

MIDTERM EXAM QUOTE GUIDE
English 211: American Literature I (Fall 2009)

Your mid-term exam will take place during class on Thursday, October 21, 2009. You will have to identify four out of six quotes for the exam (selected from the quotations submitted by you and redistributed in class by me). You will need to give the title of the piece, the author of the piece, and give two or three thoughtful sentences on the quote explaining its importance in the context of the course. In addition, you will need to prepare an essay exam prep card using the following specifications:

- The card may be no bigger than 5" x 8".
- Your name must appear in the upper right corner of the card (with a horizontal orientation so that the longest side is at top).
- A clear space at the top left corner should be left blank for stapling.
- You may record quotes on the card, but each quote on the card needs to appear in the essay. Listing other quotes in an attempt to have the answers to the ID section. Quotes are expected in the essay since you can prepare ahead of time.
- You may not write out the essay on the card, but you may outline the key points.
- Failure to follow these directions will result in the card not being allowed during the exam.
- I will inspect the card before the exam starts. You may wish to show up early to get my approval.

You may choose from one of the following questions for your essay:

Essay Option 1:

Early American Literature is often described as “first contact” literature: descriptions of what happens when two cultures meet for the very first time. Pick a particular first contact experience and analyze how one side of the encounter attempts to deal with the other group. What cultural knowledge or standards do they use to evaluate the behavior or cultural position of the other? How do they attempt to interact with the other group? What justifications do they use to explain this kind of interactions? What does this suggest about that particular colonial encounter? You may use several texts or focus on one text closely.

Essay Option 2:

Many of the repressed groups we’ve read about attempt to argue against the colonial power’s dominance by using the colonial power’s own ideology against it. Pick two examples of oppressed people’s attempts to argue their way out of repression (or to at the very least subvert their political or cultural dominance) and show how these arguments work. What does this suggest about colonial powers?

Essay Option 3:

The role of religion in the development of the American character is one of the timeless debates that various factions argue, even today. Given the scope of the readings in the course, how did religious philosophies helped shape American culture.

Quote Options:

On the exam, I will give 5-10 quotes. You will need to identify 5 of the quotes, giving the author, title, and several sentences detailing the significance of the quotes. Below are the quotes you submitted as a class for consideration. The exam quotes will come from this list.

Quote: It was out upon the ocean. Some sea-foam formed against a big log floating there. Then a person emerged from the sea foam and crawled out upon the log. He was seen sitting there. Another person crawled up, on the other side of the log. It was a woman. They were whites.

Source: Yuchi. *Creation of the Whites*. Vol. A. (pg 65)

QUOTE: But if you do not do this or if you maliciously delay in doing it, I certify to you that with the help of God we shall forcefully enter into your country and shall make war against you in all ways and manner that we can, and shall subject you to the yoke and obedience of the church and of their highnesses; we shall take you and your wives and your children and shall make slaves of them, and as such shall sell and dispose of them as their highnesses may command; and we shall take away your goods and shall do to you all the harm and damage that we can, as to vassals who do not obey and refuse to receive their lord and resist and contradict him; and we protest that the deaths and losses which shall accrue from this are your fault, and not that of their highnesses, or ours, or of these soldiers who come with us.

Source: Palacios Rubios *Requerimiento* (pg. 133)

Quote: "Climb up to the top of the hill, my xocoyote, where you have seen me stand, and there you will find many flowers; pluck them and gather them together, and then bring them down here in my presence."

Source: *History of the Miraculous Apparition of the Virgin of Guadalupe* (201)

QUOTE: Two hours after our arrival at Apalachen, the Indians who had fled from there came in peace to us, asking for their women and children, whom we released; but the detention of a cacique by the Governor produced great excitement, in consequence of which they returned for battle early the next day, and attacked us with such promptness and alacrity that they succeeded in setting fire to the houses in which we were.

SOURCE: Alvar Nunez Cabeza de Vaca. *Relation of Alvar Nunez Cabeza de Vaca*. (Pg. 160)

QUOTE: If you have this power, then blow me out into the air; my gods have more power than you have. My gods have put a heart into me to enter your home. I have no weapons. You have your weapons handy, hanging on the wall. My gods have prevented you from getting your weapons.

