

**Trinity College Gould Prize
2024**

You should respond to just one question.

1. 'A poet is someone who saves and is saved by the dead.'
(ANNE CARSON)

Write about mortality and/or legacy in one or more literary texts.

2. 'All words have the "taste" of a profession, a genre, a tendency, a party, a particular work, a particular person, a generation, an age group, the day and hour. Each word tastes of the social contexts in which it has lived its socially charged life.'
(MIKHAIL BAKHTIN, translated by Caryl Emerson)

Discuss any aspect(s) of this quotation in relation to one or more literary texts.

3. 'Who is my neighbour? The one you happen across, stumble across, who is wounded there in the road.'
(CHARLES TAYLOR)

Discuss in relation to one or more literary texts.

4. 'There we shall be shining models of purity and virtue, passing the whole day in the innocent and amiable occupation of going up hill and down dale, receiving poetical impressions, and communicating them in immortal verse to admiring generations.'
(THOMAS LOVE PEACOCK)

Discuss the idea of the literary persona in one or more literary texts.

5. 'I cannot paint
What then I was.'
(WILLIAM WORDSWORTH)

Write about the first person singular in lyric.

6. Discuss transformation, metamorphosis or metempsychosis in one or more literary texts.

7. 'PERPLEXITY, noun.

Inability to decide what to think or how to act owing to the involved, intricate, or complicated condition of circumstances or of the matters to be dealt with, generally also involving mental perturbation or anxiety; (a state of) puzzlement, distraction, or bewilderment.'

(*OED*)

'Alas, thou hast misconstrued everything!'

(WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE)

Write about understanding and misunderstanding in one or more literary texts.

8. 'The Greeks thought of language as a veil that protects us from the brightness of things. I think poetry is a tear in that veil.'

(ALICE OSWALD)

Discuss this idea in relation to one or more literary texts.

9. What is the relationship between dramatic (or lyric) text and performance?