

FINAL EXAMINATION
UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN
Department of English
ENGLISH 204.6
Dr. Allison Muri

TIME: 3 hours

June 28, 2006

NAME: _____

PLEASE HAND IN THIS EXAM SHEET WITH YOUR ANSWERS

Complete sections A and B; section C is optional.

SECTION A. SHORT ANSWER QUESTION. (40%)

Provide a **well-developed, unified, and coherent** paragraph for each of your four answers.

Identify (provide the author's name and the work's title) any **four** of the following quotations. What is the relevance of this passage or work to the history of the book?

- 1) "Little fat detective whose name I don't know"—her voice had a tired huskiness in it, and a tired mockery—"you think that I am playing a part, don't you? You think that I am playing for liberty. Perhaps I am. I certainly would take it if it were offered me. But —men have thought me beautiful, and I have played with them. Women are like that. Men have loved me and, doing what I liked with them, I have found men contemptible. And then comes this little fat detective whose name I don't know, and he acts as if I were a hag—an old squaw. Can I help then being piqued into some sort of feeling for him? Women are like that."

- 2) To be, or not to be, I there's the point,
To Die, to sleepe, is that all? I all:
No, to sleepe, to dreame, I mary there it goes,
For in that dreame of death, when wee awake,
And borne before an euerlasting ludge,
From whence no passenger euer retur'nd,
The vndiscovered country, at whose sight
The happy smile, and the accursed damn'd.

(cont'd)

- 3) this discovery of yours will create forgetfulness in the learners' souls, because they will not use their memories; they will trust to the external written characters and not remember of themselves. The specific which you have discovered is an aid not to memory, but to reminiscence, and you give your disciples not truth, but only the semblance of truth; they will be hearers of many things and will have learned nothing; they will appear to be omniscient and will generally know nothing; they will be tiresome company, having the show of wisdom without the reality.
- 4) Now was there of that church a parish clerk
 The which that was y-clepèd Absalon.
 Curled was his hair, and as the gold it shone,
 And strouted as a fan, large and broad.
 Full straight and even lay his jolly shode.
 His rode was red, his eyen grey as goose.
 With Paulè's windows carven on his shoes.
- 5) Gems, which you women use,
 Are, as Atlanta's balls, cast in men's views;
 That when a foole's eye lighteth on a gemm,
 His earthly sowle might covet those, not them:
 Like pictures or like books' gay coverings made
 For lay-men, are all women thus arraide.
 Themselves are only mistique books, which wee
 (Whome their imputed grace will dignifie)
 Must see revail'd.
- 6) I took her hand in mine, and we went out of the ruined place; and, as the morning mists had risen long ago when I first left the forge, so, the evening mists were rising now, and in all the broad expanse of tranquil light they showed to me, I saw the shadow of no parting from her.

SECTION B. LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS. (60%)

Write on any **three** of the following topics.

- 1) Discuss the rise of the dime novel and cheap fiction in the 19th century. What were the characteristics of the dime novel? What made it so popular?
- 2) The Kelmscott Chaucer was William Morris' response to the rise of cheaply produced and highly commercialized books in the 19th century. Discuss some of the competing values in considering the book as a work of art versus considering the book as a commodity in the Victorian age.
- 3) What does "Johnny Mnemonic" or "The Library of Babel" tell us about information, knowledge, memory, and humanity?
- 4) Sven Birkerts comments, "Readers are leaving the book as churchgoers have been leaving the church—because they no longer feel the need of what is to be gotten there. Is literature offering us less, or is it that what is offered is no longer deemed as vital to our well-being?" Discuss.
- 5) Thomas King writes, "...when Native stories began appearing in print, concern arose that the context in which these stories had existed was in danger of being destroyed and the stories themselves were being compromised. The printed word, after all, once set on a page, has no master, no voice, no sense of time or place. ...for the most part, I think of oral stories as public stories and written stories as private stories." Discuss the difference between public and private stories with reference to King's own works.
- 6) Do we need censorship more than ever now that the Internet has made publishing and social networking so effortless and so unregulated?
- 7) What do Richardson's *Pamela* and Addison's *The Spectator* tell us about print culture. in the 18th century?
- 8) In "Ebooks: Neither E, Nor Books," Cory Doctorow argues that the book is a "'practice' —a collection of social and economic and artistic activities —and not an 'object.'" Do you think this is a valid definition? Explain why or why not, using examples from **one** of the following categories as evidence:
 - a) Medieval manuscripts
 - b) Beowulf
 - c) the Domesday Book and the Bayeux Tapestry
 - d) William Blake
 - e) the Bible (Tyndale Bible, the Gutenberg Bible, and/or the King James Bible of 1611)
 - f) Wikipedia
 - g) 20th-century paperback novels
 - h) Google books