**Semester**

**Final Exam Review Packet**

**British Literature**

**Composition**

**Exam Outline For British Literature & Composition**

Here is the basic outline of what you can expect to see on the final examination:

1. Historical Background Matching II. Poetry Terms Matching II. Literary Terms Definitions and Examples IV. Reading Interpretation *(*All Literary Eras)

V. Essay Writing - 5 Paragraph Essay

**II. Literary Terms Define these terms and give an example of each from a literary selection that we have read.**

**1. lamb - a type of metric measurement in poetry**

example:

**2. iambic pentameter -**

**example:**

**3. blank verse -**

**example:**

**4. couplet -**

**example:**

**5. quatrain -**

**example:**

**6. octave -**

**ex**ample:

**7. foot - a type of metric measurement in poetry**

**example: the iamb**

**8. sestet -**

**example:**

**9. volta -**

**example:**

**10. cesura - a space or gap in the middle of each line**

**TI**

**example: Then I went forth a friendless exile from “The Wife’s Lament”**

11. **kenning -**

**example:**

**12. heroic couplet -**

**example:**

**13. ballad -**

**exam**ple:

**14. beast fable -**

**example:**

**15. satire -**

**example:**

**16. metaphor -**

**example:**

**17. apostrophe -**

example:

**18. diction -**

**exa**mple:

**19. paradox -**

**example:**

**20. motif -**

**example:**

**21. prose -**

**exam**ple:

**22. hyperbole -**

**example:**

**23. oxymoron -**

**exam**ple:

**24. epic hero -**

example:

25. **consonance -**

example:

**26. fabliaux -**

example:

27. irony *-*

example:

28. al**lusion -**

example:

29. comic relief -

example:

30. s**ymbol -**

example:

31. **foreshadowing -**

example:

**32. mock epic -**

example:

**33. personification -**

**exam**ple:

**34. alliteration -**

**example:**

**35. refrain -**

**example:**

III. Literary Periods Thus far in British literature we have studied the Anglo-Saxon Period, the Medieval Period, the Renaissance, and the Enlightenment. Write a paragraph for each of these periods in which you describe the principles and ideals that governed the history and literature of that time. Select one literary work from each period (4 total) that you feel best exemplifies the period in which it was written. Explain why you chose that specific work.

**1**

A. THE ANGLO-SAXON PERIOD

B. THE MEDIEVAL PERIOD

..

..

...

.

.

.

.

.

.:::

.

,

'

-

.

.

.:::::::

:

::.

...:::::

:

:.-

3

1.77

C. THE RENAISSANCE.

IV. COMMON THEMES Provide a complete explanation for these recurring themes.

:

A. unrequited love

B. courtly love

C. carpe diem

D. code of chivalry

E. fate (wyrd)

PT

F. paganism vs. Christianity

V. ANALYSIS OF LITERARY SELECTIONS On the exam, you will have poems and excerpts from poems and other texts to analyze that we have not read. They were purposefully selected to test your interpretive, analy tical, and comprehension skills, as well as your knowledge of the various literary eras. In preparation, read the following texts and answer the questions for each.

**The Anglo-Saxon Age**

from "The Seafarer”

**the Exeter Book**

The only sound was the roaring sea, The freezing waves. The song of the swan Might serve for pleasure, the cry of the sea-fowl,

The death-noise of birds instead of laughter, The mewing of gulls instead of mead. Storms beat on the rocky cliffs and were echoed By icy-feathered terns and the eagle's screams; No kinsman could offer comfort there, To a soul left drowning in desolation.

1. What predominant Anglo-Saxon imagery is apparent in this excerpt?

2. Give an example of the poem's use *of alliteration.*

3. Give an example of the poem's use of *personification*

4. What is the significance of the mentioning of the "soul” in the final line of the excerpt?

**The Anglo-Saxon Age**

from **The Wife's Lament"**

**the Exeter Book**

I make this song about me full sadly my own wayfaring. I a woman tell what griefs I had since I grew up new or old never more than now. Ever I know the dark of my exile.

First my lord went out away from his people over the wave-tumult. I grieved each dawn wondered where my lord my first on earth might be.

Then I went forth a friendless exile **to seek service in my sorrow**'s need. My man's kinsmen began to plot by darkened thought to divide us two so we most widely in the world's kingdom lived wretchedly and I suffered longing.

1. Who is the poem's speaker?

2. the daughter of a sailor b. the son of a warrior **c. the mistress of a king** d. the wife of a sailor e. the piece of a **warrior**

2. What traditional Anglo-Saxon literary form is used in line *77*

3. Who has plotted against the speaker?

a. fellow warriors b. family c. subjects d. a close friend e. none of the above

4. What structural element does each line of the poem utilize?

5. What thematic characteristics identify this excerpt as an Anglo-Saxon poem?

B. The Medieval Period Read the following lyric poem from the Middle English period and then answer the questions.

“Man Assay"

**A man assay, assay, assay,** And ask mercy while thou may

Man have in mind how here byfore For thy misdeeds thou were forlore But mercy to give now Christ is bore A man assay, assay, assay, And ask mercy while thou may

**5**

In sin thy life if thou have led Amend it now be not a dread For He His mercy forth hath spread A man assay, assay, assay, And ask mercy while thou may

**10**

And if thy sin be never so ill For thy sin shalt thou not spill Now mercy to ask if thou will

**A man assay, assay, assay,** And ask mercy while thou may

God that died upon the rood For thy misdeed he shed his blood For his mercy is full and good **A man assay, assay, assay,** And ask mercy while thou may

He that the so dear hath bought Mercy He would that thou sought If thou seek he nyeth it nought **A man assay, assay, assay,** And ask mercy while thou may

Mercy is spread on the ground

Thereto left for a stound Therefore thou it seek till it be found A man assay, **assay, assay,** And ask mercy while thou may

.

