

B.A. FINAL EXAM IN ENGLISH LITERATURE / CUMULATIVE EXAM IN ENGLISH LIT.

Rules for B.A. Examinations

The principal question at the oral part of the B.A. level exam will be based on the student's reading experience, but will not be limited to the reading list only. (For example, Ben Jonson's *Volpone* on the reading list implies the potential question of the relation between the comedy of humours and the comedy of manners.) This question may be complemented by a series of questions concerning other works on the student's reading list which must include the titles listed below. If the title is not specified, you can read the selection of texts in *The Norton Anthology of English Literature* (5th edition, vols. 1 and 2; 6th edition vol.1).

Cumulative Exam in English Literature

The student will be examined in two of the five historical periods on the reading list; the choice of periods is at the student's discretion. Students must submit a reading list which does not have to be identical with sections of the B.A. list, but it must correspond to them in terms of quantity, range of reading, and historical as well as aesthetic importance of selected texts. Students are given one question per selected period. The questions are relatively general (For example, Virginia Woolf as a modernist).

Reading list:

1. Medieval and Renaissance English Literature

- A selection of Old and Middle English literature based upon K. Crossley-Holland (ed.), *The Anglo-Saxon World*, OUP 1986 ("Heroic Poems", "Elegies", section "The Kingdom of God", "Dream of the Rood")
- G. Chaucer, *Canterbury Tales*
- T. Kyd, *The Spanish Tragedy*
- C. Marlowe, *Doctor Faustus*
- W. Shakespeare, *Sonnets*
- 6 plays (e.g. 2 tragedies, 2 comedies, 1 history play, 1 romance) Recommended: *The Tempest; Richard III*; Dual-language editions of Shakespeare's works, ed. and transl. Martin Hilský: *Sonnets / Sonety; A Midsummer Night's Dream / Sen noci svatojánské; The Merchant of Venice / Kupec benátský; Hamlet; Othello OR King Lear / Král Lear; Macbeth*
- B. Jonson, *Volpone*
- J. Webster, *The Duchess of Malfi*
- A selection of Renaissance prose and poetry (Wyatt, Surrey, Sidney, Spenser, Lyly, Nash, More, etc.)
- J. Donne, *Songs and Sonnets*

2. English Literature: Restoration and After

- J. Milton, *Paradise Lost* (Book I and II)
- W. Congreve, *Love for Love* OR another Restoration drama by Etherege, Wycherley, Farquhar, Vanbrugh, Dryden
- Pope, *The Rape of the Lock; Essay on Criticism* (extract)
- A selection of seventeenth- and eighteenth-century poetry (Marvell; Dryden, Thomson, Gray, Young, etc.)
- J. Swift, *Gulliver's Travels; A Modest Proposal*
- D. Defoe, *Robinson Crusoe* OR *Moll Flanders*
- S. Richardson, *Pamela* (extract); *Clarissa* (extract)
- H. Fielding, *Tom Jones*
- L. Sterne, *Tristram Shandy*
- H. Walpole, *The Castle of Otranto* or another Gothic novel (A. Radcliffe, *The Mysteries of Udolpho*, or *The Italian*, M. G. Lewis, *The Monk*, etc.)
- J. Gay, *The Beggar's Opera*
- R.B. Sheridan, *The School for Scandal*
- R. Burns, a selection of poetry

3. English Literature: Romanticism, Victorian period

- W. Blake, *Songs of Innocence; Songs of Experience*
- W. Wordsworth, "Tintern Abbey"; "Ode: Intimations of Immortality"; preface to the 2nd edition of *Lyrical Ballads*
- S.T. Coleridge, *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*; "Kubla Khan"
- G.G. Byron, *Manfred* A 466/2; *Don Juan* (I, II, III)
- P.B. Shelley, *Prometheus Unbound*; "Ode to the West Wind"
- J. Keats, "Ode to a Nightingale"; "Ode on a Grecian Urn"; *Eve of St Agnes*
- A selection of nineteenth-century poetry (R. Browning, E.B. Browning, A. Tennyson, Christina Rossetti, A.C. Swinburne, G.M. Hopkins, etc.)
- M. Arnold, "Dover Beach"
- J. Austen, *Pride and Prejudice* OR *Emma*
- W. Scott, *The Heart of Midlothian* OR another novel
- C. Dickens, *Great Expectations* and one more novel
- W.M. Thackeray, *Vanity Fair*
- C. Brontë, *Jane Eyre*
- E. Brontë, *Wuthering Heights*
- G. Eliot, *Silas Marner* OR *The Mill on the Floss*
- R.L. Stevenson, *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*
- T. Hardy, *Tess of the d'Urbervilles*
- O. Wilde, *The Picture of Dorian Gray*; *The Importance of Being Earnest*

4. Literature on the British Isles: Modernism

- J. Conrad, *Heart of Darkness*
- J. Galsworthy, *The Forsyte Saga*
- H.G. Wells, *The Time Machine* OR another novel
- K. Mansfield, a selection of short stories
- E.M. Forster, *A Passage to India*
- D.H. Lawrence, *Sons and Lovers* OR *Women in Love*
- J. Joyce, *Dubliners*; *A Portrait of an Artist as a Young Man*
- V. Woolf, *Mrs Dalloway* OR *To the Lighthouse*; a selection of short stories and essays
- Huxley, *Brave New World* OR another novel
- T.S. Eliot, *The Waste Land*; "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock"
- A selection of early and mid-twentieth century poetry (Edward Thomas, W. Owen, W.H. Auden, D. Thomas, etc.)
- W.B. Yeats, *The Tower* (included in *Collected Poems*)
- G.B. Shaw, *Pygmalion*
- G. Orwell, *Nineteen-Eighty-Four* OR *Animal Farm*

5. Post-War Literature on the British Isles

- G. Greene, *The Heart of the Matter* OR another novel
- K. Amis, *Lucky Jim*
- W. Golding, *Lord of the Flies*
- Burgess, *A Clockwork Orange*
- D. Lessing, one novel
- B.S. Johnson, *Christie Malry's Own Double Entry*
- J. Fowles, *The French Lieutenant's Woman*
- D. Lodge, *Changing Places* OR *Small World*
- One novel by G. Swift or J. Barnes
- K. Ishiguro, *The Remains of the Day*
- S. Rushdie, one novel
- Carter, one novel
- J. Winterson, *The Passion*

- McEwan, *Atonement*
- Ali Smith, *Hotel World*
- Flann O'Brien, *The Third Policeman* OR *At Swim-Two-Birds*
- J. Osborne, *Look Back in Anger*
- H. Pinter, *The Caretaker* OR another play
- E. Bond, *Lear*
- T. Stoppard, *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*
- Friel, *Translations*
- One play by Caryl Churchill
- A selection of post-war poetry (P. Larkin, T. Hughes, S. Heaney, T. Harrison, Carol Ann Duffy, G. Hill, D. Dunn, J. Kay, K. Jamie, B. Zephaniah)