



FEDERAL PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION-2016
FOR RECRUITMENT TO POSTS IN BS-17
UNDER THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Roll Number

ENGLISH LITERATURE

TIME ALLOWED: THREE HOURS	PART-I (MCQS)	MAXIMUM MARKS = 20
PART-I(MCQS): MAXIMUM 30 MINUTES	PART-II	MAXIMUM MARKS = 80
NOTE: (i) Part-II is to be attempted on the separate Answer Book.		
(ii) Attempt ONLY FOUR questions from PART-II. ALL questions carry EQUAL marks.		
(iii) All the parts (if any) of each Question must be attempted at one place instead of at different places.		
(iv) Candidate must write Q. No. in the Answer Book in accordance with Q. No. in the Q.Paper.		
(v) No Page/Space be left blank between the answers. All the blank pages of Answer Book must be crossed.		
(vi) Extra attempt of any question or any part of the attempted question will not be considered.		

PART-II

- Q. No. 2.** (a) After their gift exchange, are Della and Jim richer, poorer, or just about where they were at the beginning? Have they made a wise decision in sacrificing their most precious possessions? (10)
- (b) Written in Russell's usual style, *The Conquest of Happiness* gets straight to the point. Express your view point by giving relevant examples as evidence. (10) (20)
- Q. No. 3.** "The Second Coming" is a magnificent statement about the contrary forces at work in history, and about the conflict between the modern world and the ancient. Elaborate. (20)
- Q. No. 4.** Wordsworth in Tintern Abbey clearly indicates a change in his attitude. His sensuous apprehension and coarser pleasures of nature have been transformed into a deeper, sober and mystical understanding of nature. Discuss in detail. (20)
- Q. No. 5.** Many critics take a deterministic view of *Hamlet's* plot, arguing that the prince's inability to act & his tendency toward melancholy reflection point to a "tragic flaw" that leads inevitably to his demise. Is this an accurate way of understanding the play? Given Hamlet's character & situation, would another outcome of the play have been possible? (20)
- Q. No. 6.** Edmund is really "a stranger who never feels at home, who does not really want and is not wanted, who can never belong, who must always be a little in love with death!" What is the cause of Edmund's loneliness? (20)
- Q. No. 7.** *The Scarlet Letter* makes extensive use of symbols. Bring out some of the most striking symbols and their significance in the novel. (20)
- Q. No. 8.** How does literary text in the Western canon reinforce or undermine colonialist ideology through its representation of colonization and/or its inappropriate silence about colonized people. (20)



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PART-I(MCQS): MAXIMUM 30 MINUTES	PART-II	MAXIMUM MARKS = 80
NOTE: (i) Part-II is to be attempted on the separate Answer Book.		
(ii) Attempt ONLY FOUR questions from PART-II. ALL questions carry EQUAL marks.		
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PART-II

- Q. No. 2.** In what way, Wordsworth has democratised the tradition of literature? Discuss it with special reference to his poem “Resolution and Independence” (20)
- Q. No. 3.** “The Waste Land” evoked the waste and sterility of a Western world ravaged by the horrors of World War-I; it is not a poem about war but the war’s trauma. Discuss. (20)
- Q. No. 4.** Bradley argues that Hamlet’s inaction is due to his melancholia caused by his father’s death and his mother’s hasty remarriage. What do you think, why does Hamlet procrastinate in killing the King? (20)
- Q. No. 5.** D.H. Lawrence’s *Sons and Lovers* is somewhat autobiographical in which is portrayed a young man’s inner struggles caused by his affection for his mother. What self-realization does the protagonist experience after the death of his mother? (20)
- Q. No. 6.** With what kind of evidence and reasoning does Freud support the psychoanalytic theory that children entertain death-wishes toward their parents? And how does it help us to interpret literary texts? (20)
- Q. No. 7.** Female poetics seeks to understand why female authors tend to favour certain genres (lyric, poetry, novel, short story, tale, letters, diaries, memories) over others (epic, martial romance, drama, satire). Elaborate. (20)
- Q. No. 8.** (a) According to Emerson what terrors frighten us from self-trust? Where in the essay “Self-Reliance” do you find the clearest statements that tune the strings of transcendentalism? (10 each) (20)
- (b) Sketch the character of Thomas Wilson in Somerset Maugham’s “The Lotus Eater.” Is the title of the story appropriate to him?