Source: Hopi. *The Coming of the Spanish and the Pueblo Revolt*. Vol. A.

QUOTE: This is to let you understand that I your child am in a most heavy case by reason of the nature of the country, [which] is such that it causeth much sickness, as the scurvy and the bloody flux and diverse other diseases, which maketh the body very poor and weak.

SOURCE: Richard Frethorne. *from Richard Frethorne, to His Parents (Virginia, 1623)*. Vol A. (Pg. 270)

QUOTE: *Having undertaken, for the Glory of God and advancement of the Christian Faith and Honour..., do by these presents solemnly and mutually in the presence of God and one of another, Covenant and Combine ourselves together into Civil Body Politic, ..., and frame such just and equal Laws, Ordinances, Acts, Constitutions and Offices, ..., for the good of the Colony, unto which we promise all due submission and obedience.* (Italics in original)

SOURCE: William Bradford. *Of Plymouth Plantation*. Vol A. Pg 330.

QUOTE: "O that princes and parliaments would take some timely order to prevent this mischief and at length to suppress it by some exply punishment upon some of these gain-thirsty murderers, for they deserve no better title, before their colonies in these parts be overthrown by these barbarous savages thus armed with their own weapons, by these evil instruments and traitors to their neighbours and country!"

SOURCE: William Bradford. *Of Plymouth Plantation*. Pg 360

QUOTE: "According to humane reason, guided onely by the light of nature, these people leades the more happy and freer life, being voyde of care, which torments the minds of so many Christians: They are not delighted in baubles, but usefull things.

SOURCE: Thomas Morton. *New English Canaan*. Vol A. Pg 324

Quote: "Give to the Mellancolly man
A cup or two of't now and than;
This physick will soone revive this bloud,
And make him be of a merrier moode."

Source Thomas Morton, "The Song" from *New English Canaan*, pg 327

Quote: "God Almightye in his most holy and wise providence hath soe disposed of the Condicion of mankinde, as in all times some must be rich some poore, some highe and eminent in power and dignitie; others meane and in subjeccion."

Source: John Winthrop *A Modell of Christian Charity* (pg. 334)

QUOTE: The Lawe of nature could give noe rules for dealeing with enemies for all are to be considered as friends in the estate of innocency, but the Gospell commaunds love to an enemy. prooffe. If thine Enemye hunger feede him; Love your Enemies doe good to them that hate you Math: 5.44.

SOURCE: John Winthrop. *A Modell of Christian Charity*. (Pg. 335)

QUOTE: the Lord will be our God and delight to dwell among us, so that wee shall see much more of his wisdom, ...when he shall make us a prayse and glory, that men shall say of succeeding plantacions: the lord make it like that of New England: for wee must consider that wee shall be as a City upon a Hill, the eyes of all people are upon us, so that if wee shall deale falsely with our God in his worke wee have undertaken and soe cause him to withdraw his present help from us, wee shall be made a story and a by-

word through the world, wee shall open the mouthes of enemies to speake evill of the ways of god and all professours for Gods sake; wee shall shame the faces of many of gods worthy servants, and cause their prayers to be turned into Curses upon us till we be consumed out of the good land whether wee are going.

SOURCE: John Winthrop. *A Modell of Christian Charity*. Vol A. Pg. 317

Quote: "My love is such that rivers cannot quench,
Nor ought but love from thee, give recompense."

Source: Anne Bradstreet, *To My Dear and Loving Husband*, pg 431

Quote: "Cropt by th' Almighty's hand; yet is He good."

Source: Anne Bradstreet "On My Dear Grandchild Simon Bradstreet" (pg.432)

QUOTE: He hath smote a child with sickness, sometimes chastened by losses in estate, and these times (through His great mercy) have been the times of my greatest getting and advantage; yea, I have found them the times when the Lord hath manifested the most love to me.

