

21L 485 Twentieth Century Fiction
Professor David Thorburn
Sample Final Exam

Part One (30 points)

Identify *ten* of the following items and comment briefly on the relevance of each to our course. In the case of quotations, try to identify the context, the speaker or thinker of the passage, and its contribution to central themes.

1. *Timon of Athens*
2. The ending of "Two Gallants"
3. The Bloomsbury Group
4. Babel's idea of art
5. 'Yah,' another said. 'He don't have to brag'
6. The whole mass of the picture was poised upon that weight. Beautiful and bright it should be on the surface, feathery and evanescent, one colour melting into another like the colours on a butterfly's wing; but beneath the fabric must be clamped together with bolts of iron.
7. O Jamesey Let me up out of this pooh
8. When he returned with the wood and the dead rabbit, the baby, wrapped in the tunic, lay wedged between two cypress-knees and the woman was not in sight . . .
9. Dlugacz
10. the Moldavanka district
11. Zembla
12. the children in "That Evening Sun"

Part Two (70 points)

Answer one of the following questions, citing specific passages and other details to support your argument.

1. Our texts are full of ceremonies: arrivals, leave-takings, celebrations or memorials, the formal and informal sharing of food. Write an essay exploring the significance of one or more such ceremonial occasion in *at least three of our authors*. Hints, suggestions: dinner parties, breakfast-making, a first goose, trips and outings, funerals, weddings . . .

2. "Let us not imagine that life exists more fully in what is commonly thought big than in what is commonly thought small." How does this remark by Virginia Woolf illuminate the subject matter and the form of many modernist texts? You must discuss *at least three different authors* in your answer.