

FINAL EXAM

ENG 208: The Nature of Narrative II (Sections 13, 14, 15, 16)

DATE: 14 April, 2015

TIME ALLOTTED: 2 hours

VALUE: 35% of total grade

EXAMINATION INSTRUCTIONS:

This examination contains two parts: Part A and Part B.

A complete examination will consist of TWO answers in Part A and ONE answer in Part B. **By the end of the exam, you must have written on at least FOUR of the works we have studied this term. At least one of those works must be drawn from material studied in the latter half of the course (*Dora*; “The Myth of Mental Illness”; *Palestine*; *Exit Through the Gift Shop*).**

Clear, effective English and logical organization are important in your replies. Avoid vague generalities; be specific in your references to the works.

Part A: 30%

Identify **TWO** of the following passages (author/work), and in a paragraph or two show how they reflect the major concerns/themes of the work.

1. “My expectations were by no means disappointed when this explanation of mine was met...with a most emphatic negative. The “No” uttered by a patient after a repressed thought has been presented to his conscious perception for the first time does no more than register the existence of a repression and its severity; it acts, as it were, as a gauge of the repression’s strength. If this “No,” instead of being regarded as the expression of an impartial judgment (of which, indeed, the patient is incapable), is ignored, and if work is continued, the first evidence soon begins to appear that in such a case “No” signifies the desired “Yes.”
2. “What had all our mothers been doing then that they had no wealth to leave us?”
3. “ If a generous encouragement were to be given to a free people, peaceable among themselves, intelligent and industrious, who by art and labour would improve the most barren situations, and make the most of that which is fruitful; the free and voluntary labour of many, would soon yield to any government, many greater advantages than anything slavery can produce.”
4. “Most artists spend years developing their craft; Thierry just seemed to skip that. I don’t think Thierry played by the rules, but then there aren’t supposed to be any rules.”

PART B: 70%

Write a brief essay (about 500-600 words) on **ONE** of the following topics. In your answer, you must refer to **at least TWO** works that we studied this term.

1. Compare and contrast the relationship between “story” and “fact” in **at least two** of the works that we studied this semester. Consider **some or all** of the following: in what instances--and how--is the distinction between fiction and fact blurred? When and how are stories used to tell a deeper truth? When does “science” make use of the literary, and how?
2. Compare and contrast the use of rhetorical strategies in at least two of the works that we studied this semester. Consider **at least three** of the following: the manner in which the author anticipates and refutes counter-arguments; the use of literary techniques (symbols, metaphors, parables, fictional/imagined characters...); use of evidence or logic; references to the past; direct appeals to the audience.
3. Compare and contrast the nature of oppression and how it is addressed in at least two works that we studied this semester. Consider **all** of the following: list three main aspects that define the nature of the oppression. How do the authors construct both the oppressors, and themselves in relation to these oppressors? What strategies do the authors use to confront and challenge oppression?
4. Compare and contrast the process of commodification as it appears in at least two works that we studied this semester. Consider **all** of the following: the relationship between art and commerce; the role of the media in the process of commodification; the tension between inherited traditions/cultural values and market logic.