國立中央大學99學年度碩士班考試入學試題卷

所別:<u>英美語文學系碩士班 不分組(一般生)</u> 科目:<u>批判閱讀與寫作 共 【 頁 第 【 頁</u>本科考試禁用計算器 *請在試卷答案卷(卡)內作答

The following passage represents a theory of society. The fictional speaker is a protestant church minister in the nineteenth-century United States. (100%)

Write an essay that explains what the speaker means and offer your response. I am looking for a balanced critique that combines abstract claims with concrete examples. You do not have to confine yourself to the nineteenth century, to the United States, or to literature. But you must remain focused on the specific claims advanced in the passage. Consider carefully before beginning. Remember that a shorter, well written and well reasoned essay will score better than one that is long and rambling.

"Sorrow is God's school," said the old man. "Even God's own Son was not made perfect without it; though a son, yet learned he obedience by the things that he suffered. Many of the brightest virtues are like stars; there must be night or they cannot shine. Without suffering, there could be no fortitude, no patience, no compassion, no sympathy. Take all sorrow out of life, and you take away all richness and depth and tenderness. Sorrow is the furnace that melts selfish hearts together in love. Many are hard and inconsiderate, not because they lack capability of feeling, but because the vase that holds the sweet waters has never been broken."

