

VOCABULARY

Your teacher will select 20 terms at random from your vocabulary index cards. You need not give a word-perfect answer, but your definitions should be complete and accurate. Take 30 minutes for this section (1 point each).

SHORT ANSWER

Take 30 minutes to answer these questions. Each question is worth 3 points.

- 1-2. Choose two of the following four authors and describe their life and works: Petrarch, Marlowe, Shakespeare, or Spenser. For each of your chosen authors, be sure to name his birth and death dates and give two or three significant facts about his life. Also name one or two of his most famous works and mention any important contributions that he made to European literature.
3. What was the scholarly, academic drama of the Renaissance and how was its development related to the recovery of Greek and Roman works during that time?
4. Explain why Thomas Wyatt and Henry Howard are significant in the history of English literature. When did these men live, who were they (what was their nationality and occupation or mode of living), and how did each of them contribute to English literature?
5. Describe the forms of both the Petrarchan sonnet and the Shakespearean sonnet in terms of metrical pattern, stanza form, and rhyme scheme.
6. Name two things that happened in the transition between liturgical drama and the development of popular medieval drama. What is one similarity between mystery, miracle, and morality plays? Name at least one difference between them.
7. When was drama “lost,” for about how long was it “lost,” and how was it revived in Roman Catholic Europe? When it was first revived, what was it called?
8. Define and describe the characteristics of content and form for the genre of tragedy (according to Leland Ryken’s explanation of tragedy in *Words of Delight*).
9. Describe the kind of stages on which mystery, miracle, and morality plays were performed, and the kind of stages on which Shakespeare’s plays were performed. What were some differences between the two?
10. What are the differences between popular drama (mystery, morality, and miracle plays) and scholarly, academic drama? Who was one of the first to combine them?

Take 20 minutes to answer this question, worth 15 points.

- 11-15. The Italian Renaissance had an enormous effect on European literature. In England specifically, there were several important “literary imports” from Italy that affected English literature during the Northern Renaissance. Two of these were the blank verse meter and the Italian romance epic. Of these two, choose one and write about it. Define your chosen topic, explain its characteristics, and name three authors (both Italian and English, if possible) who used it, as well as the titles of the works in which they used it. If you choose to write about Italian romance epic, explain—for extra credit!—how at least one author modified it for his own purposes.

LONG ESSAY

Take 40 minutes for this question, worth 35 points.

Compare Shakespeare’s *Much Ado About Nothing* and *The Tempest* in terms of characters, content, and diction.

- Characters:
 - Compare the personalities of Benedick and Ferdinand. How are they alike? How are they different?
 - Compare the personalities of Beatrice and Miranda. How are they alike? How are they different?
- Content: Compare the themes of these two plays.
- Diction: Compare the devices of diction used in each play. Note whether one makes more use of images, whether each use the same amount of poetry and prose, whether they have the same amount of puns and malapropisms, etc.