

British and American Literature

100%--Write on five of the questions below. Begin each response with an introduction in which you state your general answer to the question; then support that answer with a detailed discussion of the literary texts you have chosen as examples. Be sure to include titles, author's names, dates, periods, styles, characters, etc. wherever appropriate.

You will have 90 minutes to complete this examination.

Each response will account for 20% of the examination score.

1. What do you consider to be the **one** most important difference between British Literature and American Literature? Choose one author and literary work from each of these national literatures to use as examples. As part of your explanation, be sure to include the historical period of each writer.
2. What is your favorite poem by a British Romantic and your favorite poem by an American Romantic? Explain why you have chosen each poem and be sure to include the historical period during which each author wrote her or his poem.
3. What is your favorite novel or short story by a British Romantic and your favorite by an American Romantic? Explain why you have chosen each of these works and be sure to include the historical period when each author wrote her or his novel or short story.
4. What do you consider to be the two most important characteristics of the Victorian period in British Literature? Which work by which author do you believe best embodies these characteristics? Be sure to explain your answer in detail.
5. What do you consider to be the two most important characteristics of the realist period in American Literature? Which work by which author do you believe best embodies these characteristics? Be sure to explain your answer in detail.
6. What do you consider to be the two most important characteristics of modernism as we see it in both British and American Literature? Explain your answer by using at least two literary works, one from each of these national literatures, as examples.