

HUI216, Final exam — May 14, 2008

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**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS!
DO NOT OPEN THE EXAM
UNTIL YOU ARE INSTRUCTED TO DO SO!**

Please make sure that your beeper and/or cell phone are turned off and stored away, out of sight. This applies also to iPods, PDAs, and all portable electronic devices.

Fill in your NAME and IDENTIFICATION NUMBER on the scantron form before starting.

There are 44 multiple-choice questions and 3 essay questions in this exam: the multiple-choice questions are worth 2 points each (no partial credit), the essay questions are worth 6 points each (partial credit is available: recommended length 100-200 words).

Multiple-choice answers must be filled in on the scantron form with a black #2 pencil. Short-answer questions must be written on the exam, with a pen.

Scantron forms and exams will be collected together.

You have two hours to finish the exam.

You are not allowed to ask any questions during the exam. If you need assistance (for example, if your pen stops working or you don't have a pencil), raise your hand.

You cannot leave the room until you are finished and have handed in the exam.

When you are ready to hand in the exam, get up and form a line on the right side of the classroom. Please have your ID card ready. If there are 10-12 people already waiting in line, please remain seated until the line gets shorter.

Remember that once you get up to hand in the exam, you cannot go back to your seat and you cannot write anything on your exam or the scantron form.

Please leave the room quietly, trying not to disturb those who are still working on the exam.

1. "La parola Italia" ('The Word Italy') was the title of a conference held in Florence in February of 2001, which focused on issues of national identity [see Topic 1.4 "La parola Italia" (***)]. Identify the correct statement from among the following:

- A) Patriotism and nationalism in Italy were weakened by the events of 1943-45, when Italian fascists who continued the war on the side of the Germans exploited those values for their propaganda
- B) All of these statements are correct
- C) As former premier Giuliano Amato said at the conference, ideals such as State and Nation have finally acquired prestige in Italy today, thanks to the efforts of Italian politicians and their parties
- D) Italians of today have acquired a strong national identity, and therefore they do not support the idea of a stronger European Union

2. Identify the correct statement from among the following, regarding the Italian language, its history and its internal components [see Topic 1.9 National Italian identity and the issue of language (***)]:

- A) Soon after the collapse of the Roman Empire, when Latin ceased to be the language of the government and of the local administrations, a single national vernacular language soon appeared in Italy, and early on, before the Middle Ages, it became the basis for modern Italian
- B) Modern Italian is entirely based on the ancient language used by great late medieval writers such as Dante, Tacitus, and St. Augustine
- C) The various Italian dialects, which derive from Latin and from other non-Indo-European languages, are very similar to one another: they are simple variations of the same old Italian language
- D) Most Italians, until the early 1960s, were bilingual: they usually spoke a local dialect as their primary language at home or with their friends. They learned standard Italian at school (or from the media), and they used it in public places or in the presence of somebody from a different region

3. During the last 15-20 years, the population growth rate in Italy has been negative or close to zero. Identify the correct statement from among the following, regarding the reasons behind the declining birth rate in Italian society [see Topic 2.1 Statistics and data about contemporary Italy (***)]:

- A) All of these statements are correct
- B) After the economic boom of the early 1960s, the Italian economy has been on a steady decline, and the impoverished Italian families have compensated by reducing the number of children
- C) Public support per child in Italy (with reference to direct funding and to services offered to the families) is one of the lowest in the European Union; other countries with limited public support (for example, Spain) also have low birth rates
- D) After so many young Italians left their country to emigrate abroad, during the first half of the 20th-century, Italy was left with an increasingly ageing population

4. According to the 2001 national census, there are approximately 57 million people living in Italy [see Topic 2.5 The Italian census of 2001 (***)]. Identify the correct statement from among the following:

- A) Most of the Italian population lives in cities with more than 1,000,000 residents: the urban culture that has developed in those large metropolitan areas has been a strong unifying factor in Italian history
- B) A significant number of cities in Italy (more than 3) have more than five million people: even after the fall of the Roman Empire, the city of Rome has remained the main center of Italy's political and cultural life
- C) Almost half of the Italian population lives in towns with less than 20,000 residents: this fact can explain the strength and vitality of the many different local cultures
- D) All of these statements are correct

