



O. Arabi

CS 201, Final Exam.

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Choose Either Question I or Question II.

Question I

Consider the following passage from Virgil's Aeneid, in which Aeneas addresses his aged father Anchises at the point of departure from burning Troy: **"Come then, dear father, up on my back. I shall take you on my shoulders. Your weight will be nothing to me. Whatever may come, danger or safety, it will be the same for both of us... Father, take in your arms the laws and our ancestral gods."**

- a) Why does Aeneas need to carry his old father on his back? Should adult humans have any choice about carrying the burden of their aged father and mother for the rest of their lives?
- b) Why, metaphorically (symbolically), Anchises, in the underworld, never doubted that Aeneas will always come back to him? Why "the father never dies" ?
- c) Which of the two, Aeneas and Odysseus, was in a more confused position: Odysseus wanting to leave Kalypso; or Aeneas accepting to leave Dido ?

Question II.

Discuss FIVE themes that we studied in the texts of ancient cultures in CS 201, which you felt are not strange to you in the present world; i.e. universal human issues or concerns that seem to be present in all human societies, irrespective of the period, culture, or color of skin. Indicate, for each theme, what you personally believe to be the most valuable thing you have learned from our study.