30

1. The predominant rhyme scheme of the poem is

a. abcdd b. abbbc c. aaabb d. abccc

2. What lines serve as the poem's refrain?

3. Which stanza(s) suggest(s) the heavy price God (Christ) has paid for

man's sins? a. 1 and 3 b. 4 and 5

c. 6

d. all stanzas

4. The poem's primary theme seems to be

a. that there is little hope for salvation b. that the ultimate goal of every Christian is heaven c. that God is angry because of mankind's sinfulness d. to seek God's forgiveness while you can

5. What aspect of the Medieval Age does this poem illustrate?

C. The Renaissance Age

12

“Heart Exchange" Sir Philip Sidney

My true love hath my heart, ad I have his, By just exchange one for the other given: I hold his dear, and mine he cannot miss; There never was a bargain better driven. His heart in me keeps me and him in one; My heart in him his thoughts and senses guides: He loves my heart, for once it was his own; I cherish his, because in me it bides. His heart his wound received from my sight; My heart was wounded with his wounded heart; For, as from me on him his hurt did light, So still methought in me his hurt did smart: Both equal hurt in this change sought our bliss: My true love hath my heart and I have his.

**10**

1. This poem is an example of an English sonnet. Explain why.

2. What kind of exchange does the speaker refer to? Is it painful or joyous?

“Love Turned to Hatred” Sir John Suckling

I will not love one minute more, I swear! No, not a minute! Not a sigh or tear

Thou gett'st from me, or one kind look again, Though thou shouldst court me to't, and wouldst begin. I will not think of thee but as men do Of debts and sins; and then I'll curse thee too. For thy sake woman shall be now to me Less welcome than at midnight ghosts shall be.

I'll hate so perfectly that it shall be Treason to love that man that loves a she. Nay, I will hate the very good, I swear, That's in thy sex, because it doth lie there. Their very virtue, grace, discourse, and wit, And all for thee! What, wilt thou love me yet?

1. Primarily, this poem is structured around

a. the **terza rima** b. the couplet c. slant rhyme d. the four beat line

2. The above is an example of

a. the Spenserian sonnet b. the Petrarchan sonnet c. the Shakespearean sonnet d. none of the above

3. În what specific ways is this poem typical of the Cavalier tradition? Explain.

**The Jacobean Age**

**Holy Sonnet XV**

**John Donne**

Wilt thou love God, as he thee? then digest, My Soul, this wholesome meditation, How God the Spirit, by Angels waited on In heaven, doth make his Temple in thy breast. The Father having begot a Son most blest, And still begetting, (for he ne'er begone) Hath deign'd to choose thee by adoption, Co-heir to his glory, and Sabbath's endless rest; And as a robb'd man, which by search doth find His stolen stuff sold, must lose or buy it again;

The Son of glory came down, and was slain, Us whom he had made, and Satan stole, to unbind. 'Twas much, that man was made like God before, But, that God should be made like man, much more.

**10**

1. Predominantly, "Holy Sonnet XV" is an example of the

a. Spenserian sonnet b. Petrarchan sonnet c. Shakespearean sonnet d. Curtal Sonnet

2. The rhyme scheme of lines 9-14 is

**a. cdecff** b. cdecde c. cdcdee d. cddcee

3. Lines 1 through 7 of the poem make use of which of the following devices?

a. internal rhyme b. apostrophe c. simile d. personification e. both b and d

4. Thoroughly explain the poem's *parado*x in lines 13-14.

**Fear No More the Heat o' the Sun**

**15**

Fear no more the heat o' the sun,

Nor the furious winter's rages. Thou thy worldly task hast done,

Home art gone and ta'en thy wages Golden lads and girls all must, 5 As chimney sweepers, come to dust. Fear no more the frown o' the great,

Thou art past the tyrant's stroke, Care no more to clothe and eat.

To thee the reed is as the **oak. 20** The scepter, learning, physic, must All follow this and come to dust

Fear no more the lightning flash

Nor the all-dreaded thunderstone, Fear not slander, censure rash.

Thou hast finished joy and moan All lovers young, all lovers must Consign to thee and come to dust. No exorciser harm thee! Nor no witchcraft charm thee! Ghost unlaid forbear thee! Nothing ill come near thee! Quiet consummation have, And renowned be thy grave!

1. Which of the following most closely identifies the rhyme pattern of the first ten

lines? **a. abbaccdfdf b. ababcdcdef c. ababccdefe d. abcbcdefef e. ababccddee**

2. What literar**y form i**s used in lines 5 and 6?

a. allusion b. personification c. alliteration d. apostrophe e, simile

3. What ph**rase serves as a refrain in the poem?**

4. The entire poem is an example of the use of

a. apostrophe b. metaphor c. allusion d. ballad e. sonnet

5. Based on your reading of the poem, from which of our literary eras does this poem come?

Explain your answer!