



BA State Exam in British and American Literature - Minor

- there are 20 multiple-choice questions and 4 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 80 points, there is a 60% (48 points) pass limit;
- make sure you write clearly as Illegible answers will be considered incorrect;
- the time limit is 60 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. Which of the following works was not published in the 19th century?
 - a) Moby-Dick
 - b) Walden; or, Life in the Woods
 - c) Leaves of Grass
 - d) The Sun Also Rises
2. Which of the following authors is NOT a representative of American Romanticism?
 - a) James Fenimore Cooper
 - 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 is a representative of American
 - 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”
 - “Charge of the Light Brigade
 - “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
 - Othello
 - King Lear
11. Which one of the following authors was NOT a Romantic poet?
- William Blake
 - John Keats
 - William Wordsworth
 - John Milton



12. Oscar Wilde was born in:
- England
 - Scotland
 - Wales
 - Ireland
13. James Joyce's "The Dead" is set in
- London
 - Dublin
 - Paris
 - New York
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?
- Wolf Hall*
 - 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
- Waiting for Godot*
 - Wuthering Heights*
 - Pride and Prejudice*
 - "Kew Gardens"



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 name of the author and the time of publication.
2. Who wrote *Frankenstein; or, The Modern Prometheus* and when? Why is the book considered important?
3. Explain the term "Lost Generation" and name two of its representatives.
4. 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.

TOTAL 80 points (48 pass limit)