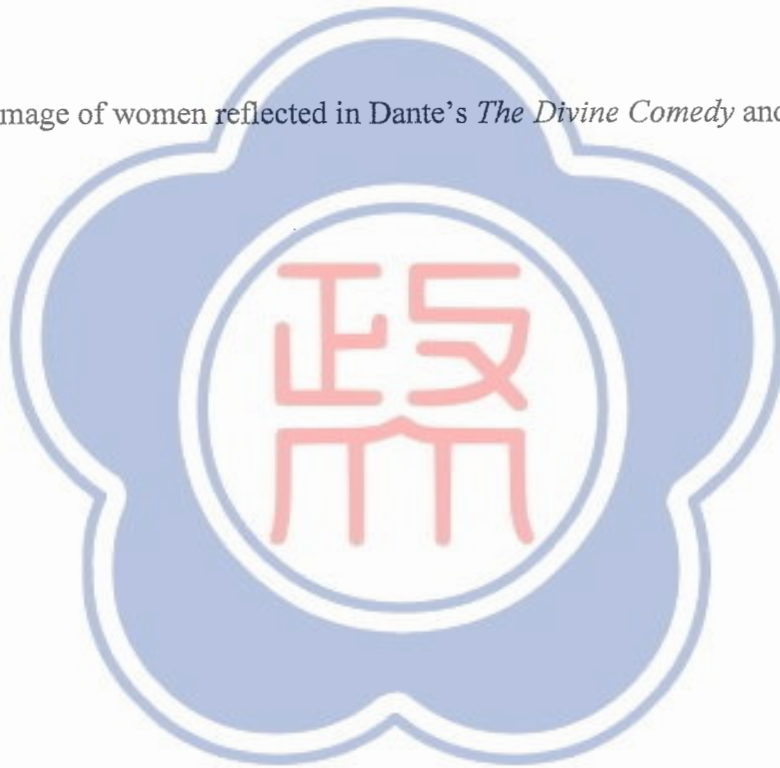


考 試 科 目	西洋文學概論	系 所 別	英國語文學系三年級	考 試 時 間	7 月 5 日 (三) 第 2 節
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1. Choose one literary work from the Greek tradition and one from the Roman tradition to explain how the Greeks and Romans have similar and different beliefs about the order/disorder of the world. [25%]
2. Explain how God in two Books of the Old Testament and in one Book of the New Testament is represented similarly and differently, and show how Augustine interacts with God with his understanding of these different aspects of God. [25%]
3. How is the concept of chivalric knight manifested in *The Story of the Grail* and *The Song of Roland*. [25%]
4. Discuss the Medieval image of women reflected in Dante's *The Divine Comedy* and Boccaccio's *The Decameron*. [25%]



備

註

- 一、作答於試題上者，不予計分。
- 二、試題請隨卷繳交。

考 試 科 目	寫作與閱讀	系 所 別	英國語文系 三年級	考 試 時 間	7 月 5 日(三) 第 4 節
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Part I: Reading (50%)

Read the article and answer the questions that follow.

Americanization is Tough on Macho (By Rose Del Castillo Guilbault)

What is macho? That depends which side of the border you come from.

Although it's not unusual for words and expressions to lose their subtlety in translation, the negative connotations of macho in this country are troublesome to Hispanics.

Take the newspaper descriptions of convicted mass murderer Ramon Salcido. That an insensitive, insanely jealous, hard-drinking, violent Latin male is referred to as macho makes Hispanics cringe.

"Es muy macho," the women in my family nod approvingly, describing a man they respect. But in the United States, when women say, "He's so macho," it's with disdain.

The Hispanic macho is manly, responsible, hardworking, a man in charge, a patriarch. A man who expresses strength through silence. What the Yiddish language would call a mensch.

The American macho is a chauvinist, a brute, uncouth, selfish, loud, abrasive, capable of inflicting pain, and sexually promiscuous.

Quintessential macho models in this country are Sylvester Stallone, Arnold Schwarzenegger, and Charles Bronson. In their movies, they exude toughness, independence, masculinity. But a closer look reveals their machismo is really violence masquerading as courage, sullenness disguised as silence, and irresponsibility camouflaged as independence.

If the Hispanic ideal of macho were translated to American screen roles, they might be Jimmy Stewart, Sean Connery, and Laurence Olivier.

In Spanish, macho ennobles Latin males. In English, it devalues them. This pattern seems consistent with the conflicts ethnic minority males experience in this country. Typically the cultural traits other societies value don't translate as desirable characteristics in America.

I watched my own father struggle with these cultural ambiguities. He worked on a farm for twenty years. He laid down miles of irrigation pipe, carefully plowed long, neat rows in fields, hacked away at recalcitrant weeds and drove tractors through whirlpools of dust. He stoically worked twenty hour days during harvest season, accepting the long hours as part of agricultural work. When the boss complained or upbraided him for minor mistakes, he kept quiet, even when it was obvious the boss had erred.

He handled the most menial tasks with pride. At home he was a good provider, helped out my mother's family in Mexico without complaint, and was indulgent with me. Arguments between my mother and him generally had to do with money, or with his stubborn reluctance to share his troubles. He tried to work them out in his own silence. He didn't want to trouble my mother—a course that backfired, because the imagined is always worse than the reality.

