

* 作答前，請先核對試題、答案卷（試卷）與准考證上之所組別與考試科目是否相符！！

一、請以中文翻譯下列段落之第一段。本題占本考試科目分數 20%。

Excerpts from Bruce Clarke, "Information" in *Critical Terms for Media Studies*

Information is now established as a scientific entity on a par with matter and energy. However, unlike matter and energy, which are reliably conserved under normal physical conditions, information can be created or destroyed at will. And if matter and energy are (more or less) real physical quantities, information is virtual. This is what Heinz von Foerster means when he says, "The environment contains no information." Information does not exist until an observing system (such as a mind) constructs it—renders it as a "virtual reality" for a cognitive process—in response to the noise of environmental perturbations. Thus, enthusiastic ontological proclamations, such as Stanislaw Lem put in the mouth of his character Pirate Pugg in *The Cyberiad*, merit satire for the fallacy of misplaced concreteness (in Alfred North Whitehead's phrase). Information has no concreteness. Stated more technically, information is a virtual structure dependent upon distributed coding/decoding regimes within which it can function. As we will detail later, the quantification of information depends upon a set of probabilities that differ relative to the position from which they are observed. That is, the "central explanatory quantity" of cybernetics—information—rests on a shifting measure of "probability," which is "a ratio between quantities which have similar dimensions" but "is itself of zero dimensions" (Bateson 1972, 403). On the plus side, "The advantage of working with information structures is that information has no intrinsic size" (Langton 1989, 39). This means that any material thing that can bear and preserve a coded difference, from magnetized molecules to carved granite mountain sides, can serve as a medium for the transmission of information.

二、請以中文簡短摘要下段並據你的理解加以評論。本題占本考試科目分數 30%。

Excerpts from Bruce Cumings, *North Korea: Another Country*

The Korean War was clearly a war, but of what kind? A conventional war of aggression was the answer in the 1950s and again in the 1990s: "another Munich" according to Truman and

"Stalin's war" according to researchers of Soviet documents unearthed after 1991. All blame goes to the Russians and the North Koreans. This point of agreement requires the war to begin on June 13, 1950, and only then; clearly there was an invasion of the South by the North (the whole world knew that on June 26, 1950). There you have it: an open-and-shut case of aggression. Beyond that Washington-forged consensus, the reigning trope consigns this war

to oblivion: a forgotten war. The war's having vanished at home explains the experience of a North Korean official who came to New York on Olympic business in the 1980s, finding that people could barely recall when the Korean War occurred, that cab drivers thought communists ran South Korea (since human rights were so violated), and that Americans were friendly and innocent of the antagonism he expected to find. He rightly called it a form of amnesia but thought it might be useful in starting a new relationship. Still, this is a way to think about the Korean War. By calling the Korean conflict a "forgotten war," we both name it, and we remember it—a paradox: What is it that we are remembering to forget? We do not remember history but particular verdicts, integral to and shaped by the raucous domestic politics of the 1950s, and especially McCarthyism. The war is forgotten and buried. But what is the epitaph on the American tombstone? The tombstone has two messages: for the Truman Cold War liberal, Korea was a success, "the limited war." For the MacArthur conservative, Korea was a failure: the first defeat in American history, more properly a stalemate, and in any case the result proved that there was "no substitute for victory." The problem for Gen. Douglas MacArthur's epitaph is that if MacArthur

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第 2 頁，共 2 頁

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saw no substitute for victory, he likewise saw no limit on victory: each victory begged another war. The problem for the Truman liberal is that the limited war got rather unlimited in late 1950.

三、 在過去幾年新冠肺炎疫情對全世界的衝擊中，有哪些是你比較關注的現象？請描述這些現象，並盡可能地運用你所能掌握的理論進行分析。（本題占本考試科目分數 50%）