

专业考试指导：美国文学简史（三）PDF转换可能丢失图片或格式，建议阅读原文

[https://www.100test.com/kao\\_ti2020/130/2021\\_2022\\_\\_E4\\_B8\\_93\\_E4\\_B8\\_9A\\_E8\\_80\\_83\\_E8\\_c94\\_130942.htm](https://www.100test.com/kao_ti2020/130/2021_2022__E4_B8_93_E4_B8_9A_E8_80_83_E8_c94_130942.htm) Section 2 Summit of Romanticism American TranscendentalismI. Background: four sources1. Unitarianism(1) Fatherhood of God(2) Brotherhood of men(3) Leadership of Jesus(4) Salvation by character (perfection of one ' s character)(5) Continued progress of mankind(6) Divinity of mankind(7) Depravity of mankind2. Romantic IdealismCenter of the world is spirit, absolute spirit (Kant)3. Oriental mysticismCenter of the world is “ oversoul ” 4. PuritanismEloquent expression in transcendentalismII. Appearance1836, “ Nature ” by EmersonIII. Features1. spirit/oversoul2. importance of individualism3. nature symbol of spirit/Godgarment of the oversoul4. focus in intuition (irrationalism and subconsciousness)IV. Influence1. It served as an ethical guide to life for a young nation and brought about the idea that human can be perfected by nature. It stressed religious tolerance, called to throw off shackles of customs and traditions and go forward to the development of a new and distinctly American culture.2. It advocated idealism that was great needed in a rapidly expanded economy where opportunity often became opportunism, and the desire to “ get on ” obscured the moral necessity for rising to spiritual height.3. It helped to create the first American renaissance one of the most prolific period in American literature.V. Ralph Waldo Emerson1. life2. works(1) Nature(2) Two essays: The American Scholar, The Poet3. point of view(1) One major element

of his philosophy is his firm belief in the transcendence of the  
“ oversoul ” .(2) He regards nature as the purest, and the most  
sanctifying moral influence on man, and advocated a direct intuition  
of a spiritual and immanent God in nature.(3) If man depends upon  
himself, cultivates himself and brings out the divine in himself, he can  
hope to become better and even perfect. This is what Emerson  
means by “ the infinitude of man ” .(4) Everyone should  
understand that he makes himself by making his world, and that he  
makes the world by making himself.4. aesthetic ideas(1) He is a  
complete man, an eternal man.(2) True poetry and true art should  
ennoble.(3) The poet should express his thought in symbols.(4) As  
to theme, Emerson called upon American authors to celebrate  
America which was to him a lone poem in itself.5. his influenceVI.  
Henry David Thoreau1. life2. works(1) A Week on the Concord  
and Merrimack River(2) Walden(3) A Plea for John Brown (an  
essay)3. point of view(1) He did not like the way a materialistic  
America was developing and was vehemently outspoken on the  
point.(2) He hated the human injustice as represented by the slavery  
system.(3) Like Emerson, but more than him, Thoreau saw nature as  
a genuine restorative, healthy influence on man ’ s spiritual  
well-being.(4) He has faith in the inner virtue and inward, spiritual  
grace of man.(5) He was very critical of modern civilization.(6)  
“ Simplicity...simplify! ” (7) He was sorely disgusted with “ the  
inundations of the dirty institutions of men ’ s odd-fellow society  
” .(8) He has calm trust in the future and his ardent belief in a new  
generation of men. 100Test 下载频道开通 , 各类考试题目直接

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