



## 17<sup>th</sup> Century Literature: Final Exam

**Section I. Choose four of the six questions below to answer in one or two paragraphs. Each is worth 25 points. Total point value of this section is 100.**

1. Describe an example we have from Bacon's life that indicates he places civil order above private loyalty.
2. Describe and instance where one of our poets goes outside self to find God in Nature.
3. Which of our poets displays a nostalgia for the innocence of childhood? Using an example from his work, explain how he links this innocence to the Fall.
4. We said of Crashaw that his "piety" aims at self-annihilation. Discuss this idea in the context of his poetry.
5. Of a certain poet, we said his desire is to seek self—even when his discourse is with God—through his explorations. Identify and discuss the poet and a piece of his that does this.
6. A few of our poets describe separation from God. Discuss any piece of which this is the topic.

**Section II. Choose four of the six questions below to answer in two to three paragraphs. Each is worth 25 points. Total points for this section: 100.**

1. Boil down the philosophy that seems to be at the center of Bacon's *Essays* and illustrate your conclusion with three examples.
2. Into what three types of poetry do critics usually break Donne's work? Give an example of each with a short justification.
3. Discuss the use of "natural order" in either *The Duchess of Malfi* or *Volpone*.
4. The three stages of mystic life—purgative, illuminative, and unitive—are especially important to one of our poets—which one? Briefly describe each stage.
5. Many of our poets seem interested in seduction; often, they rely on the passage of time and the inevitable decay and death of the body as a center of their arguments. Detail one such poem.
6. Describe a poem that is intended to justify or elevate the art of poetry, and identify its author.

**Section III. *Paradise Lost*. Together, these two questions are worth 100 points.**

1. After the first day of battle, Satan says the following to his army:

*[We] have sustained one day in doubtful fight  
(And if one day, why not Eternal dayes?)*

Analyze this in terms of Book VI as a whole, and also in terms of Milton's overall desire to justify the ways of God to men.

2. Three days and two night pass in Book VI of *Paradise Lost*. Describe each of them with as much detail as possible.