5. To 19th-century British writer Maurice Hewlett, and to some of his fellow travel writers, political decadence and the Darwinian laws of natural extinction established the premise for exotic explorations of Tuscany [see Topic 3.3 Maurice Hewlett and Tuscany (***)]; see also a required reading: Andrea Fedi, "Maurice Hewlett and Tuscany's hidden treasures" (***)]. Identify the correct statement from among the following:

- A) All of these statements are correct
- B) As James Buzard has noted in his book, *The Beaten Track. European Tourism, Literature, and the Ways to Culture*, 19th-century chronicles of travels to Italy were fairly accurate, often including "everyday features of the visited place, such as the gradual improvements in standard of living, the mundane political struggles, the ordinary commerce"
- C) Anglo-American travel writers from the late 1800s and the early 1900s often believed that, given the uniform history of most Tuscan towns, their medieval origins as independent city-states, their long-lasting feud, the alleged lack of industrial development, the limited social mobility, Tuscany was the perfect 'laboratory' to rediscover what life was like in a pre-modern civilization.
- D) British traveler/writer Maurice Hewlett loved Italy, and especially Tuscany. What makes Hewlett different from other authors is that he firmly believed that the people living in various parts of Tuscany shared the same culture and belonged to the same ethnic group

6. Identify the correct statement regarding the process of political unification in Italy [see Topics 3.2-3.5 Chronology and overview of Italian civilization (**/***)]:

- A) Italy, as a national State, is much older than the United States of America. Unity has never been a pressing issue in modern Italian history
- B) During most of their history, from the end of the Roman Empire to the Middle Ages and the Renaissance, Italians have lived united under one government
- C) For most of its history, after the fall of the Roman Empire, Italy has been fragmented politically
- D) In 1861, when the Italian kingdom was first created, under the Savoy dynasty, it was given a federal structure,

because of the diverse history of the various Italian regions
7. Based on the contents of a 2003 article from *The New York Times*, "World's Farmers Sowed Languages as Well as Seeds," which of the following statements regarding the diffusion of the Indo-European languages is correct [see Topic 4.7 Indo-European Languages: recent theories (*)]?

- A) The introduction of an agricultural system was the primary cause of the diffusion of the Indo-European languages: whatever language happened to be spoken in a region where a crop plant was domesticated expanded along with the farmers who spoke it
- B) Before agriculture came into society, populations were small since hunting and gathering food could not support a larger population
- C) Hunter-gatherers in many cases adopted the farmers' language: modern languages show traces of these processes of demographic expansion more clearly than the genes
- D) All of these statements are correct

8. Identify the correct statement from among the following, regarding the role of the Greeks in Roman civilization [see Topics 4.9 & 4.10 Early Italy: the Greeks & The Griko Dialect and the Italian Greeks (**/*)]:

- A) The Greeks tended to create colonies in the northern regions of Italy, an area which was then identified as Alta Graecia. They chose the north because it was the area of the Italian peninsula that was closest to Greece
- B) After sending a committee of legal experts to the Greek colonies to study their legal system, the Romans wrote their Laws of the Twelve Tables in 450 BCE
- C) The Carthaginians most likely introduced their alphabet to the Romans, who in turn introduced it to the Greeks
- D) Roman and Greek divinities and myths did not show any similarities, even though the Etruscans acted as an intermediary between those two civilizations

9. Identify the correct statement from among the following, regarding the various early populations in Italy [see Topics 4.11 & 4.12 The Carthaginians & Early Italy: other cultures and peoples (**)]:

- A) The Carthaginians, like their Phoenician ancestors, were great sailors and active merchants. They created settlements on the islands of Corsica and Sardinia, on the west coast of Sicily and on the shores of Spain
- B) The Greeks were a semi-nomadic tribe who migrated from central and western Europe. By 400 BCE they had occupied the whole area south of the Italian Alps
- C) The Gauls, along with the Latins and Etruscans formed the initial core of Roman society
- D) The early civilizations tended to live in relative peace with one another, and in time they were assimilated by the Romans peacefully, without too many military fights

10. Identify the correct statement from among the following, regarding the Roman foundational myth of the Rape of the Sabine [see Topic 4.12 Early Italy: other cultures and peoples (**)]:

- A) The third foundational myth describes the story of the rape of the Sabine women, who were captured, unarmed and

- unprepared, when they attended a religious festival in Rome
- B) All of these statements are correct
- C) The Romans decided to use violence after their marriage proposals were rejected by the neighboring tribes: they would not help them because of the criminal and barbarous ways of the Romans
- D) After the capture of the Sabine women, when the Sabine men came for revenge to Rome, the women threw themselves between the two warring parties, begging for peace: mercy and reconciliation are key themes of this myth

