精通拉丁语, 法语和意大利语。他结交广泛且易与人深交, 无论是贵族还是贫民, 因此他深谙所处世事。这尤其有益于他的作品中的英国社会的刻画。

他逝于1400年, 被葬在威斯敏斯特教堂, “诗人角”开始出现。

(2) 文学生平

乔叟的文学生平可划分为三个阶段, 这三个阶段与其个人生活经历有关。第一阶段乔叟的作品主要是从法语翻译过来的, 第二阶段则改编于意大利, 如《特洛伊罗斯与克瑞西达》。第三阶段包括《坎特伯雷故事集》, 这是纯英语创作阶段。

(3) Chaucer's Major Works

Troilus and Criseyde

The Canterbury Tales (1387 - 1400)

(4) Analysis of Major Works

◆ *Troilus and Criseyde*

① *Troilus and Criseyde* is Chaucer's longest complete poem and his greatest artistic achievement.

② It tells the love story between Troilus and Criseyde. Troilus is a son of the King of Troy. Criseyde is a beautiful daughter of Calchas, a priest. For three years the two young people are united in mutual love until the appearance of Diomedes, a handsome Greek warrior. Criseyde gives her love to the warrior, while Troilus, left in despair, is at last killed in the war.

③ In this poem Chaucer didn't write a full and finished romance, but has endowed it with what medieval romance lacked-interest of character as well as of incident. With *Troilus and Criseyde* Chaucer becomes mature in versification.

◆ *Canterbury Tales* (1387 - 1400)

A. Main Plot of *The Canterbury Tales*

Twenty-nine travelers set off for Canterbury on a pilgrimage. When they met at the inn, they decided to tell stories one by one. This becomes the content of the story. In *The Canterbury Tales*, there are 24 tales written, covering all the major types of medieval literature. The stories which the pilgrims tell are well suited to their different characters, ranging from the knight, the monk, the pardoner etc.

B. Important Parts of *The Canterbury Tales*

☆ "The Prologue"

The Prologue provides a framework for the tales. All classes of the English feudal society, except the royalty and the poorest peasant, are represented by these pilgrims in *the Prologue*.

☆ "The Wife of Bath"

Chaucer's keen observation and his unsurpassed talent for characterization are especially showed in his famous "The Wife of Bath". She is the owner of a cloth factory, lighthearted, merry, vulgar and talkative. She relates the whole story of her married life. She has married five husbands and she expects one or two more.

(3) 主要作品

《特洛伊罗斯与克瑞西达》

《坎特伯雷故事集》(1387 - 1400)

(4) 主要作品分析

◆《特洛伊罗斯与克瑞西达》

① 该诗是乔叟的最长的诗歌，也是他最伟大的文学成就之一。

② 它讲述了特洛伊罗斯与克瑞西达的爱情故事。特洛伊罗斯是特洛伊国王的儿子。克瑞西达是一个牧师的女儿。两人相爱了三年直到一个英俊潇洒的希腊勇士狄俄墨得斯的出现。克瑞西达改变了自己的心意，特洛伊罗斯则深陷绝望，在战争中战死。

③ 乔叟并没有写一个圆满美好的浪漫故事，而是赋予了中世纪传奇故事所缺少的人物和事件的重要性。由于这部作品，乔叟在诗律方面已经很成熟了。

◆《坎特伯雷故事集》(1387 - 1400)

A. 主要情节

29 名朝圣者前往坎特伯雷去朝圣。当他们在酒馆相遇，他们决定每个人轮流讲故事。这些故事就构成了《坎特伯雷故事集》中的故事。共有 24 个故事被写进故事集，故事涵盖了中世纪文学的各个方面。每个故事都与讲述者的身份相符，讲述者包罗各种阶层的人，有武士，僧侣，赦罪僧等。

B. 重要部分

☆《总序》

《总序》提供了故事的框架。《总序》的朝圣者中囊括了当时英国封建社会中除了皇族和最底层的农民以外的形形色色的人物。

☆《巴斯妇人》

通过《巴斯妇人》，读者可以尽情感受乔叟的细致入微的无人可比的人物塑造天赋。这位妇人是布店的经营商，为人开朗乐观，有时略带粗俗，喜欢讲话。她所讲述的是她与五位丈夫的婚史。

Through this Bath woman, we may see a very vivid sketch of a woman of the middle class, and a colourful picture of the domestic life of that class in Chaucer's own day.

C. Social Significances of *The Canterbury Tales*

- a. It shows a true-to-life picture of Chaucer's time.
- b. Taking from the stand of rising bourgeoisie, Chaucer affirms men and opposes the dogma of asceticism preached by the Church.
- c. He praises man's energy, intellect, quick wit and love of life.
- d. His tales expose and satirize the evils of his time, attack degeneration of the noble, the corruption of the Church.

