

The English Renaissance Exam

Part 1: History and Culture

1. What are the dates given in the book for the English Renaissance?
2. What event begins the English Renaissance?
3. What royal family jumpstarted the English Renaissance—i.e. House of _____?
4. Who was the last monarch of the House of _____ (see above)?
5. Which House followed that House (see above)?
6. Why did Henry VIII break with the Catholic church?
7. Why was it so important for Henry VIII to have a son?
8. How long did Edward VI reign?
9. Why did the Catholic church order its members not to obey Elizabeth I?
10. How were Catholics treated in Elizabethan England?

Part 2: Sonnets

11. Where did the sonnet originate?
12. Who was the most famous sonneteer—who was most imitated by the English?
13. How many lines are in a sonnet?
14. What is the meter of a sonnet?
15. What is the rhyme pattern for the Spenserian Sonnet?
16. What is the rhyme pattern for the Shakespearean Sonnet?
17. Why are sonnets numbered?
18. What is the common theme between Spenser's "Sonnet 75" and Shakespeare's "Sonnet 18"?
19. What is the theme of Spenser's "Sonnet 30"—"My love is like to ice, and I to fire;"?
20. What is the theme of Shakespeare's "Sonnet 130"—"My mistress' eyes are nothing like the sun"?
21. Sonnets are still written today.
22. Sonnets are always about love.

Part 3: *Carpe Diem* Poems

23. What does *carpe diem* translate into English as?
24. The speakers of *carpe diem* poems are always _____ speaking to _____.
25. What should they *carpe* on this *diem*?
26. Why should they *carpe diem*?
27. What is the Pastoral Mode?
28. Why is the Pastoral Mode so important to *carpe diem* poems?
29. What is the main poetic device used in *carpe diem* poems?
30. Which one of the following is an anti-*carpe diem* poem?
31. Who is the speaker of that poem (see above)?

Part 4: *The Faerie Queene*

32. Who is the author of *The Faerie Queene*?
33. Who was he writing for/about?
34. Who is the Faerie Queene?
35. Was he rewarded for his efforts?
36. What was Queen Elizabeth's "cult of personality" based on?

37. What was King James' "cult of personality" based on?
38. What is the meter of a Spenserian Stanza?
39. How many lines are in a Spenserian Stanza?
40. What is the rhyme pattern of the Spenserian Stanza?
41. Whose style did Spenser imitate?
42. What genres of literature describe *The Faerie Queene*?
43. What is the Redcross Knight allegorical of?
44. What is Una allegorical of?
45. What is the monster's name?
46. What gender image is the monster (see above) meant to convey?
47. What is the second setting in the selection we read?
48. Who is Duessa and what is she allegorical of?
49. Why was this so pleasing to Queen Elizabeth (see above)?
50. What seven figures are central to this selection?
51. What literary and religious tradition do the seven figures come from?
52. Who is the queen of the seven figures?
53. Why (see above)?
54. What three allegorical aspects are used to characterize each of the seven figures?
55. Who is the eighth figure who follows the seven?