



BA Exam in British and American Literature - major

- there are 20 multiple-choice questions and 8 open-ended questions;
- for the multiple-choice questions, you mark only one correct answer: you get 3 points for every correctly marked answer, you lose 1 point for every incorrectly marked answer (if you skip a question with no answer marked, you do not lose points);
- for the open-ended questions, you answer in 1-3 full sentences, try to answer as fully and concisely as possible; you get up to 5 points for each answer (there are no negative points in this part of the exam);
- you can get the maximum of 100 points, there is a 60% (60 points) pass limit;
- make sure you write clearly as illegible answers will be considered incorrect;
- the time limit is 90 minutes.

A. For each of the following multiple-choice questions circle one correct answer. You must mark only one answer, otherwise your answer will be considered incorrect. If you want to change your answer, make sure it is clear which one is your final answer.

For each correct answer you get 3 points. For each wrong answer you lose 1 point.

1. Where is *The Last of the Mohicans* by James Fenimore Cooper set?
 - a) Wild West
 - b) Prairies
 - c) Frontier
 - d) New England
2. Which of the following authors is NOT a representative of American Romanticism?
 - a) Ralph Waldo Emerson
 - b) Mark Twain
 - c) Nathaniel Hawthorne
 - d) Edgar Allan Poe
3. "Song of Myself" is written in
 - a) heroic couplets
 - b) free verse
 - c) blank verse
 - d) sprung rhythm
4. Mark Twain and Kate Chopin are representatives of
 - a) Regionalism
 - b) Modernism
 - c) Naturalism
 - d) Symbolism



5. What period best describes when William Carlos Williams was most active in writing and publishing?
- Modernism
 - The 1960s
 - Postmodernism
 - Late 19th century
6. What “movement/mode of writing” is Flannery O’Connor associated with?
- Harlem Renaissance
 - Southern Gothic
 - Feminism
 - Beat Generation
7. Which of the following poems was not written by Elizabeth Bishop?
- “One Art”
 - “Morning Song”
 - “In the Waiting Room”
 - “At the Fishhouses”
8. What poem is most often cited as the best example of a “high modernist” piece of literature?
- “Song of Myself”
 - Howl*
 - “Ode to a Nightingale”
 - The Waste Land*
9. Which century did English metaphysical poets mostly write in?
- 14th
 - 15th
 - 17th
 - 19th
10. Which of the following plays by William Shakespeare is NOT a tragedy?
- A Midsummer Night’s Dream*
 - Hamlet*
 - Macbeth*
 - King Lear*
11. Which one of the following authors was NOT a Romantic poet?
- George Gordon Byron
 - Percy Bysshe Shelley
 - William Wordsworth
 - John Milton



12. Oscar Wilde was born in:
- England
 - Scotland
 - Wales
 - Ireland
13. Leopold Bloom is a character created by
- Hilary Mantel
 - James Joyce
 - Thomas Hardy
 - Charles Dickens
14. What do Joseph Conrad and Jean Rhys have in common?
- they are not originally British
 - these names are their pen-names
 - they both emigrated to the United States
 - they published important works in the 1950s
15. Which of the following works could NOT be considered historical fiction?
- The French Lieutenant's Woman*
 - The Remains of the Day*
 - Waiting for Godot*
 - Wide Sargasso Sea*
16. Which of the following poems is an example of romanticism?
- "The Flea"
 - Beowulf*
 - "Charge of the Light Brigade"
 - "Ode on a Grecian Urn"
17. Which of the following works is NOT a short story?
- "Kew Gardens"
 - "The Dead"
 - "Bartleby, the Scrivener"
 - "A Room of One's Own"
18. Heathcliff is a character in
- The Castle of Otranto*
 - Wuthering Heights*
 - Pride and Prejudice*
 - Great Expectations*



19. Which of the following is NOT true about typical Modernist works?

- a) They are experimental.
- b) They are optimistic.
- c) They are critical of realism.
- d) They focus on modern life.

20. William Blake's *Songs of Innocence and of Experience* is

- a) a novel
- b) a poem
- c) a collection of poems
- d) a collection of short stories

B. In response to each of the questions below, write 1 to 3 sentences that best answer the question. Make sure to read the questions carefully and write the answers legibly. Illegible answers will be considered incorrect. You get maximum of 5 points for each answer (there are no "negative" points in this part of the exam).

1. Describe the narrative structure of *Canterbury Tales*. Include the name of the author and the time of publication in your answer.
2. What are the main characteristics of British (and Irish) modernist fiction? Name two authors and their works .
3. Explain the term "Lost Generation" and name two of its representatives.
4. Briefly describe the novel *Their Eyes Were Watching God* Include the name of the author and the year/decade of publication.
5. Why can Kate Chopin be considered a proto-feminist writer? Name her most famous novel.
6. Briefly explain the position of *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* in the context of anti-slavery literature. Include the name of the author and the year/decade of publication.
7. *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* has many "gothic fiction" features. Explain what they are. Name the author of the novel. List another 19th century novel that could be characterized as "gothic".
8. Who wrote the *Lyrical Ballads* and when? Why is the book considered important?

TOTAL 100 points (60 pass limit)