(5) Chaucer's Language

- a. Chaucer's language, now called Middle English, is vivid and exact. He is a master of word-pictures. His verse is among the smoothest in English.
- b. Chaucer's contribution to English poetry lies chiefly in the fact that he introduced from France the rhymed stanza of various types, especially the heroic couplet to English poetry.
- c. Chaucer did much in making the dialect of London the standard for the modern English speech.
- d. Chaucer is good at the terza rima, which makes his language a high style. This is what other poets cannot reach.

通过这位巴斯妇人,我们能够了解当时中层阶级的妇女及家庭生活。

C. 社会影响

- a. 展示乔叟时代的真实生活画面。
- b. 站在发展中的小资产阶级的立场,乔叟肯定了人的力量,反对教会宣扬的禁欲主义。
- c. 赞扬了人的力量,智慧和生活的热爱。
- d. 展现并批判了时代的罪恶,批判了贵族和教会的堕落。

(5) 乔叟的语言

- a. 乔叟的语言属于中英语,非常形象准确。他是用语言构建图画的大师。他的诗歌位列最顺畅的英语中。
- b. 乔叟对英语诗歌的贡献主要在于他将法国的韵脚重复的诗节(尤其是英雄双韵体)介绍到英国。
- c. 乔叟在使伦敦方言成为现代英语的标准发挥了重要作用。
- d. 乔叟善于使用三行体,这种诗体使他的语言很高雅。这是其他诗人无法匹敌的。

1.2 考研真题与典型题详解

I. Fill in the blanks.

1. *Beowulf* probably existed in its oral form as early as the _____ century and its hero and his adventures are placed in _____ and southern Sweden rather than in England. (国际关系学院 2010 研)
2. _____ conquered England on October 14, 1066. From then on began the medieval period. (南开大学 2008 研)
3. The English great writer Geoffrey Chaucer was born in 1343 and died in 1400. His most important work is _____, a long poem made up of a general introduction and 24 stories. (南开大学 2007 研)
4. The _____ period witnessed a transition from tribal society to feudalism.
5. The most magnificent prose work of the 15th century is *Le Morte D'Arthur* concerning with _____ legend.

6. The only important prose writer in the 15th century is Sir _____.
7. In 55 B. C. , Britain was invaded by _____, the Roman conqueror. Along with the invasion came the _____ into Britain.
8. Angles, Saxons and _____ usually known as Anglo-Saxons are the first Englishmen. Language spoken by them is called _____, which is the foundation of English language and literature.
9. The literature of the Anglo-Saxon period falls naturally into two divisions, _____ and Christian.
10. In the 8th century, Anglo-Saxon prose appeared. The famous prose writers of that period were Venerable Bede and _____.
11. In the year 1066, the Normans defeated the Anglo-Saxons at the battle of _____.
12. The fifteenth century has been traditionally described as the barren age in English literature. But it is the spring tide of English _____.
13. _____ is Chaucer's longest complete poem (about 8,000 lines) and his greatest artistic achievement.
14. *The Canterbury Tales* contains in fact a general prologue and only _____ tales, of which two are left unfinished.
15. After the _____ Conquest, feudal system was established in English society.

II. Multiple Choice

1. The history of English literature begins in the _____ century. (北二外 2009 研)
 A. 7th B. 6th C. 5th D. 4th
2. In English poetry, a quatrain is _____. (北二外 2008 研)
 A. a four-line stanza B. a couplet
 C. a fourteen-line stanza D. a terza rima
3. Knights of the Round Table are characters serving _____ in legends, which depict chivalry in early literature. (北二外 2007 研)
 A. Sir Lancelot B. Sir Godwin C. King Arthur D. King Henry VIII
4. Romance was a type of literature that was very popular in the _____. (四川大学 2008 研)
 A. Renaissance period B. seventeenth century
 C. Middle Ages D. eighteenth century
5. _____, 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
6. _____ is the first important religious poet in English literature.
 A. John Donne B. George Herbert C. Caedmon D. Milton
7. The Anglo-Saxons were Christianized in the _____ century.
 A. 5th B. 6th C. 7th D. 8th
8. _____ was the greatest of English religious reformers and the first translator of the Bible.

A. Langland B. Gower C. Wycliffe D. Chaucer

9. *Beowulf* describes the exploits of a _____ hero, Beowulf, in fighting against the monster Grendel, his revengeful mother, and a fire-breathing dragon.

A. Danish B. Scandinavian C. English D. Norwegian

10. _____ was the first to be buried in the Poet's Corner of Westminster Abbey.

