

**Sonnets 1, 35, and 75** by Edmund Spenser

**Sonnets 31 and 39** by Sir Philip Sidney

**Open-Book Test**

**Multiple Choice and Short Answer**

Write your answers to all questions in this section on the lines provided. For multiple-choice questions, circle the letter of the best answer.

1. In Spenser's Sonnet 1, to what do the "leaves" in line 1 refer? Choose the best answer for this question. Then explain your choice.
- a. the flat green pieces that stick out from the stems of lilies
  - b. the departure of the woman that the speaker loves
  - c. the departure of the speaker's happiness
  - d. the pages of a book held by the woman that the speaker loves

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Paraphrase the last two lines of Spenser's Sonnet 35.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Why does the speaker in Spenser's Sonnet 35 feel that he is like Narcissus? Choose the best answer, and then explain your choice.
- a. Like Narcissus, he loves himself more than anyone else in the world.
  - b. He considers Narcissus a wonderful poet.
  - c. He thinks of himself as a very handsome young man.
  - d. No matter how much he looks at the object of his love, he wants to continue looking.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Explain the two meanings of "vain" in line 5 of Spenser's Sonnet 75.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Which of these statements is true for a Spenserian sonnet? Choose the best answer, and then explain the reasons for your choice. Your explanation may cite examples from Spenser's three sonnets.

- a. The end rhymes in the last two lines rhyme with each other.
- b. The end rhymes follow the pattern *abbaabba cdecde*.
- c. The number of lines in the sonnet may range from ten to fourteen.
- d. There is always a break in meaning between the octave and the sestet.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_