11. Identify the correct statement from among the following, regarding the characteristics of the ancient Romans [see Topic 5.2 (**)]:

- A) All of these statements are correct
- B) The Romans borrowed from other cultures, which facilitated the assimilation of the subjects through an exchange of customs and ideas
- C) The Romans established a unified economy, where trades were supervised by Rome's central administration, and supported by creating and maintaining a network of roads, ports and shipyards, storage facilities, military strongholds, defense lines
- D) The Romans tolerated other cultures, provided they were not radically different. They feared and at times persecuted Jews and Christians, who despised polytheism and could not easily accept some of the social customs and the political/religious rituals of the Romans

12. Identify the correct statement from among the following, regarding what remains of the Roman civilization today [see Topics 5.5, 5.6, 5.7 What remains of Roman civilization (cultural evidence), Roman civilization and language, The Roman calendar, Roman law (*-**)]:

- A) Latin is still used in the official documents of the Catholic Church, and for a long time was the language of the law and of diplomacy in Europe. Italian Universities, especially in fields such as philosophy and medicine, used Latin for classes and exams well into the 19th century
- B) All of these statements are correct
- C) The names of many of the months of the calendar derived from the calendar of the ancient Romans: March from the Roman god of war (Mars), and August from Augustus, the title used to honor the first emperor and many of the emperors after him
- D) The Romans established a fairly modern system of laws in which social rules were separated from religious imperatives. In order to reinforce this concept, the Romans stated that "Laws originate from the facts": this means that laws emerge from human experience, and they accompany and support the development of human interactions

13. Identify the correct statement from among the following, regarding the relevance of Roman civilization for the Founding Fathers [see Topic 5.8 The American Founding Fathers and Rome (**)]:

- A) Two areas reflect the influence of the classics in the thinking of the Founding Fathers: the structure of the new nation's government and the choices of architectural style in

the public buildings

- B) All of these statements are correct
- C) George Washington was ambassador to Poland in the late 1800s and made a journey to Nimes, where he saw a classic Roman temple that reflected the Temple of Saturn in the Roman Forum. This building inspired his design, done in collaboration with French architect Pierre Charles L'Enfant, for the capitol of Virginia
- D) Although many examples of Neoclassical architecture can still be seen in the United States, such as the Capitol building in Washington D.C., 19th- and 20th-century public architects stopped using Roman architecture as a basis for their inspiration

14. Identify the correct statement from among the following, regarding the revival of the classics [see Topic 5.9 The classics: tools of subversion (***)]:

- A) Due to rise of multiculturalism, there has been in recent years a dramatic decrease of interest in the classics. Contemporary issues are completely removed from the values and controversies found in classical culture
- B) The revivals of the classics, in the past, have only been successful when the masses were educated in the languages of the ancient civilizations, particularly Latin and Greek. No such revival can take place if we have to rely heavily on translations
- C) The ancient texts have become eerily modern in what they have to say about power relationships between men and women, gay men and war, superiors and subordinates. They raise again the issues of empire, democracy, alliances which are all relevant in society today
- D) All of these statements are correct

15. Identify the correct statement from among the following, regarding the classics in the Italian curriculum [see Topic 5.10 (***)]:

- A) Most Italians study Roman history, Latin language and literature at different stages of their curriculum
- B) All of these statements are correct
- C) For most of the 20th century, Italian students studied Roman history and culture in primary schools, Greco-Roman history and Latin in middle schools
- D) Giovanni Gentile, a 20th-century Italian philosopher, initiated an educational reform, during the fascist period, that gave the classics a central position in the Italian curriculum. That reform remained in place after the fall of fascism

16. Identify the correct statement from among the following, regarding the monarchy in Rome [see Topic 6.1 Ancient Rome: the monarchy. The seven kings of Rome. Livy's *History of Rome* (***)]:

- A) Most Roman sources agreed that there were seven kings in Rome: Romulus, Numa, Tullus Hostilius, Ancus Marcius, Tarquinius Priscus, Servius Tullius, Tarquinius Superbus
- B) The names of some of the kings may very well be of Carthaginian origin, thus confirming the presence and prominence of the Carthaginians in early Roman society
- C) All of these statements are correct

