

SCHOOL OF LETTERS

MA English Entrance Examination 2021

Description of the exam:

The written test will be for 75 marks and the duration of the exam will be a maximum of 2 hours.

Each question will carry one mark and there will be no negative marking for incorrect answers. The candidate will be expected to choose the correct response from a set of 4 answers for each question. Some sample questions are given below.

The exam will test the candidate's knowledge of literary studies at the undergraduate level in India with questions related to British, American, Indian literatures and other postcolonial literatures translated into English, literary theory and criticism, literary movements and literature's connections with other literary arts such as painting, sculpture, music, cinema, drama. The exam seeks to test the candidate's aptitude for literary studies and the ability to interpret literary narratives.

Sample Questions:

1. Which work by Charles Dickens begins with the sentence: "It was the best of times, it was the worst of time, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness..."?
 - a. Great Expectations
 - b. Hard Times
 - c. A Tale of Two Cities
 - d. A Christmas Carol

2. Which of the following was an important influence on film theory of Sergei Eisenstein?
 - a. Natyashastra
 - b. Japanese aesthetics
 - c. Arabic folktales
 - d. Renaissance paintings

3. The period of in which realism was the most popular form of fiction in Britain was:
 - a. 18th century
 - b. 19th century
 - c. 20th century
 - d. 21st century

4. The technique of fiction known as 'stream of consciousness' presents:

- a. Multiple perspectives of one narrator
 - b. Multiple perspectives of multiple narrators
 - c. Multiple thoughts and emotions that pass through the mind of the narrator
 - d. Multiple reactions of an event witnessed by the narrator
5. Which one of the following is a Dalit autobiography by a woman?
- a. Baluta
 - b. Akkarmasi
 - c. The Prisons We Broke
 - d. Joothan
6. Which of the following is NOT an assumption of liberal humanist criticism?
- a. The literary text contains its own meaning within itself.
 - b. The purpose of literature is enhancement of human life and propagation of human values.
 - c. Good literature is timeless.
 - d. Identity is socially constructed.