FEDERAL PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION-2018
FOR RECRUITMENT TO POSTS IN BS-17
UNDER THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Roll Number

ENGLISH LITERATURE

TIME ALLOWED: THREE HOURS	PART-I (MCQS)	MAXIMUM MARKS = 20
PART-I(MCQS): MAXIMUM 30 MINUTES	PART-II	MAXIMUM MARKS = 80
NOTE: (i) Part-II is to be attempted on the separate Answer Book.		
(ii) Attempt ONLY FOUR questions from PART-II . ALL questions carry EQUAL marks.		
(iii) All the parts (if any) of each Question must be attempted at one place instead of at different places.		
(iv) Candidate must write Q. No. in the Answer Book in accordance with Q. No. in the Q.Paper.		
(v) No Page/Space be left blank between the answers. All the blank pages of Answer Book must be crossed.		
(vi) Extra attempt of any question or any part of the attempted question will not be considered.		

PART-II

- Q. No. 2.** Bertrand Russell bridges the esoteric philosophical concerns and the issue of mundane endeavour for contentment in his *The Conquest of Happiness*. Discuss. (20)
- Q. No. 3.** William Wordsworth's 'Lines Composed Few Miles above Tintern Abbey' is an attempt, in vein, to retrieve the irretrievable luscious experience that has foundered into the realm of the past. Explain (20)
- Q. No. 4.** How does T.S Eliot envision the chaotic collapse of ever-cherished convictions of system and sublimity in the modern context in *The Wasteland*? (20)
- Q. No. 5.** Theatre of Absurd marks the break from obsession with heroic adventure and focuses the insignificance of the human accomplishments. Substantiate the statement with reference to Samuel Beckett's *Waiting for Godot*. (20)
- Q. No. 6.** Amidst the swarming stories of deception and betrayal, O' Henry's *The Gift of the Magi* appears as a soothing assurance for lovers. Elaborate. (20)
- Q. No. 7.** How does Lawrence fictionalize the libidinal psychic patterns in his *Sons and Lovers*? What is your opinion about its critical reception in various social settings? (20)
- Q. No. 8.** The modernist aspiration for scientification of academic discourses resulted in development of the structuralist attitude in the literary studies. Explain. (20)



FEDERAL PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION- 2019
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ENGLISH LITERATURE

TIME ALLOWED: THREE HOURS PART-I(MCQS): MAXIMUM 30 MINUTES	PART-I (MCQS) PART-II	MAXIMUM MARKS = 20 MAXIMUM MARKS = 80
NOTE: (i) Part-II is to be attempted on the separate Answer Book. (ii) Attempt ONLY FOUR questions from PART-II. ALL questions carry EQUAL marks. (iii) All the parts (if any) of each Question must be attempted at one place instead of at different places. (iv) Write Q. No. in the Answer Book in accordance with Q. No. in the Q.Paper. (v) No Page/Space be left blank between the answers. All the blank pages of Answer Book must be crossed. (vi) Extra attempt of any question or any part of the question will not be considered.		

PART - II

- Q. No. 2.** Russell in The Conquest of Happiness identifies a number of causes of unhappiness. If we work on these causes, do you think happiness is still possible? (20)
- Q. No. 3.** Both Jim and Della behave impulsively in “The Gift of the Magi” by sacrificing their greatest treasures without thinking of the consequences and focusing instead on making each other happy. Is the author really successful in creating wise characters in literature? Respond to the question by presenting your arguments with supporting evidence. (20)
- Q. No. 4.** In what ways is the poem “Ode to a Nightingale” about the co-existence and interdependence of pleasure and pain? Discuss. (20)
- Q. No. 5.** Wordsworth does not “mourn” or “murmur” for the loss of “aching joys” of his past. Elaborate by providing suitable textual evidence from “Tintern Abbey”. (20)
- Q. No. 6.** Harold Pinter specializes in the tragicomedy of the breakdown of communication, broadly in the tradition of the Theatre of the Absurd. Discuss it with the reference to The Caretaker. (20)
- Q. No. 7.** By the end of the novel A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man, Joyce renders a portrait of a mind that has achieved emotional, intellectual, and artistic adulthood. Elaborate. (20)
- Q. No. 8.** How does the essence of Structuralism, i.e., “Things cannot be understood in isolation, they have to be seen in the context of larger structures they are part of ” relate to literature? Discuss in detail by providing relevant examples to support your arguments. (20)



FEDERAL PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION-2020
FOR RECRUITMENT TO POSTS IN BS-17
UNDER THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT
ENGLISH LITERATURE

Roll Number

TIME ALLOWED: THREE HOURS PART-I(MCQS): MAXIMUM 30 MINUTES	PART-I (MCQS) PART-II	MAXIMUM MARKS = 20 MAXIMUM MARKS = 80
NOTE: (i) Part-II is to be attempted on the separate Answer Book. (ii) Attempt ONLY FOUR questions from PART-II. ALL questions carry EQUAL marks. (iii) All the parts (if any) of each Question must be attempted at one place instead of at different places. (iv) Write Q. No. in the Answer Book in accordance with Q. No. in the Q.Paper. (v) No Page/Space be left blank between the answers. All the blank pages of Answer Book must be crossed. (vi) Extra attempt of any question or any part of the question will not be considered.		