D) The majority of the seven kings are now considered to be legendary: in fact there is no concrete evidence of the existence of a Roman monarchy between the years 753 BCE and 509 BCE

17. Identify the correct statement from among the following, regarding the Republican period of Roman history [see Topic 6.2 Ancient Rome: the Republic. National character and military expansion (***)]:

- A) During the period of the Republic in Ancient Rome, from 509 BCE to 27 BCE, the government consisted of 2 consuls, a Senate, magistrates, popular assemblies
- B) Consuls were in charge of the government of the Republic of Rome for five years or more, with virtually no other political institution to keep their power in check: their authority had virtually no limits
- C) As soon as the Republic was formed, in 509 BCE, all aspects of the monarchy disappeared instantly. The new system of government gave full power to the popular assemblies, controlled only partially by the Roman Senate
- D) All of these statements are correct

18. Identify the correct statement from among the following, regarding the social classes in Roman society [see Topic 6.3 Patricians and Plebeians. Was the Roman Republic a split society? (***)]:

- A) All of these statements are correct
- B) The Plebeians, who were more numerous in Roman society, had more power than the wealthy and powerful elite that controlled the Senate. The Patricians belonged to the lower classes, and were well represented in the Army
- C) Even though Patricians were well represented in the Roman Senate, they also created alternative democratic institutions, a sort of shadow government: they had public meetings with the Plebeians, a separate Council with a treasury, and special legal rules
- D) Within ancient Roman society there was a strong connection between power and wealth, as one can expect to find in any society that relies on a simpler organization of social and economic activities: Roman society was organized by classes, based on income

19. Identify the correct statement from among the following, regarding foreigners and slaves in Roman society [see Topic 6.4 Slaves in Roman society. Slavery and the Roman Literary Imagination (***)]:

- A) Many foreigners came to live in Rome, conducted business there, but they had almost no political/legal rights. Since they were not Roman citizens, justice was administered differently if they were brought to court (for ex., punishments were harsher)
- B) All of these statements are correct
- C) Manumission is "the act of freeing a slave": in Rome it could be done by adoption, by will, by the enrollment of a slave on the quinquennial census list of Roman citizens, or by direct unopposed claim
- D) Hundreds of thousands of slaves were used to cultivate large farms in Sicily (where most of the wheat used by the Romans came from), as well as in other areas of Italy, and

in North Africa

20. The wars against the Carthaginians soon became part of Roman culture and folklore (see Virgil's poem, *The Aeneid*). Identify the correct statement from among the following [see Topic 7.1 Rome vs. Carthage (*):

- A) During one of the Punic Wars Carthaginian general Hannibal crossed the Alps and invaded Italy. The lyrics of a 1993 Italian rap song are based on this event
- B) In ancient times Carthage was the superpower of the eastern Mediterranean, but Rome was not lagging behind in the technology of naval warfare. In fact Carthaginians used a captured Roman ship to improve the characteristics of their warships
- C) All of these statements are correct
- D) During one of the Punic Wars, the Romans defended the Greek cities of Sicily and so managed to prolong the independence of those small city-states for a very long time

21. The last 100 years of the Roman Republic were characterized by internal fights and social tensions, violence and instability. Identify the correct statement from among the following [see Topic 7.3 The last 100 years of the Roman Republic (**):

- A) Although slave wars had been a serious problem in ancient times, Roman society did not have any such war during the last one hundred years of the Republic
- B) Tiberius Gracchus proposed a reform to redistribute public land (until then leased mostly to rich landowners), but was brutally assassinated before the provisions necessary to implement that law could be approved
- C) The Social war was fought by the Republic of Rome against the so-called barbarians (Vandals, Ostrogoths, Huns, Germans, etc.). At the end of the war they were given access to Roman citizenship and to full legal/political rights
- D) Only one civil war was fought during the last one hundred years of the Roman Republic, the war between Julius Caesar and Spartacus

22. Identify the correct statement from among the following, regarding Italy in the movie *Scipione l'Africano* [see Topic 8.4 Italy past and present in the movie *Scipione l'Africano* (***)]:

