



English 212: Final Examination



Two Hours

June 1998
Prof. Nassar

PART ONE (30%). Choose two of the following quotations. In each case: (1) Identify the quotation. (2) Analyze it. (3) Link it.

1. CAESAR. Such men as he be never at heart's ease
Whiles they behold a greater than themselves,
And therefore are they very dangerous.
I rather tell thee what is to be fear'd
Than what I fear; for always I am Caesar.
Come on my right hand, for this ear is deaf.
2. ANTONY. He was my friend, faithful and just to me;
But Brutus says he was ambitious,
And Brutus is an honourable man.
He hath brought many captives home to Rome,
Whose ransoms did the general coffers fill:
Did this in Caesar seem ambition?
3. ARIEL (Song)
Full fathom five thy father lies;
Of his bones are coral made;
Those are pearls that were his eyes.
Nothing of him that doth fade,
But doth suffer a sea-change
Into something rich and strange.

PART TWO (70%). Choose TWO of the topics below. In each case write a well-organized, well-developed essay. Make specific references to the discussed text(s). Devote 40-45 minutes to each topic. You may, if you wish, choose ONE topic only and write for 90 minutes on it.

1. What do you consider to be the main theme of Hamlet? If there is more than one theme, choose the one that you consider to be the most prominent and discuss it.
2. Discuss the idea of "unaccommodated man" in King Lear. How does it connect with the larger theme of lack of justice?
3. Compare and contrast Shakespeare's use of storms in King Lear, Macbeth, Julius Caesar, and The Tempest.
4. Discuss the theme of deception in The Taming of the Shrew.
5. Compare and contrast Macbeth and Lady Macbeth during the course of the play.
6. Julius Caesar has sometimes been called a play with four main characters and no hero. Discuss.