PART-II

- Q. No. 2.** Enlist and explain the bad habits of writing George Orwell identifies in his essay "Politics and the English Language". What solutions does he suggest for getting rid of these bad habits? **(20)**
- Q. No. 3.** How successfully do you think Chesterton manages to employ the technique of narrative within a narrative in his short story A Somewhat Improbable Story? **(20)**
- Q. No. 4.** T.S Eliot appreciates John Donne for his "unified sensibility". Does Eliot's own poetry also depict the same quality in poems The Wasteland and The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock? **(20)**
- Q. No. 5.** Discuss Mick's exploitation of language for accosting Davies in Harold Pinter's play the Caretaker. **(20)**
- Q. No. 6.** Does Hester gradually gain wisdom through her constant suffering in the novel 'A Scarlet Letter'? If so, how? Explain. **(20)**
- Q. No. 7.** Is Post-colonial Studies "the most flourishing sector of cultural studies today"? Justify your arguments with the help of appropriate examples. **(20)**
- Q. No. 8.** How far do you think Psychoanalysis is appropriate for understanding literary texts? Explain your ideas. **(20)**



FEDERAL PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION-2023
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Roll Number

ENGLISH LITERATURE

TIME ALLOWED: THREE HOURS	PART-I (MCQS)	MAXIMUM MARKS = 20
PART-I(MCQS): MAXIMUM 30 MINUTES	PART-II	MAXIMUM MARKS = 80
NOTE: (i) Part-II is to be attempted on the separate Answer Book.		
(ii) Attempt ONLY FOUR questions from PART-II. ALL questions carry EQUAL marks.		
(iii) All the parts (if any) of each Question must be attempted at one place instead of at different places.		
(iv) Write Q. No. in the Answer Book in accordance with Q. No. in the Q.Paper.		
(v) No Page/Space be left blank between the answers. All the blank pages of Answer Book must be crossed.		
(vi) Extra attempt of any question or any part of the question will not be considered.		

PART-II

- Q. No. 2.** Is happiness possible in modern world? Explain in the light of Russell's The Conquest of Happiness. (20)
- Q. No. 3.** Explain Jacques Derrida's Deconstruction theory. Do you agree that Deconstruction is not destruction? (20)
- Q. No. 4.** What is the title significance of "The Lotus Eater" by Somerset Maugham? (20)
- Q. No. 5.** Is there a significant relation between language and political thought? Explain rules of writing a good prose in the light of Orwell's "Politics and the English Language". (20)
- Q. No. 6.** Discuss emotional conflicts in Paul Morel the protagonist having a stifled connection with a tough mother in D.H. Lawrence "Sons and Lovers". (20)
- Q. No. 7.** "It is we", says Hazlitt, "who are Hamlet". Illustrate with textual examples Hamlet as a universal character. (20)
- Q. No. 8.** Marxists and Sociologists believe literature as an expression of society. Explain this statement. Also enlist limitations of Marxist criticism in detail. (20)



FEDERAL PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION-2024 FOR RECRUITMENT TO
POSTS IN BS-17 UNDER THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Roll Number

ENGLISH LITERATURE

TIME ALLOWED: THREE HOURS	(PART-I MCQs)	MAXIMUM MARKS: 20
PART-I (MCQs) : MAXIMUM 30 MINUTES	(PART-II)	MAXIMUM MARKS: 80

NOTE: (i) First attempt **PART-I (MCQs)** on separate **OMR Answer Sheet** which shall be taken back after **30 minutes**.

(ii) **Overwriting/cutting of the options/answers will not be given credit.**

(iii) There is **no negative marking**. All MCQs must be attempted.

PART-I (MCQs)(COMPULSORY)

Q.1. (i) Select the best option/answer and fill in the appropriate Box on the **OMR Answer Sheet.(20x1=20)**
(ii) Answers given anywhere else, other than OMR Answer Sheet, will not be considered.