- A) All of these statements are correct
- B) In the film *Scipione l'Africano*, there is a written scroll that sets the story before the opening scene. The fight between Rome and Carthage is characterized as a war between two nations, two peoples, i.e. two civilizations, not just two states or two military powers
- C) From the very beginning the connections to Italy are very evident, even exaggerated: all the actors speak the Italian language, in fact in the opening scenes there are hints of different dialects in the pronunciation of various characters from the street
- D) Numerous scenes have crowds saluting general Scipio with their right hand lifted straight in front of them, a detail that, while being historically accurate, is reminiscent of the salute reintroduced in Italy by the Fascists

23. Identify the correct statement from among the following,

regarding the movie *Spartacus* [see Topic 9.2 Hollywood's Rome: *Spartacus* (***)]:

- A) In popular historical movies produced in Hollywood and dedicated to crucial events in the history of Rome, there has always been a special emphasis placed on the connection between ancient Roman history and modern Italy
- B) Throughout the film *Spartacus*, all of the names of the cities are given in Italian, not in their Latin counterpart, which would be historically accurate
- C) All of these statements are correct
- D) Every Roman we see on the screen is either a member of the government, or is connected to it by a relationship of power and authority. Everybody else in the movie is a servant or a slave. There are no examples of Roman citizens from the middle class

24. Identify the correct statement from among the following, regarding the cinematic representation of Rome [see Topic 9.4 Hollywood's Rome (***)]:

- A) In *Gladiator*, sexual deviance is used to reinforce the idea of the decadence of the Roman Empire. For example, there are hints of an incestuous relationship between Commodus and his sister Lucilla
- B) All of these statements are correct
- C) There are many examples of the Italian language throughout the film *Gladiator*. This is done to suggest a direct, strong connection between the Roman Empire and today's Italy
- D) In this movie the idea of the Empire translates into the representation of the political structure of the Roman government. The film shows the agencies that assist in the administration of a large state, and the social systems behind them

25. Identify the correct statement from among the following, regarding *The Grand Strategy of the Roman Empire*, by Edward N. Luttwak [see Topic 10.1 (***)]:

- A) All of these statements are correct
- B) According to *The Grand Strategy of the Roman Empire*, the main goals of Roman society and its government were security, stability and prosperity
- C) The system of imperial security was based on politics and diplomacy, a military network (roads, supply lines and deposits, barracks, defense lines, warning posts), and an army of professionals
- D) Masada was the site where Rome deployed one legion for three years, employing the soldiers to build a ramp in order to have better access to the hill and defeat the rebels who had occupied it. Jewish historian Josephus was paid by the Romans to document the story of the siege

26. The book written by Edward Luttwak, *The Grand Strategy of the Roman Empire*, looks back to the experience of the ancient Romans to find examples that could be useful for modern-day strategists. Identify the correct statement from among the following [see Topics 10.2 (***)]:

- A) Roman weapons were universally more advanced than those used by their enemies
- B) Roman tactics were almost invariably superior, and the

typical Roman soldier was a warrior intent on proving his courage, initiative and extraordinary heroism
 C) The endurance of the Roman Empire depended solely on a fortunate succession of great generals and a multitude of competent soldiers
 D) The principal goal of the Romans was to provide security for their civilization without constraining the vitality of its economic base, and without compromising the stability of the political order

27. The description of a mutiny of the Roman legions provided by Tacitus makes us understand some of the political and social issues that became relevant during the first century of the Roman Empire. Identify the correct statement from among the following [see Topic 11.5 The mutiny of the legions (***)]:

- A) The description of the conditions of the Roman soldiers, done by Percennius in his speech (as reported by Tacitus), is not an accurate and realistic portrait of military life under the Roman Empire
- B) Tacitus, like many other well educated conservatives in Roman society, did not look favorably at the political alliance between emperors and soldiers
- C) References to the questionable morality of one of the leaders of the mutiny, Percennius, are not really meant to detract from the validity of the claims of the soldiers
- D) When Tacitus narrates this episode, he clearly sympathizes with the soldiers and takes side with them practically on all issues

28. The Roman poet Lucretius was one of the Latin poets who had a great influence on Western culture and literature. Identify the correct statement from among the following [see Topic 13.2, Lucretius: *On the Nature of Things*. Atomism and materialism. Lucretius and Epicurus (***)]:

- A) Lucretius believed that everything in nature is the result of the combination of atoms and void. He believed that our five senses function thanks to the stimulation produced by atoms coming in contact with them
- B) Lucretius's long poem, *On the Nature of Things*, was written mainly to entertain the reader with examples of aesthetically beautiful literature; it was not really a didactic poem, composed to teach about nature and the universe
- C) Lucretius thought that the "pagan" gods existed and lived in outer space, between the planets. He also thought that they deeply cared about the humans, punishing bad behavior and rewarding good deeds, in life as well as after death
- D) Involvement in politics, generally, was considered to be a wise behavior by followers of Epicurus such as Lucretius. They praised citizens who sacrificed themselves for the well-being of society

29. Identify the correct statement from among the following, regarding the religious practices of the Romans [see Topics 13.5, Cato the Elder, The Harvest Ritual. Actual inscriptions from Roman temples. Certificate of sacrifice to the traditional pagan gods (*)]:

- A) Actual temple inscriptions from antiquity contained questions about the future, and often expressed gratitude for

things as different as the birth of a child or a tax reduction
 B) All of these statements are correct
 C) Certificates of sacrifice were released by Greek and Roman temples during the time of the Empire, when it became necessary to prove one's loyalty to the traditional cults and religions approved by the Emperors
 D) In the description of a harvest ritual written by Cato the Elder, the Roman farmer is invited to sacrifice a pig before the harvest, and to offer prayers, food and wine to gods Janus and Jupiter

30. Identify the correct statement from among the following, regarding Feudalism [see Topic 15.6 (***)]:

- A) Feudalism is a political system that is uniquely European; it cannot be found in Asia (e.g., in Japan or China), or in other parts of the world in different periods of history
- B) Feudalism is a primitive but effective form of democracy
- C) Feudalism insured easy and direct control of the lowest vassals, those at the base of the pyramid, by a King or a Prince; it favored centralization over localism
- D) Feudalism is characterized by a pyramidal organization of power, with governmental powers spreading over various castle-dominated districts and downward through lesser nobles

31. Identify the correct statement from among the following, regarding St. Francis of Assisi [see Topics 16.2, 16.5, 16.9 Giotto's frescoes on St. Francis of Assisi's life. St. Francis and Christian religion. A modern opera on St. Francis (***)]:

- A) St. Francis defined true gladness using the following example: upon returning to the convent at night, during the winter, he comes to the gate, is insulted and is not allowed inside; if he accepts this humiliation without getting upset, that is true gladness and true virtue
- B) In the cycle of frescoes painted by Giotto in the Upper Basilica of Assisi, we see St. Francis delivering a sermon to the birds, giving his cloak to a poor man, and recreating the scene of the nativity of Jesus
- C) In 20th-century composer Olivier Messiaen's opera, *St. François d'Assise*, we see Francis discussing the nature of perfect joy, isolating himself in his prayer cell and forcing himself to confront human suffering by kissing a leper
- D) All of these statements are correct

32. In "The Canticle of the Sun", by St. Francis of Assisi, the scriptural sources (Genesis, the Gospels, Revelation) do not fully justify the reference to fire as an element of creation. Identify the correct statement from among the following [see Topics 16.4, 16.6, 16.8 The Canticle of the Sun: religious sources. The theory of the four elements (***)]:

- A) St. Francis probably was familiar with the theories introduced by Greek philosophers, according to whom all substances and their qualities result from the combination of four basic elements: air, earth, fire, and water
- B) The theory of the natural place of things, based on the theory of the 4 elements, explains that a piece of wood

floats because it contains fire, burns because it contains air, etc.

C) Modern English words describing temperament and personality, such as "choleric", "sanguine", "phlegmatic" and "melancholic", have been introduced by modern medicine, independently from the theory of the four elements

D) St. Hildegard of Bingen argued against the 'scientific' view of nature derived from the theory of the four elements

33. Identify the correct statement from among the following, regarding the contents of *The Divine Comedy* [see Topics 17.2, 17.3 Dante's works. The structure of Dante's Inferno (Hell). The world in the Middle Ages (***)]:

A) During the first part of his journey, the protagonist of *The Divine Comedy* is accompanied and guided by the spirit of the Roman poet Lucretius: in fact Dante himself was a follower of Epicurus

B) *The Divine Comedy* is a *summa* (=sum), a sort of medieval encyclopedia, in which the experiences of the protagonist in the afterlife establish the foundation for the educational mission of the poem

C) At the beginning of *The Divine Comedy* the protagonist, Dante, is lost in a valley just outside the city of Florence

D) *The Divine Comedy* does not claim to be about a real journey: it is meant to be interpreted as a dream or a vision

