World Literature 110 Classical Chinese Literature in Translation

Review questions for Quiz 1

What is the title of the first Chinese poetry anthology?

Who is believed to be its compiler?

How many poems were chosen and put together in the anthology?

Do we know the names of the poets for any of these poems?

Which is the major part of the anthology? Which poem is your favorite?

What do you think is the significance of this anthology?

What does "Chu-ci" mean in English?

Which "Chu-ci" writer is still commemorated by Chinese people?

What is the title of his long poem that contains 372 lines and is considered as the greatest lyric poem of ancient China?

What is this long poem generally about?

What did the poet indicate that he would do at the end of this long poem?

What is the name of the festival that is related to this patriotic poet?

What book did Si-ma Qian spend his whole life writing?

What tragic event happened to him in his life?

Why did it not stop him from writing the book?

How did he view death according to his letter to Ren An?

Si-ma Qian was a historian, but why is his history book not only read just for historical information but also read as literature?

What are the major characteristics of "Fu (or poetic expositions)" of the Han Dynasty?

What is "Yue-fu"? Please explain.

A ballad tells a story about a girl whose name is Luo Fu. What do you think of Luo Fu?

What is the ballad the Bride of Jiao Zhongqing about?

What is the other name that Tao Qian had and is better known by Chinese?

What important decision did he make in his life?

What kind of poems is he most famous for?

What is the title of the work by Tao Qian that is considered as a Chinese Utopia and has fascinated many Chinese readers?

Why is the Tang Dynasty considered as the golden age of Chinese poetry?

What does "jue-ju" mean? What is the structure of "jue-ju"?

What is the difference between "jue-ju" and "lü-shi" in terms of their structures?

What is Wang Wei most famous for?

How should the Tang poet Li Bo be spelled in *pinyin* in modern Chinese? What is he famous for?

Which poet in the Tang Dynasty is considered as the "poet-historian"? Why?

Who wrote the long poem "Song of Lasting Pain"? What is it about?

Can you name another well-known poem composed by this poet?

What are the three schools of thought that have influenced Chinese literature immensely?