

## LITERATURE IN ENGLISH

### GENERAL OBJECTIVES

The aim of the Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examination (UTME) syllabus in Literature in English is to prepare the candidates for the Board's examination. It is designed to test their achievement of the course objectives, which are to:

1. Stimulate and sustain their interest in Literature in English;
2. Create an awareness of the general principles and functions of language;
3. Appreciate literary works of all genres and across all cultures;
4. Apply the knowledge of Literature in English to the analysis of social, political and economic events in the society.

### DETAILED SYLLABUS

TOPICS/CONTENTS/NOTES	OBJECTIVES
<p><b>1. DRAMA</b></p> <p>a. Types:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Tragedy</li> <li>ii. Comedy</li> <li>iii. Tragicomedy</li> <li>iv. Melodrama</li> <li>v. Farce</li> </ol> <p>b. Dramatic Techniques</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Characterisation</li> <li>ii. Dialogue</li> <li>iii. Flashback</li> <li>iv. Mime</li> <li>v. Costume</li> <li>vi. Music/Dance</li> <li>vii. Décor</li> <li>viii. Acts/Scenes</li> <li>ix. Soliloquy/aside etc.</li> </ol> <p>c. Interpretation of the Prescribed Texts</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Theme</li> <li>ii. Plot</li> <li>iii. Socio-political context</li> </ol>	<p>Candidates should be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. identify the various types of drama;</li> <li>ii. analyse the contents of the various types of drama;</li> <li>iii. compare and contrast the features of different dramatic types;</li> <li>iv. demonstrate adequate knowledge of dramatic techniques used in each prescribed text;</li> <li>v. differentiate between styles of selected playwrights;</li> <li>vi. determine the theme of any prescribed text;</li> <li>vii. identify the plot of the play;</li> <li>viii. apply the lessons of the play to everyday living.</li> </ol>

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<p><b>2. PROSE</b></p> <p>a. Types:</p> <p>i. Fiction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Novel</li> <li>• Novella</li> <li>• Short story</li> </ul> <p>ii. Non-fiction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biography</li> <li>• Autobiography</li> <li>• Memoir</li> </ul> <p>b. Narrative Techniques/Devices:</p> <p>i. Point of view</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Omniscient/Third Person</li> <li>• First Person</li> </ul> <p>ii. Setting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Temporal</li> <li>• Spatial/Geographical</li> </ul> <p>iii. Characterisation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Round characters</li> <li>• Flat characters</li> </ul> <p>iv. Language use</p> <p>c. Textual Analyse</p> <p>i. Theme</p> <p>ii. Plot</p> <p>iii. Socio-political context</p> <p><b>3. POETRY</b></p> <p>a. <b>Types:</b></p> <p>i. Sonnet</p> <p>ii. Ode</p> <p>iii. Lyrics</p> <p>iv. Elegy</p> <p>v. Ballad</p> <p>vi. Panegyric</p> <p>vii. Epic</p> <p>viii. Blank Verse</p> <p>b. Poetic Devices</p> <p>i. Structure</p> <p>ii. Imagery</p> <p>iii. Rhyme/Rhythm</p>	<p>Candidates should be able to:</p> <p>i. differentiate between types of prose;</p> <p>ii. identify the category that each prescribed text belongs to;</p> <p>iii. analyse the components of each type of prose;</p> <p>iv. identify the narrative techniques used in each of the prescribed texts;</p> <p>v. determine an author's narrative style;</p> <p>vi. distinguish between one type of character from another;</p> <p>vii. determine the thematic pre-occupation of the author of the prescribed text;</p> <p>viii. indicate the plot of the novel;</p> <p>ix. relate the prescribed text to real life situations.</p> <p>Candidates should be able to:</p> <p>i. identify different types of poetry;</p> <p>ii. compare and contrast the features of different poetic types:</p> <p>iii. determine the devices used by various poets;</p> <p>iv. show how poetic devices are used for aesthetic effect in each poem;</p>

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<p>iv. Diction v. Persona</p> <p>c. Appreciation i. Thematic preoccupation ii. Socio-political relevance</p> <p><b>4. GENERAL LITERARY PRINCIPLES</b> a. Literary terms: foreshadowing, suspense, theatre, monologue, dialogue, soliloquy, symbolism, protagonist, antagonist, figures of speech, satire, stream of consciousness etc, in addition to those listed above under the different genres. b. Relationship between literary terms and principles.</p> <p><b>5. LITERARY APPRECIATION</b> Unseen passage/extracts from Drama, Prose and Poetry.</p>	<p>v. deduce the poet's preoccupation from the poem; vi. appraise poetry as an art with moral values; vii. apply the lessons from the poem to real life situations.</p> <p>Candidates should be able to: i. identify literary terms in drama, prose and poetry; ii. differentiate between literary terms and principles; iii. use literary terms appropriately.</p> <p>Candidates should be able to: i. determine literary devices used in a given passage/extract; ii. provide a meaningful inter-pretation of the given passage/extract; iii. relate the extract to true life experiences.</p>

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

Drama:

African:

1. Femi Osofisan: **Women of Owu**

Non African:

1. William Shakespeare: **The Tempest**

Prose:

African:

- i. Asare Konadu: **A woman in Her Prime**
- ii. Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: **Purple Hibiscus**

Non African:

- i. Ernest Hemingway: **The Old Man and The Sea**

Poetry:

African:

- i. Gbemisola Adeoti: **Hard lines**
- ii. P.O.C. Umeh: **Ambassadors of Poverty**
- iii. Shola Owonibi: **Homeless not Hopeless**
- iv. Syl Cheney-Coker: **Myopia**
- v. Jared Angira: **Expelled**
- vi. Traditional: **Serenade.**

Non African:

- i. John Donne: **The Sun Rising**
- ii. Sir Walter Raleigh: **The Soul's Errand**
- iii. Langston Hughes: **Negro Speaks of Rivers**
- iv. John Fletcher: **Upon an Honest Man's Fortune.**

**RECOMMENDED TEXTS**

**1. ANTHOLOGIES**

Gbemisola, A. (2005). *Naked Soles*, Ibadan Kraft

Eruvbetine, A. E. et al (1991). *Poetry for Secondary Schools*, Lagos: Longman

Hayward, J. (ed.) (1968). *The Penguin Book of English Verse*, London Penguin

Johnson, R. name(s)? (eds.) (1996). *New Poetry from Africa*, Ibadan: UP Plc

Kermode, F. name(s)? (1964). *Oxford Anthology of English Literature*, Vol. II, London: OUP

Senanu, K. E. and Vincent, T. (eds.) (1993). *A Selection of African Poetry*, Lagos: Longman

Sonyinka, W. (ed.) (1987). *Poems of Black Africa*, Ibadan: Heinemann

Wendy Cope (1986). *Making Cocoa for Kingsley Amis*, London: Faber and Faber

**2. CRITICAL TEXTS**

Abrams, M. H. (1981). *A Glossary of Literary Terms*, (4<sup>th</sup> 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.

Nwachukwu-Agbada, J. O. J. (2011). *Exam Focus: Literature in English*, Ibadan: UP Plc.

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