34. During Dante's times, this was commonly believed about the Earth (identify the correct statement from among the following) [see Topic 17.3 The structure of Dante's Inferno (Hell). The world in the Middle Ages (***)]:

A) All of these statements are correct

B) According to Dante, the Earth is not flat; it is a sphere, and its natural place is at the center of a universe shaped like a sphere

C) According to Dante, there are only 3 continents (Europe, Africa, and Asia), and the bodies of waters separating them are shaped like a T, the symbol of the cross of Jesus

D) According to Dante, Jerusalem, where Jesus died, is practically at the center of the area of our planet that is occupied by land

35. Identify the correct statement from among the following, regarding the popularity of Dante in modern times [see Topics 3.3, 17.9-17.10 The preservation of medieval culture in Tuscany. *The Dante Club*. Roberto Benigni and Dante (*/***)]:

A) In the literary mystery *The Dante Club*, someone with intimate knowledge of *The Divine Comedy* appears to be staging murders that mirror exactly the punishments described in Dante's Inferno

B) All of these statements are correct

C) Roberto Benigni's 2002 TV show, "L'ultimo del Paradiso" (=The Last [canto] of Paradise), was watched by an unprecedented 46% of the total TV audience in Italy, proving the enduring popularity of Dante

D) Dante's house in Florence, visited by hundreds of thousands of tourists every year, is a historical fake, constructed at the end of the 19th century

36. Identify the correct statement from among the following, regarding the episode of Paolo and Francesca, from canto 5 of Dante's Inferno (=Hell) [see Topic 17.7 Inferno, Canto 5: The characters, the sources. The historical evidence. The literary sources (Dante, Boccaccio) (***)]:

A) Purely accidental in this canto is the fact that Paolo and Francesca first kiss each other after reading of the kiss between two adulterous lovers inside a text of chivalric literature

B) According to most modern scholars and commentators, Dante faints at the end of this episode because he too must have committed adultery during his life, especially after he was exiled from Florence

C) Contemporary documents said nothing about the love affair between Paolo and Francesca, or about the double murder that brought it to an end. On the other hand, Dante's commentator Boccaccio seems to know way too many details (for example, how Francesca was tricked into marrying her husband)

D) Famous lovers punished in Hell and described in the first part of canto 5 include Romeo and Juliet, Mark Anthony and Cleopatra, Aeneas and Dido

37. Identify the correct statement from among the following, about the life of Giovanni Boccaccio [see Topic 18.1 (**)]:

A) Boccaccio worked as a merchant for many years, and his *Decameron* reflects the ideology of the Florentine bourgeoisie. He introduced themes and ideas that would be developed fully during the age of Humanism and the Renaissance

B) Boccaccio was born in Paris, from the secret affair that his father had with the daughter of the King of France: the fact that he had royal blood in his veins helped him find patrons and establish his reputation

C) Boccaccio was in Paris when the epidemic of bubonic plague known as Black Death struck the city of Florence: therefore he had no firsthand experience of the events narrated in the introduction of the *Decameron*

D) Boccaccio joined the Church towards the end of his life, showing sincere remorse for the kind of sinful, erotic literature that he had written when he was younger

38. Identify the correct statement from among the following, regarding the main ideas in Boccaccio's *Decameron* [see Topics 18.2-18.3 The *Decameron*. Its structure. Multiple points of view in Ciappelletto's novella (**/***)]:

A) The plague of 1348, in Boccaccio's narration, serves as an allegory for the demise of the Roman Empire. Ancient Roman heroes are often the protagonists of the *Decameron*'s novellas

B) Human nature is the primary cause of good and bad behavior, but conventional morality and religious principles, in Boccaccio's narrative, still provide the best instruments to guide the characters in all kinds of situations

C) In Boccaccio's *Decameron*, the characters usually reflect different points of view: each character judges the events in the story on the basis of his/her values and life experience

D) The structure of the *Decameron* is similar to that of the

classical collections of short stories (the so-called "Mirror for Philosophers"), which focused on the themes of spiritual love and social solidarity

39. Identify the correct statement from among the following, regarding the protagonist of the first novella in Boccaccio's *Decameron* [see Topic 18.3 Analysis of Ciappelletto's novella (***)]:

