

side by side--
from one of which
buff smoke
streams while under
a grey sky
the other remains
passive today--

*stacks: factory chimneys

*buff: light yellow

2. Discuss the conversation below by answering the following question: why does Speaker A give Speaker B the impression of being "not real"?

A: Man, sometimes I'd hit lower Manhattan, and steal a car and then cut right out of town. One night, boy that was some night, because they almost caught me. All the way to New Haven and cops on my tail every inch of the way, roadblocks closin' up behind me. Bang, bang, bang! And then some highway patrolman, he come roarin' out of this side and he come hot on my ass. I kicked it, man, arrrrrgggggghhhhh! Eighty-two miles per hour. And people jumpin' out of my way, kids and businessmen and little old ladies.

B: You're not real, you know that?

3. In many short stories, the reader recognizes an important shift of the protagonist's view of things while its significance may not be fully apprehended by the character himself/herself. Is this true of Lucy's story? What do you think is Lucy's "epiphany" (Joyce's term)? And what is the revelation for you as a reader?

Suddenly, tears poured from Lucy's eyes. She rested her forehead against her mother's hand and let the tears soak into the counterpane.

Dear Mr. Wilcox, she began, for her mind was always composing letters, I shall not be at the shop for the next four days, as my mother has passed away and I shall not be available until after the funeral. My mother passed away very peacefully....

The nurse came in. She took her patient's wrist for a moment, replaced it on the bed, removed a jar of white lilac from the table, as if this were no longer necessary, and went out again.

The girl kneeling by the bed had looked up, but Dear Mr. Wilcox, she resumed, her eyes returning to the counterpane, My mother has died. I shall come back to work the day after tomorrow. yours sincerely, Lucy Mayhew.

Her father was late. She imagined him hurrying from work, bicycling through the darkening streets, dogged, hunched up, slush thrown up by his wheels. Her mother did not move. Lucy stroked her mother's hand, with its loose gold ring, the calloused palm, the fine, long fingers. Then she stood up stiffly, her knees bruised from the waxed floor, and went to the window.

Snowflakes turned idly, drifting down over the hospital gardens. It was four o'clock in the afternoon and already the day seemed over. So few sounds came from this muffled and discolored world. In the hospital itself, there was a deep silence.

Her thoughts came to her in words, as if her mind spoke them first, understood them later. She tried to think of her childhood--little scenes she selected to prove how she and her mother had loved one another. Other scenes, especially last week's quarrel, she chose to forget, not knowing that in this moment she sent them away forever. Only loving-kindness remained. But, all the same, intolerable pictures broke through--her mother at the sink; her mother ironing; her mother standing between the lace curtains, staring out at the dreary

street with a wounded look in her eyes; her mother tying the same lace curtains with yellow ribbons; attempts at lightness, gaiety, which came to nothing; her mother gathering her huge black cat to her, burying her face in its fur while a great, shivering sigh--of despair, of boredom--escaped her.

Her mother no longer sighed. She lay very still and sometimes took a little sip of air. Her arms were neatly at her side. Her eyes, which all day long had been turned to the white lilacs, were closed. Her cheekbones rose sharply from her bruised, exhausted face. She smelled faintly of wine. A small lilac flower floated on a glass of champagne, now discarded on the table at her side.

The champagne, with which they hoped to stretch out the thread of her life minute by minute, the lilac, the room of her own, all came to her at the end of a life of drabness and denial, just as, all along the mean street of the small English town where they lived, the dying and the dead were able to claim a lifetime's savings from the bereaved.

She is no longer there, Lucy thought, standing beside the bed. All day, her mother had stared at the white lilac; now she had sunk away. Outside,

beyond the hospital gardens, mist settled over the town, blurred the street lamps.

The nurse returned with the matron, Lucy tautened, ready to be on her best behavior. In her heart, she trusted her mother to die without frightening her, and when the matron, deftly drawing Lucy's head to rest on her own shoulder, said in her calm voice, "She has gone," Lucy felt she had met this happening halfway.

A little bustle began, quick footsteps along the empty passages, and for a moment she was left alone with her dead mother. She laid her hand timidly on the soft, dark hair, so often touched, played with, when she was a child, standing on a stool behind her mother's chair while she sewed.

There were still the smell of wine and the hospital smell. It was growing dark in the room. She went to the dressing table and took her mother's handbag, very worn and shiny, and a book, a library book that she had chosen. carefully, believing her mother would read it. Then she had a quick sip from the glass on the table, a mouthful of champagne, which she had never tasted before and looking wounded and aloof, walked down the middle of the

corridor, feeling nurses falling away to left and right. Opening the glass doors onto the snowy gardens, she thought that it was like the end of a film. But no music rose up and engulfed her. Instead, there was her father turning in at the gates. He propped his bicycle against the wall and began to run clumsily across the wet gravel.

八十三年年度

英文作文

1. Improve the following sentences that are faulty in rhetoric. 20%

Faulty: Answering the telephone, the cat ran out the door.

Revised: As Mary answered the telephone, the cat ran out the door

1. As an expert in this field, I'm sure your advice will help.
2. Nonsmokers are harmed by tobacco smoke as well as smokers.
3. Unlike her thought, which is pessimistic, we all believe that Taiwan will have a bright future.
4. After being absent from class twice in one week, my English teacher is annoyed with me.
5. The girl was not only active and extroverted but had a serious attitude toward everything.
6. During the TESL conference, the researcher spoke and the presentation was given.
7. Increased blood pressure is caused by narrowing of

the blood vessels, making the pressure higher as it flows through the vessels.

