

LITERATURE IN ENGLISH

GENERAL OBJECTIVES

AIM:

The aims of the Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examination (UTME) syllabus in Literature in English is to prepare the candidates for the Board's examination. Which are to generate, deepen and sustain interest in literature in English generally, and create awareness and understanding of the principles and techniques of all the genres of literature from diverse cultures.

OBJECTIVES:

It is designed to test their achievement of the course objectives which are to:

- stimulate and sustain their interest in Literature in English;
- create an awareness of the general principles of Literature and the functions of language:
- appreciate literary works of all genres and across all cultures;
- apply the knowledge of Literature in English to the understanding of cultural literature, political and economic activities in the society.

DETAILED SYLLABUS

TOPICS/CONTENTS/NOTES		OBJECTIVES
1. DRAMA		Candidates should be able to:
a. Type	s:	
i.	Tragedy	a.i. identify the various types of
ii.		drama;
iii.	Tragicomedy	
iv.	Melodrama	a.ii. analyse the contents of the
v.	Farce	various types of drama;
vi.	Opera etc.	
		a.iii. compare and contrast the
b. Dran	natic Techniques	features of different types of drama.
i.	Characterisation	
ii.	Dialogue	
iii.	Flashback	b.i. demonstrate adequate
iv.	Mime	knowledge of dramatic techniques
v.	Costume	and stage directions used in each
vi.	Music/Dance	prescribed text;
vii.		
viii.	Acts/Scenes	
ix.	Soliloquy/aside	b.ii. differentiate between styles of
X.	Figures of Speech	selected playwrights;

c. Interpretation Texts i. Theme	of the Prescribed	c.i determine the theme of any
ii. Plot	political context	prescribed text;
iv. Setting		c.ii. identify the plot of the play;
		c.iii. apply the lessons of the play to social reality.
		c.iv. identify the spatial setting and temporal period of the play.

TOPICS/CO	NTENTS/NOTES	OBJECTIVES	
2. PRO	SE	Candidates should be able to:	
i. F	s: Prose fiction iction Novel	a.i. differentiate between types of novel.	
	Novella/Novelette Short story	a.ii. identify the category that eac prescribed text belongs to;	
•	Non-fiction Biography	a.iii. analyse the components of each type of prose;	
•	Autobiography Memoir	a.iv. identify the balance of facts and fiction	
	Faction: combination of fact and action	in literary faction.	
	tive Techniques/Devices: oint of view	b.i. identify the narrative techniques used teach of the prescribed texts;	
:	Omniscient First Person Second person Third person Stream of consciousness Epiphany	b.ii. determine an author's narrative style;	
	Characterisation Round, flat, foil, hero, antihero villain, heroine, etc	b.iii. distinguish between one type character from another;	
н т	Language		

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C.	Textual	Ana	VS1S

- i. Theme
- ii. Plot
- iii. Setting (Temporal/Spatial)
- iv. Socio-political context

b.iv. Grammar, diction and clarity of expression.

 c.i. determine the thematic pre-occupation of the prescribed text;

c.ii. indicate the plot of the novel;

c.iii. identify the setting and period/timing of the novel.

c.iv. relate the prescribed text to social reality.

3. POETRY

- a. Types:
 - i. Sonnet
 - ii. Ode
 - iii. Lyrics
 - iv. Elegy
 - v. Ballad
 - vi. Panegyric
 - vii. Epic
 - viii. Blank Verse, etc.

Candidates should be able to:

- a.i. identify different types of poetry;
- a.ii. identify the distinctive features of the poetic types.

TOPICS/CONTENTS/NOTES

- b. Poetic devices
 - i. Imagery
 - Sound (Rhyme/Rhythm, repetition, pun, onomatopoeia, etc.)
 - iii. Diction
 - iv. Persona

OBJECTIVES

- b.i. determine the devices used by various poets;
- b.ii. show how poetic devices are used for aesthetic effect in each poem;
- b.iii. identify the figure of speech in the texts.
- b.iv. Show how poetic devices convey message and meaning.
- c.i. Deduce the poet's thematic preoccupation from the poem;
- c.ii. appraise poetry as an art with moral values;
- c.iii. apply the lessons from the poem to social reality.

c. Appreciation

- i. Thematic preoccupation
- ii. Socio-political relevance
- iii. Style.

4. GENERAL LITERARY PRINCIPLES

a. Literary terms:
foreshadowing, suspense, theatre,
monologue, dialogue, soliloquy,
symbolism, protagonist, antagonist,
figures of speech, satire, stream of
consciousness, synecdoche,
metonymy, etc,
in addition to those listed above under
the different genres.

5. LITERARY APPRECIATION

Unseen passages/extracts from Drama, Prose and Poetry.

Candidates should be able to:

- a.i. identify literary terms that are specific to drama, prose and poetry;
- a.ii. identify areas of overlap in all the genres e.g. verse in drama and poetry, narration in all the genres.

Candidates should be able to:

- identify literary devices used in a given passage/extract;
- provide an interpretation of the given passage/extract;
- relate the extract to true life experiences.

A LIST OF SELECTED AFRICAN AND NON-AFRICAN PLAYS, NOVELS AND POEMS

Drama:

African:

i. Wole Soyinka: The Lion and the Jewel

Non-African:

i. John Osborne: Look Back in Anger

Prose:

African:

i. Alex Agyei-Agyir: Unexpected Joy at Dawn

ii. Buchi Emecheta: Second Class Citizen

Non African:

i. Emily Bronte: Wuthering Heights.

Poetry:

African:

i. Leopold Sedar Senghor: Black Woman

ii. Niyi Osundare: The Leader and the Led

iii. Agostinho Neto: The Grieved Lands.

iv. Oumar Farouk Sesay: The Song of the Women of my Land

v. Lade Wosomu: Raider of the Treasure Trove

vi. Onu Chibuike: A Government Driver on his Retirement

Non-African:

i. John Donne: The Good Morrow

ii. Maya Angelou: Caged Bird

iii. T.S. Elliot: The Journey of the Magi

iv. D.H Lawrence:

Bats

RECOMMENDED TEXTS

1. ANTHOLOGIES

- Obafemi, O. and Agoi (eds) Of shadows and Rainbows -Musings in Times of Covid (An Anthology of poems, plays and short stories) PEN Nigeria, Online
- 2. Hayward, J. (ed.) (1968) The Penguin Book of English Verse, London Penguin
- Johnson, R., Ker, D, Maduka, C. Obafemi, O (eds.) (1996) New Poetry from Africa, Ibadan: UP Plc
- 4. Kermode, F. (1964) Oxford Anthology of English Literature, Vol. II, London: OUP
- Nduke Ofiono and Odoh Diego Okenyodo (eds) Camouflage; Best of contemporary writing from Nigeria, an anthology of new Nigerian writers, mace books association, 2021, New edition.
- 6. Parker, E.W. (ed.) (1980) A Peagent of Longer Poems London: Longman
- Senanu, K. E. and Vincent, T. (eds.) (1993) A Selection of African Poetry, Lagos: Longman
- 8. Soyinka, W. (ed.) (1987) Poems of Black Africa, Ibadan: Heinemann

2. CRITICAL TEXTS

Abrams, M. H. (1981) A Glossary of Literary Terms, (4th Edition) New York, Holt Rinehalt and Winston

Emeaba, O. E. (1982) A Dictionary of Literature, Aba: Inteks Press

Murphy, M. J. (1972) Understanding Unseen, An Introduction to English Poetry and English Novel for Overseas Students, George Allen and Unwin Ltd.