SOURCE: Anne Bradstreet. *To My Dear Children*. (Pg. 435)

Quote: "I believe that never were more satanical devices used for the unsettling of any people under the sun, than what have been employed for the extirpation of the vine which God has here planted, casting out the heathen and preparing a room before it, and causing it to take deep root, and fill the land, so that it sent its boughs unto the Atlantic Sea eastward, and its branches unto the Connecticut River westward, and the hills were covered with a shadow thereof"

Source: Cotton Mather *Wonders of the Invisible World* (534)

Quote: "Masters, give unto your Servants, that which is Just & Equal, knowing that ye also have a Master in Heaven."

Source Cotton Mather, from *The Negro Christianized*, pg 552

QUOTE: Were your *Servants* well tinged with the Spirit of *Christianity*, it would render them exceeding *Dutiful* unto their *Masters*, exceeding *Patient* under their *Masters*, exceeding faithful in their Business, and afraid of speaking or doing any thing that may justly displease you.

SOURCE: Cotton Mather. *The Negro Christianized*. (Pg. 553)

Quote: "The God who looks at the heart, is not moved by the colour of the skin."

Source: Cotton Mather *The Negro Christianized* (pg. 554)

QUOTE: “There is nothing that keeps wicked men at any moment out of hell, but the mere pleasure of God.”

SOURCE: Jonathan Edwards. *Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God*. Vol A. Pg 691

QUOTE: “There is no want of power in god to cast wicked men into hell at any moment. Men’s hands cannot be strong when god rises up.”

SOURCE: Jonathan Edwards. *Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God* (691)

QUOTE: The unseen, unthought-of ways and means of persons going suddenly out of the world are innumerable and inconceivable. Unconverted men walk over the pit of hell on a rotten covering, and there are innumerable places in this covering so weak that they will not bear their weight, and these places are not seen.

SOURCE: Jonathan Edwards. *Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God*. (Pg. 693)

Quote: “Thus it will be with you that are in an unconverted state, if you continue in it; the infinite might, and majesty, and terribleness of the omnipotent God shall be magnified upon you, in the ineffable strength of your torments.”

Source: Jonathan Edwards *Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God* (pg. 699)

QUOTE: “The Natives could, by no means, persuade themselves that the English were heartily their Friends, so long as they disdained to intermarry with them. And, in earnest, had the English consulted their own security and the good of the Colony—Had they intended either to Civilize or Convert these Gentiles, they would have brought their stomachs to embrace this prudent Alliance.”

SOURCE: William Byrd. *The History of the Dividing Line*. Vol A. Pg 637

QUOTE: For my part, I must be of opinion, as I hinted before, that there is but one way of converting these poor infidels and reclaiming them from barbarity, and that is charitably to intermarry with them, according to the modern policy of the Most Christian King in Canada and Louisiana.

SOURCE: William Byrd. *The History of the Dividing Line...* (Pg. 649)

Quote: “He believed that after death both good and bad people are conducted by a strong guard into a great road in which departed souls travel together for some time till at a certain distance this road forks into two paths, the one extremely level and the other stony and mountainous”

Source: *The History of the Dividing Line* William Byrd II (650)

Quote: “So as marvel you not at the thin population of America, nor at the rudeness and ignorance of the people, for you must account you inhabitants of America as a young people, younger than a thousand years at the least than the rest of the world, for that there was so much time between the universal flood and their particular inundation”

Source: Francis Bacon, from *New Atlantis*, pg 130

Quote: “For they count this the most just cause of war, when any people, holdeth a piece of ground void and vacant, to no good or profitable use, keeping others from the use and possession of it, which notwithstanding by the law of nature ought thereof to be nourished and relieved...”

Source: Thomas More *Utopia* (pg. 127)

Quote: “Thus the advance of the frontier has meant a steady movement away from the influence of Europe, a steady growth of independence on American lines.

Source: Frederick Jackson Turner *The Significance of the Frontier in American History* (pg. 152)

Quote: One coinage that recurs throughout the book is the term “contact zone,” which I use to refer to the space of colonial encounters, the space in which people geographically and historically separated come into contact with each other and establish ongoing relations, usually involving conditions of coercion, radical inequality, and intractable conflict.

Source: Pratt, Mary Louise . *Imperial Eyes: Travel Writing and Transculturation*. Vol. A. (pg 136)