

JADAVPUR UNIVERSITY

MA (ENGLISH) ADMISSION TEST, 2012 (PART 1)

Time: 2 hrs 30 mins (for both parts) PART 2 WILL BE EXAMINED ONLY IF YOU QUALIFY IN PART 1

Answer the questions below *by choosing the correct option*. Write the correct statement in your answer script, *in serial order of questions*. (1 x 30 = 30 marks)

1. Shakespeare lived during the Middle Ages/ Renaissance/ Restoration/ Victorian Age
2. Chaucer's name is associated with *Beowulf/ The Owl and the Nightingale/ The Parliament of Fowls/ The Phoenix and the Turtle*
3. Aphra Behn was a successful woman dramatist/ an unsuccessful American poet/ a minor Indo-Anglian writer/ one of Shakespeare's collaborators
4. In 2012, we are celebrating Dickens's centenary/ sesquicentenary/ bicentenary/ tricentenary
5. Toru Dutt was a nationalist leader/ wrote the first Bengali novel/ composed the national anthem/ wrote in French as well as English
6. Rudyard Kipling wrote *The Jungle Book/ King Solomon's Mines/ Midnight's Children/ The Return of the Native*
7. 'Naturalism' is the name of a literary movement/ a novel written by James Joyce/ a crisis that took place in the eighteenth century/ an economic theory proposed by Adam Smith
8. 'Literature in English' means literature produced in Britain/ produced in Britain, the USA, Canada and Australia/ produced anywhere in the world but written in English/ produced in the Commonwealth countries
9. John Donne and Andrew Marvell were close contemporaries and associates/ courtiers at the court of Elizabeth I/ Cavalier poets/ Metaphysical poets
10. T S Eliot's poetry was edited by Edmond Malone/ W W Greg/ Ezra Pound/ Robert Graves
11. George Bernard Shaw admired the drama of Ionescu/ Pinter/ Ibsen/ Wesker
12. 'I passed a sleepless night' is an example of metonymy/ litotes/ transferred epithet/ zeugma
13. 'Copyright' refers to permission to photocopy from a work/ the right to cite from a work/ censorship laws/ intellectual property right
14. 'Call me Ishmael' is the first sentence of the Authorized Version of the Bible/ Bronte's *Jane Eyre/ Melville's Moby-Dick/ Wilde's The Importance of Being Earnest*
15. The setting for Thomas Hardy's novels is named Essex/ Middlesex/ Wessex/ East Anglia
16. The Preface to the *Lyrical Ballads* was written by Dorothy Wordsworth/ William Wordsworth/ William Wordsworth and S T Coleridge/ William Godwin
17. The Preface to *Gitanjali* was written by C F Andrews/ T S Eliot/ W B Yeats/ Sarojini Naidu
18. The most common metre used in English poetry is iambic/ trochaic/ spondaic/ anapaest
19. 'Several English poets took part in the Spanish Civil War.' True or False?
20. 'Several English poets took part in the Russian Revolution.' True or False?
21. The 'soliloquy' is a feature of Shakespeare's plays/ Browning's poetry/ modern lyric verse/ James Joyce's *Ulysses*
22. The phrase 'hungry generations' was first used in a poem by Moloy Ray Choudhury/ a poem by John Keats/ a novel by Suzanne Collins/ a Facebook post by Mark Zuckerberg
23. The plural of 'image' is 'imagery'/ 'imageries'/ 'images'/ metaphors
24. Sonnets were introduced into English from Italian/ German/ Latin/ Spanish
25. Nissim Ezekiel spent most of his writing life in Lahore/ Karachi/ Delhi/ Mumbai
26. Arundhati Roy won the Magsaysay Award/ the Nobel Peace Prize/ the Booker Prize/ the Ananda Puraskar
27. The surviving examples of Greek tragedy are written by Aeschylus, Sophocles and Euripides/ Euripides alone, revising his predecessors' works/ Aristophanes/ Dionysos
28. Virginia Woolf, Sylvia Plath, Anne Sexton and Ernest Hemingway were all American writers/ all won the Nobel Prize/ all committed suicide/ all visited India
29. The epistolary novel is written in diary form/ autobiographical narrative/ letters/ dialogue
30. *The Spanish Tragedy* by Thomas Kyd is an example of sentimental tragedy/ revenge tragedy/ heroic tragedy/ satire

1. Analyse and compare the two poems below, commenting on their use of the image of the mirror in relation to the self. (50 marks)

I

Look in the terrible mirror of the sky  
And not in this dead glass, which can reflect  
Only the surfaces — the bending arm,  
the leaning shoulder and the searching eye.

Look in the terrible mirror of the sky.  
Oh, bend against the invisible; and lean  
To symbols of descending night; and search  
The glare of revelations going by!

Look in the terrible mirror of the sky.  
See how the absent moon waits in a glade  
Of your dark self, and how the wings of stars,  
Upward, from unimagined coverts, fly.

II

The time will come  
when, with elation  
you will greet yourself arriving  
at your own door, in your own mirror  
and each will smile at the other's welcome,

and say, sit here. Eat.  
You will love again the stranger who was your self.  
Give wine. Give bread. Give back your heart  
to itself, to the stranger who has loved you

all your life, whom you ignored  
for another, who knows you by heart.  
Take down the love letters from the bookshelf,

the photographs, the desperate notes,  
peel your own image from the mirror.  
Sit. Feast on your life.

2. Write an essay on any *one* of the following subjects, with appropriate illustrations from your reading, showing direct acquaintance with the texts you cite. (30 marks)

(a) Time in lyric poetry (b) Death on the stage (c) Imaginary places in fiction (d) Linguistic registers in the post-colonial English novel (e) Beyond the 'human' in science fiction (f) What is absurd in absurd drama? (g) The association of images in modernist poetry (h) tragedy and transgression (i) Writing and gender (i) Space and time in the realist novel (j) children as literary protagonists

3. Write short notes on any four: (5 x 4 = 20 marks)

(a) the *Mahabharata* (b) *Dastan-e-Amir Hamza* (c) *Hutom Pyanchar Naksha* (d) *Hajar Churashir Ma* (e) graphic novels (f) the Chorus in Greek tragedy (g) literary detectives (h) named characters in poems (i) *The White Tiger* (j) *River of Smoke* (k) *The Sandman* (l) *To the Lighthouse* (m) Sherlock Holmes's London (n) Girish Karnad's *Tughlaq* (o) Manoj Mitra's *Debi Sarpamasta* (p) *The Cherry Orchard* (q) *The Waste Land* (r) *Through the Looking-Glass* (s) *Antony and Cleopatra* (t) *Chokher Bali* (u) *A Tale of Two Cities* (v) Egdon Heath (w) Heathcliff (x) Captain Ahab