- A) Ciappelletto outsmarts a wise old priest, who is not really well versed in the Scriptures, but clearly knows a great deal about the power of rhetoric and about human nature in general
- B) In Boccaccio's novella, Ciappelletto, a notary from Prato (Tuscany), is described as an ordinary criminal, who is nothing more than a petty thief and a killer for hire
- C) Ciappelletto must be considered evil, from the point of view of both religious and conventional morality. Yet he is portrayed by the narrator as talented, successful and in demand in the world of merchants
- D) From the point of view of religion, there is little doubt that the protagonist of Boccaccio's novella, Ciappelletto will end up in Heaven, because the Church mistakenly proclaimed him a saint

40. Identify the correct statement from among the following, regarding Humanism [see Topic 19.0 (***)]:

- A) Humanism is a system of education and a mode of inquiry, developed in Northern Italy during the 14th and 15th century
- B) Humanists frequently praised and celebrated the accomplishments of Medieval culture
- C) Humanists emphasized the study of literature in their curricula, but only because of its entertainment value
- D) Inside Humanism, grammar, rhetoric, history, philosophy (together with ethics and politics) were studied according the unifying principles of Christian religion

41. Identify the correct statement among the following, regarding the history of Italy during the Renaissance [see Topic 19.0 (***)]:

- A) Between 1494 and 1559 France, Germany, Spain and various Italian states fought a long series of war on the Italian soil. In the end Spain emerged victorious, acquiring control over the South of Italy, parts of Tuscany, and Lombardy
- B) The main Italian states during this time were Piedmont, Genoa, Milan, Venice, Ferrara, Mantua, Florence, Siena, the State of the Church, the Kingdom of Naples
- C) All of these statements are correct
- D) Italy was invaded by the army of Charles VIII, King of France, in 1494

42. Identify the correct statement from among the following, regarding Leonardo da Vinci [see Topic 19.2 (***)]:

- A) When reading the life of Leonardo written by Vasari, one cannot overlook the pathos and the allegorical implications

of the last scene, in which the painter dies in the arms of the King of France

B) Inside *The Civilization of the Renaissance in Italy*, by Jacob Burckhardt, Leonardo is presented as the exact opposite of the Renaissance man: 19th-century Romantic culture generally did not show much appreciation for Leonardo

C) Vasari, as an artist, had a vested interest in the destruction of Leonardo's reputation: he therefore included episodes such as the one in which Leonardo in Milan is reprimanded for not working hard enough

D) The basis for the creation of the so called myth of Leonardo was the abundance of accurate details about his moral qualities and his extraordinary life

43. Identify the correct statement among the following, regarding Machiavelli [see Topics 20.1, 20.7 The life of Machiavelli. Analysis of *The Prince*, Chap. 7 (*/***)]:

- A) In Machiavelli's view, power should be shared between the Prince and his subjects, to increase cooperation and to distribute evenly the responsibilities of the government
- B) According to Machiavelli, a political leader with absolute power should not be too concerned with his image or the opinion that citizens have of him
- C) After writing *The Prince*, in which he had praised the institution of the monarchy, Machiavelli changed his political views because of the rejection he suffered from the Medicis: he became a republican, retired from politics, and spent the last years of his life writing romantic comedies
- D) According to Machiavelli, Cesare Borgia had one of his closest associates killed, in order to preserve his image. He pretended that he did not know about the cruel treatment of the citizens of Romagna, so that he could achieve his goal of restoring order in that region

44. Identify the correct statement among the following, regarding Machiavelli's *The Prince* [see Topic 20.7 Analysis of *The Prince*, Chap. 7. Required readings from *The Prince* (*/***)]:

- A) Machiavelli claims that Cassius and Brutus, two of the conspirators who murdered Julius Caesar, were the worst sinners that ever lived
- B) According to Machiavelli, a prince should inspire love, not fear, because it is much safer to be loved than feared, and because in general men are by nature honest and generous
- C) According to Machiavelli, Fortune is the arbiter of the majority of human actions. Fortune is like a raging river: all must surrender to its violence, nobody is ever able to control it
- D) In the conclusion of Chapter 7 of *The Prince*, Machiavelli criticizes Cesare Borgia, previously indicated as the ideal leader, and accuses him of being responsible for his ultimate failure

Continue to the next two pages for the Essay questions

45. Discuss the issue of dual or plural identities/cultures in Italian civilization.

46. Discuss the historical, economic and political reasons behind the fall of the Roman Empire.

47. Discuss the contents and the ideas in the episode of Paolo and Francesca, from Dante's *The Divine Comedy*.
