

Textual Analysis Examination
Admissions by Application, 2019
MA Program in Anglo-American Literature
Graduate Institute of Foreign Languages and Literatures
National Taiwan University

- Read the following excerpt and discuss what happens in this part of the story and the ways in which it is presented. You may wish to address topics or issues you find pertinent to complicate your reading. Always refer to details of the text to substantiate your analysis.

In earliest babyhood I didn't realized I was two; it was the intractability of that creature always before me—going left when I would go right, bawling for food when I would sleep, laughing when I wept—that opened my eyes to the possibility he was other than myself; the teasing of playmates, who mocked our contretemps, verified that suspicion, and I began my painful schooling in detachment. Early on I proposed to my brother a judicious alliance; he would none of my proposal.... My attempt to direct our partnership ended in my brother's denying first my efficacy, then my authority, finally my reality. He pretended to believe, offstage as well as on, that the audience's interest was in him as a solo performer and not in the pair of us as a freak; hidden from the general view, unable to speak except in whispers, I could take only feeblest revenge: I would wave now and then between the lines of his stupid performances, grimace behind his back and over his shoulder, make signs to mock or contradict his asseverations.