Americans regarded my father as decidedly un-macho. His character was interpreted as nonassertive, his

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loyalty as non-ambition, and his quietness as ignorance. I once overheard the boss's son blame him for plowing crooked rows in a field. My father merely smiled at the lie, knowing the boy had done it, but didn't refute it, confident his good work was well known. But the boss instead ridiculed him for being "stupid" and letting a kid get away with a lie. Seeing my embarrassment, my father dismissed the incident, saying, "They're the dumb ones. Imagine, me fighting with a kid."

I tried not to look at him with American eyes because sometimes the reflection hurt.

Listening to my aunts' clucks of approval, my vision focused on the qualities America overlooked. "He's such a hard worker. So serious, so responsible." My aunts would secretly compliment my mother. The unspoken comparison was that he was not like some of their husbands, who drank and womanized. My uncles represented the darker side of macho.

In a patriarchal society, few challenge their roles. If men drink, it's because it's the manly thing to do. If they gamble, it's because it's how men relax. And if they fool around, well, it's because a man simply can't hold back so much man! My aunts didn't exactly meekly sit back, but they put up with these transgressions because Mexican society dictated this was their lot in life.

In the United States, I believe it was the feminist movement of the early 1970s that changed macho's meaning. Perhaps my generation of Latin women was in part responsible. I recall Chicanas complaining about the chauvinistic nature of Latin men and the notion they wanted their women barefoot, pregnant and in the kitchen. The generalization that Latin men embodied chauvinistic traits led to this interesting twist in semantics. Suddenly a word that represented something positive in one culture became a negative prototype in another.

The problem with the use of macho today is that it's become an accepted stereotype of the Latin male. And like all stereotypes, it distorts truth.

The impact of language in our society is undeniable. And the misuse of macho hints at a deeper cultural misunderstanding that extends beyond mere word definitions.

Questions [10 points each]:

Answer each of the following questions in no more than five sentences.

1. How do the Hispanic and American concepts of *macho* differ?
2. What examples does the author use to make her point?
3. The author includes a discussion and examples of *the darker side of macho*. What does this phrase mean? Why do you think the author wrote the part about the darker side of being macho?
4. How did the feminist movement in the early 1970s contribute to the changing meaning of *macho* in the United States?
5. Why does the use of *macho* as a stereotype distort the truth about Latin males?

備

註

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二、試題請隨卷繳交。

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Part II. Writing(50%)

(1) Write a summary of 100-120 words of the following excerpt --20%

by A. Alter and E. A. Harris (the New York Times, September 16, 2022)

Attempts to ban books are accelerating across the U.S. at a rate never seen since tracking began more than 20 years ago, according to a new report from the American Library Association.

So far in 2022, there have been attempts to ban or restrict access to 1,651 different titles, the group found, up from challenges to 1,597 books in 2021, the year with the highest number of complaints since the group began documenting book challenges decades ago.

Book banning efforts have grown rapidly in number and become much more organized, divisive and vitriolic over the past two years, splitting communities, causing bitter rifts on school and library boards, and spreading across the country through social media and political campaigns.

Public libraries have been threatened by politicians and community members with a loss of funding for their refusal to remove books. In its recent analysis, the library association cited 27 instances of police reports being filed against library staff over the content of their shelves. "It represents an escalation, and we're truly fearful that at some point we will see a librarian arrested for providing constitutionally protected books on disfavored topics," said the director of the office of intellectual freedom at the library association. "They're being threatened with prosecution, attacked on social media, harassed for simply doing their jobs by trying to meet the information needs of their communities."

Book challenges, defined in the report as "willful attempts to remove or restrict access to library resources or programming," can be a written objection, a complaint form submitted to a library, or a demand for removal issued on social media. While in the past, complaints tended to focus on a single book, the majority of book challenges in 2021 targeted multiple titles, the library organization said.

The efforts have long come from both sides of the political spectrum. The report highlights challenges to "The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian," written by Sherman Alexie, including one made in a left-leaning New York City suburb over concerns about offensive racial language.

But the report emphasizes the role that conservative politics and politicians have played in the escalation of the issue. Conservative groups like Moms for Liberty, which is leading efforts to have books that they

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view as inappropriate removed from school libraries, describe book challenges as a matter of parental choice. Parents should be able to select the books their children are exposed to, they argue, and evaluate whether something runs contrary to their values.

Free speech organizations and many librarians, however, say that by pushing to remove these books from libraries, those parents are trampling on the rights of others who want the books to be available. The removals can be especially detrimental for young people who see themselves reflected in the books, they argue.

“Young people are going through these experiences and they are hungry for information. To remove those books denies that opportunity for education, and is also an act of erasure, a very stark message that you don’t belong here, your stories don’t belong here.” The library group, a nonprofit that promotes libraries and library education, defines itself as nonpartisan.

Many of the challenges are directly linked to the talking points of the conservative movement, including how to teach children about racial inequality, as the report specifies. Books that focus on L.G.B.T.Q. or Black characters have been targeted most often, with Maia Kobabe’s “Gender Queer” the most frequently challenged book in the country.

The report also detailed how charged and extreme recent efforts to remove books have become. Conservative politicians running for office and elected officials have seized on the topic. With the approach of midterm elections, challenges to books and the conflicts that surround them are only likely to escalate.

(2) Please write an essay of 300 words to give your response to the above excerpt. Do not copy what you have already written as the summary for (1). --30%

備

註

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- 二、試題請隨卷繳交。