8. Before buying this property, you should decide whether you plan to settle down and raise a family, travel for a few years, or pursue a graduate degree.
9. John had a weight problem and dropped out of school.
10. This employee is often late for work, and he writes illogical reports, and is a poor manager, and he should be fired.

II. Do the following items relevant to paragraph organization. 20%

1. Read the following paragraph carefully and discuss its paragraph unity.
(1) Divorce rates have been climbing for the last decade. (2) People are deciding they want individual freedom after they are married. (3) In the United States, divorces are easy to obtain, and not only young couples are getting divorced. (4) There are many middle-aged people who find themselves unhappy in their situations and who change them. (5) Statistics show that divorce rates are higher for couples who marry young. (6) The breakup of a marriage will always affect

children. (7) But children themselves now are growing up with the same view of marriage that their parents have: if it doesn't work, get a divorce.

2. Read the following paragraph carefully and identify its ordering pattern, i.e., the pattern of ordering ideas for coherence (Re: spatial order, chronological order, emphatic order, general-to-specific or specific-to-general order).
(1) For thousands of years, the single species "Homo sapiens," to which you and I have the dubious honor of belonging, has been increasing in numbers. (2) In the past couple of centuries, the rate of increase has itself increased explosively. (3) At the time of Julius Caesar, when Earth's human population was estimated to have been 150 million, that population was increasing at a rate such that it would double in 1,000 years if that rate remained steady. (4) Today, with Earth's population estimated at about 4,000 million (26 times what it was in Caesar's time), it is increasing at a rate which, if steady, will cause it to double in 35 years. (5) The present rate of increase of Earth's swarming human population qualifies "Homo sapiens" as an ecological cancer, which will destroy the

ecology just as sure as any ordinary cancer would destroy an organism.

III. Write two paragraphs (no less than 80 words in total) based on the following statement (30%) :

It is generally agreed that a nation benefits from the work of its members. Compare the contributions of men of letters to the nation with the contributions of scientists to the nation. Which type of contribution is valued more by our nation. Give specific reasons to support your argument.

IV. Write three paragraphs (more than 100 words in total) describing a character you are most familiar with. Concentrate on your relationship with the person you describe, his or her appearance, and his or her inner make-up you have observed. (30%)

英美文學

1. Identify the following works by (a) author, (b) genre, and (c) subject or theme. You are not expected to write more than two or three sentences on each. (15% = 3% x 5)

- i. The Scholar Gypsy
- ii. The History of Rasselas, Prince of Abyssinia
- iii. The Way of the World
- iv. Rabbi Ben Ezra
- v. Sailing to Byzantium

2. Answer the following questions. (35% = 12% + 12% + 11%)

- i. Compare Sir Gawain's quest of the Green Chapel with either Beowulf's quest of Hrothgar or with the quest of the knight in the Wife of Bath's Tale. How do these quests exemplify the author's or teller's concept of heroic behavior. (12%)
- ii. How is Paradise Lost an epic, even though Milton derived his theme from the Bible? Why did the Romantic poets (Blake and Shelley, e.g.) identify Satan as the real hero of Milton's poem? (12%)
- iii. Choose either (a) or (b) (11%)

(a) Show a list of contrasting qualities of Romanticism and Neoclassicism by discussing Alexander Pope's Essay on Criticism and Wordsworth's Preface to Lyrical Ballads.

or

(b) A body of writings commonly associated with the utopian tradition even though the works seem to be in direct contradiction are variously referred to as anti-utopian or dystopian. Use Aldous Huxley's Brave New World or George Orwell's 1984 as an example to illustrate some features of anti-utopian or dystopian literature.

3. The Imagists were a group of American poets prominent between 1909 and 1918. Imagism as a literary movement that revolted against poetic conventionalities has, admittedly, exerted great influence on modern American poetry. Among the most conspicuous imagists are Ezra Pound, Carl Sandburg, "H. D.," and William Carlos Williams. Write a coherent essay on any one of the four poets. (25%)

4. What follows is an excerpt from Jonathan Edwards's "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God" (1741), a well-known article in which Edwards advocates a revival of the belief in the doctrines of Calvinism. Comment on his argument. (25%)

So that, thus it is that natural men are held in the hand of God, over the pit of hell; they have deserved the fiery pit, and are already sentenced to it; and God is dreadfully provoked. His anger is as great towards them as to those that are actually suffering the executions of the fierceness of His wrath in hell, and they have done nothing in the least to appease or abate that anger, neither is God in the least bound by any promise to hold them up one moment; the devil is waiting for them, hell is gaping for them, the flames gather and flash about them, and would fain lay hold on them, and

swallow them up; the fire pent up in their own hearts is struggling to break out: and they have no interest in any Mediator, there are no means within reach that can be any security to them. In short, they have no refuge, nothing to take hold of; all that preserves them every moment is the mere arbitrary will, and uncovenanted, unobliged forbearance of an incensed God.

文學作品分析

Direction: Write on any two of the following. (50% for each 每題50分)

1. Discuss the poem the way you see fit. Support your observations with textual evidence.

Classic Scene

A power-house
in the shape of
a red brick chair
90 feet high
on the seat of which
sit the figures
of two metal
stacks--aluminum--
commanding an area
of squalid shacks