A. Chaucer B. Shakespeare C. Marlowe D. Spenser

III. Explain the following terms.

1. heroic couplet (人大 2006 研; 厦门大学 2007 研; 北航 2010 研)
2. Freudianism (国际关系学院 2007 研)
3. epic (天津外国语学院 2007 研; 厦门大学 2008 研)
4. Alliteration (南开大学 2010 研)

IV. Questions 1 to 3 are based on the following passage of *The Canterbury Tales*. (南开大学 2009 研)

From *The Canterbury Tales*

Speaking of his equipment, he (the knight) possessed
Fine horses, but he was not gaily dressed.
He wore a fustian tunic stained and dark
With smudges where his armor had left mark.

1. What does the fact that the knight owns fine horses indicate?
2. What does the clothes he wears indicate?
3. What does Geoffrey Chaucer want to show through these details?

V. Short answer questions

1. Why is the Knight first in the *General Prologue* to tell a tale in *Canterbury Tales*? (北航 2009 研)
2. What are the artistic features of Old English poetry?
3. What is Chaucer's contribution to the English language?
4. What are the essential features of romance in the medieval English literature?

VI. Essay questions

1. How did Chaucer's creative work reflect the changes of the English society in the second half of the 14th century? How much was Chaucer influenced by foreign authors such as Dante or Boccaccio? What are some of the significances of such influences? (人大 2007 研)
2. Compare Chaucer's *The Canterbury Tales* with Old English poetry and the works of other Middle English poets to illustrate that Chaucer is the first realistic writer in English literature.

参考答案及解析

I. Fill in the blanks.

1. 6th; Denmark

(《贝奥武夫》最早在公元六世纪开始口头传诵, 故事发生在丹麦和瑞典南部, 诗中并没有提及英国。)

2. Duke of Normandy

(公元 1066 年, 诺曼底公爵, 或者叫 William, the Conqueror(征服者威廉), 占领英格兰, 从此开始了中世纪时期。)

3. *The Canterbury Tales*

(乔叟的代表作是《坎特伯雷故事集》, 是一首由一篇序言和 24 个故事组成的长诗。)

4. Anglo-Saxon

(盎格鲁 - 撒克逊时期, 英国由部族社会步入封建社会。)

5. Arthurian

(15 世纪左右公认的集大成作品为《亚瑟王之死》, 是关于亚瑟王的传奇故事。)

6. Thomas Malory

(十五世纪最著名的散文家是托马斯·马洛礼爵士, 他将众多的关于亚瑟王的传奇故事收录为集大成之作《亚瑟王之死》, 是英国散文第一部重要的散文。)

7. Julius Caesar, Roman mode of life

(公元前凯撒大帝率军征服不列颠。在罗马统治期间, 罗马生活方式传入不列颠。)

8. Jutes; the Old English

(盎格鲁 - 撒克逊人通常指盎格鲁、撒克逊、朱特人三个部族的人, 他们的语言是古英语。)

9. pagan

(盎格鲁 - 撒克逊时期的英国文学主要是世俗诗和宗教诗两类。)

10. Alfred the Great

(阿尔弗雷德大帝和比德是盎格鲁 - 撒克逊时期的散文家。)

11. Hastings

(1066 年黑斯廷之战, 盎格鲁 - 撒克逊人溃败, 诺曼征服开始。)

12. ballads

(十五世纪英国歌谣开始兴起。)

13. Troilus and Criseyde

(《特罗勒斯和克丽西德》是乔叟最长的一首完整诗篇, 长达 8000 多行。)

14. 24

(乔叟的代表作《坎特伯雷故事集》计划写 120 个故事, 但最后只完成总序和 24 个故事, 其中两个未完成。)

15. Norman

(诺曼征服后英国封建主义制度建立。)

II. Multiple Choice

1. C 英国文学始于盎格鲁 - 撒克逊人定居英国, 即公元 450 年, 所以是五世纪。
2. A quatrain 即四行诗; a couplet 是对句; a fourteen-line stanza 是十四行诗, 也就是 sonnet; a terza rima 是三韵句。
3. C 圆桌骑士是中世纪传说中亚瑟王宫廷里最高等的骑士, 因聚会的桌子是圆桌而得名。
4. C Romance 是富有浪漫色彩的恋爱故事或冒险故事, 是中世纪在欧洲非常流行的一种文学体裁, 著名作品如《亚瑟王之死》、《特里斯坦和伊瑟》等。
5. A 乔叟被誉为“英国诗歌之父”; 培根被认为是现代科学的奠基人, 他的《培根散文集》被誉为英国散文发展的里程碑。