

## **Second Semester Exam in TL**

### **Model Answers**

#### **Answer the following questions:**

- 1- Identify and explain one allusion in each set of the following lines. **2.5 pts** for each answer: literary device **(0.5pt)**+ source (allusion) or meaning (enjambment and parallelism)**(1pt)**+ explanation **(1pt)**

- a- You hypocrite lecteur!—mon semblable—mon frère!

Here is an allusion to "Fleurs du Mal" by Charles Baudelaire, a poem that dealt with themes of modern eroticism and decadence, basically calling people out for many of the same things Eliot is in "The Waste Land." The speaker calls out the reader for being a lazy hypocrite and admits that he's no better by calling him "mon frère." The speaker of the poem personally blames the reader, himself, and pretty much everybody for what's happened.

- b- Here is Belladonna, the Lady of the Rocks,  
The lady of situations.

An allusion to Leonardo's famous painting, Madonna of the Rocks, "Belladonna," means "Beautiful Lady" in Italian, but also referring to a type of poison called nightshade. In the Christian tradition, rocks symbolize the foundation that the Christian church provides for one's life. However, after the war, people resorted to fortune tellers instead of resorting to God, and this is what makes Madame Sosostriis poisonous and harmful in spite of being a lady as she makes them even more frustrated.

- c- Marie, hold on tight.  
And down we went.  
In the mountains, there you feel free.

An allusion to a historical figure named Marie Louise Elizabeth Mendel, a Bavarian woman who was born into a family with royal roots, and became Countess Larisch when she was nineteen. She was also the cousin of Archduke Rudolph, the Crown Prince of Austria who was found dead, leaving a gaping hole in the Austrian royal line of succession. After that Mary lost her position as a Countess. Hence, in this poem she symbolizes the aristocracy and the rise of democracy in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

- d- There I saw one I knew, and stopped him, crying: "Stetson!

You were with me in the ships at Mylae!"

An allusion to a Sicilian seaport, now called Milazzo. Near here, in 260 BC, Rome won a major naval battle with Carthage. This Reminds us of the Phoenician seaman, who might be in parallel with a soldier of WW I.

- e- —Yet when we came back, late, from the Hyacinth garden,  
Yours arms full, and your hair wet, I could not  
Speak, and my eyes failed, I was neither  
Living nor dead, and I knew nothing,

Enjambment. The meaning runs over from one poetic line to the next. The second and the third lines meanings are incomplete until we read the third and the forth lines respectively. Eliot's enjambment gives a sense of instability/fragmentation by making every thought seem unfinished.

- f- And I will show you something different from either  
Your shadow at morning striding behind you  
Or your shadow at evening rising to meet you;

Eliot's use of parallelism--which is the repetition of the same or similar grammatical structures-- in the second and the third lines suggests a certain mirroring effect in the two shadows, which gives you a confused sense of traveling into two opposite directions at once.

**2- The following lines include symbolism. Identify and explain it. (2 pts)**

There is shadow under this red rock,  
(Come in under the shadow of this red rock),

The symbol is the "this red rock". 1pt

It stands for the church's/christianity's foundations. Here is a call for regaining faith in God. 1pt

**3- The following lines include an irony. Explain . (2pts)**

Madame Sosostris, famous clairvoyante,  
Had a bad cold, nevertheless  
Is known to be the wisest woman in Europe.

The first and the second lines' meaning is irrelevant to that of the last line. However, they make sense as an irony. They suggest that Madame Sosostris is a fraud. If she were a real fortune teller she would expect that she would have that bad cold and take precautions. Hence, she proves to be not wise at all.

**-1 point for organization and clear handwriting**