1. **According to Russell, what is the connection between envy and unhappiness?**
(A) Envy is a catalyst for happiness (B) Envy is unrelated to happiness
(C) Envy is a source of unhappiness (D) None of these
2. **What emotional tone is prevalent in the final stanza of Keats' Ode to Autumn?**
(A) Melancholic (B) Joyful (C) Anxious (D) None of these
3. **What does "The Lotus Eater" symbolize in the context of the story?**
(A) A drug (B) A mythical creature (C) A state of indulgence and lethargy (D) None of these
4. **Which literary technique is frequently employed by Whitman in the poem "As I Ponder'd in Silence"?**
(A) Sonnet form (B) Rhymed couplets (C) Free verse and cataloguing (D) None of these
5. **In Russell's essay, what does he propose as a key factor in overcoming the fear of public opinion and achieving genuine happiness?**
(A) Indifference (B) Solitude (C) Conforming (D) None of these
6. **What does Ulysses mean by the phrase "to strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield"?**
(A) He is submitting to death indifferently (B) He has given up on all pursuits
(C) He wishes to retire peacefully (D) None of these
7. **How does Whitman convey a sense of inclusivity in the poem "As I Ponder'd in Silence"?**
(A) Through exclusionary language (B) By emphasizing individualism
(C) By addressing a diverse range of people and experiences (D) None of these
8. **What war is looming in the background of Shaw's "Heartbreak House"?**
(A) World War I (B) World War II (C) The Napoleonic Wars (D) None of these
9. **According to Russell, what is the advocated approach to balancing external achievements and internal well-being for lasting happiness?**
(A) Prioritizing (B) Balancing (C) Ignoring (D) None of these
10. **What famous play did Shaw write as a sequel to "Pygmalion," exploring the consequences of Eliza's newfound social status?**
(A) "Man and Superman" (B) "Major Barbara" (C) "Heartbreak House" (D) None of these
11. **What style of theatre is often associated with "Waiting for Godot"?**
(A) Realism (B) Absurdism (C) Romanticism (D) None of these
12. **Which literary device is prominently featured in the poem Second Coming's opening lines, "Turning and turning in the widening gyre / the falcon cannot hear the falconer"?**
(A) Simile (B) Metaphor (C) Symbolism (D) None of these
13. **Which of the following best characterizes the rhythm and meter of "The Second Coming"?**
(A) Strict adherence to a regular meter (B) Frequent use of rhyme schemes
(C) Varied and irregular meter (D) None of these
14. **What is the central theme of "The Lotus Eater"?**
(A) The pursuit of wealth (B) The danger of indulgence (C) The allure of nature (D) None of these
15. **What role does philosophy play in "Under the Net" by Iris Murdoch?**
(A) It serves as a mere backdrop (B) No philosophy in the plot
(C) It confuses the narrative (D) None of these
16. **What role does symbolism play in "Sons and Lovers"?**
(A) There is no symbolism (B) Superficial embellishment
(C) Conveys psychological complexities (D) None of these
17. **What characterizes the language used in absurd theatre?**
(A) Clear and logical (B) Symbolic and metaphorical (C) Poetic and lyrical (D) None of these

ENGLISH LITERATURE

18. **What term is often used in Marxist literary theory to describe works that reflect and critique the economic and social conditions of their time?**
(A) Bourgeoisie literature (B) Proletarian literature (C) Utopian literature (D) None of these
19. **What genre influences Iris Murdoch's writing style in "Under the Net"?**
(A) Science fiction (B) Mystery (C) Philosophical fiction (D) None of these
20. **How does deconstructionism challenge the traditional binary oppositions in language and thought?**
(A) By deconstructing and subverting binary oppositions
(B) By reinforcing and solidifying binary oppositions
(C) By avoiding any engagement with binary concepts (D) None of these

PART-II

- NOTE:** (i) **Part-II** is to be attempted on the separate **Answer Book**.
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- Q. No. 2.** Critically analyze whether Emerson's transcendentalist philosophy has enduring value and applicability in addressing current societal and individual concerns. (20)
- Q. No. 3.** Investigate O' Henry's intentions in crafting "The Gift of the Magi" and how his writing style contributes to the story's impact? What literary devices does he employ to evoke emotions and convey the central message? (20)
- Q. No. 4.** Explore ecocritical perspectives in "Tintern Abbey." How does Wordsworth engage with ecological themes, and what environmental ethics can be discerned in the poem? (20)
- Q. No. 5.** Investigate the portrayal of women in "Hamlet," focusing on Gertrude and Ophelia. How do gender roles and societal expectations influence their actions and outcomes? Discuss the agency or lack thereof granted to female characters in the play. (20)
- Q. No. 6.** How do Orwell's warnings about authoritarianism, surveillance, and propaganda resonate with contemporary political and social developments? Discuss the enduring significance of "1984" in the 21st century as a cautionary tale. (20)
- Q. No. 7.** What are the limitations and potential shortcomings of feminist approaches to literature? Evaluate the challenges and criticisms faced by Feminist Criticism as a literary theory. (20)
- Q. No. 8.** Examine the thematic exploration of guilt, redemption, and atonement within the context of a judgmental society in Nathaniel Hawthorne's "The Scarlet Letter." (20)
