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JAMB » Literature » 2015

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1 This question is based on George Orwell's 1984.

'Big Brothers Is Watching You' Big Brother Controls life in Oceania Though the four ministries of peace, Love, plenty, are Truth.

The Couple continue to meet secretly in an attic room above a junk shop owned by

- A Mr. Carrington
 - B O'Brien
 - C Eurasia
 - D Coworker Julius
-

2 This question is based on Buchi Emecheta's The

Joys of Motherhood.

Nnaife and Nnu Ego Second Child but the first to live is

- A Adim

B Ngozi

C Oshia

D Adaku

3 This question is based on William Shakespeare's
Romeo and Juliet.

In Romeo and Juliet, use the excerpt below to answer
question 14 and 15.

'.... So tedious is this day
As is the night before some festival
To an important child that hath them.
new robes and may not wear.

The literary device used in the excerpt is

A simile

B metaphor

C Oxymoron

D apostrophe

4 This question is based on General literacy principles

A literary genre which directly imitates human action is

- A drama
 - B comedy
 - C prose
 - D poetry
-

5 This question is based on selected poems from

Johnson, R. et al (eds): *New Poetry African*; Soyinka W. (ed): *Poems of Black Africa*; Senanu, K.E. and Vincent. T. (eds): *A Selection of African Poetry*, U. Maduka, C. T et al: *Exam Focus: Literature in English*; Eruvbetine, A. E. et al (eds): *Longman Examination Guides*; Nwoga D. I. (ed): *West African verse and Adeoti G: Naked Soles*.

The excerpt below from Marvell's *To His Coy Mistress* is an example of

In *Houseman's To an Athlete Dying Young*, the persona addresses the dead athlete using

- A Monologue
 - B Dialogue
 - C Apostrophe
 - D Prologue
-

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6 The use of two contrasting words that are placed side by side is called

- A prologue
- B oxymoron
- C apostrophe

D costume

7 This question is based on General literacy principles

In literacy work, verbal irony refers to a

- A** device in which the speaker means the opposite of what he says
- B** situation in which a character speaks or acts against the trends of events
- C** difficult situation which defies a logical or national resolution
- D** device in which the actor on stage means exactly what he says

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8 A speech or writing used to praise a person or a thing for past or present deeds is

- A eulogy
 - B synecdoche
 - C epigram
 - D epilogue
-

9 This question is based on William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet.

Romeo is evicted to _____ because he _____

- A Mantua, fights Tybalt in a street duel
- B Capulet's party, kills Tybalt in a street duel
- C Mantua, fights and kills Tybalt in a street duel
- D Mantua, kills Paris in a street duel.

10 This question is based on Buchi Emecheta's *The Joys of Motherhood*.

The relationships of Nnaife family are

- A humiliation and disagreement
 - B sickness and joblessness
 - C poverty and hunger
 - D togetherness and happiness
-

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11 In drama, the use of gestures to communicate is known as

- A mime

B realistic drama

C melodrama

D dialogue

12 This question is based on J.C. De Graft's Sons and Daughters

A brother to Aaron and Maanan is

A George

B Awere

C Hannah

D Awao

13 A significant of a whole through its significant part is

A allegory

B pun

C synecdoche

D cast

14 This question is based on Literary Appreciation.

A cursing rogue with a merry farce,
A bundle of rags upon a crurch,
Stumbled upon that windy place
Called cruachan, and it was as much.
The rhyme scheme of the stanza above is

A aabb

B abab

C bbaa

D abba

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15 This question is based on selected poems from

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The excerpt below from Marvell's *To His Coy Mistress* is an example of

In Launke's *End of the War*, the Casualties are

- A women
- B soldiers
- C children
- D men

16 This question is based on Literary Appreciation.

The imagery created in the excerpt below is achieved through

'.....They do not see the funeral piles
At home eating up the forests.....'

__ J.P. -Clark: Casualties

- A metaphor
 - B personification
 - C synecdoche
 - D antonym
-

17 This question is based on selected poems from

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verse and Adeoti G: Naked Soles.

The excerpt below from Marvell's To His Coy Mistress is an example of

The figure of speech in the line below from Acquah's In the Navel of the Soul is 'We would be believing we dreamt it'

- A** assonance
 - B** antithesis
 - C** apostrophe
 - D** alliteration
-

18 Use the passage below to answer this question.

'But the towering earth was tired of sitting in one position.

She moved, suddenly, and the houses crumbled, the mountains

heaved horribly, and the work of million years was lost'.

The subject matter of the passage is

- A** earthquake
 - B** demolition
 - C** flood
 - D** storm
-

19 This question is based on selected poems from

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The excerpt below from Marvell's *To His Coy Mistress* is an example of

The theme of Cope's sonnet V11 is

- A** adventure

- B** isolation
 - C** contempt for literature
 - D** art of poetry
-

20 This question is based on J.C. De Graft's Sons and Daughters

Where does the play take place?

- A** In George's place
 - B** In Ofofu's place
 - C** On the street
 - D** On the stage
-

21 This question is based on General literacy principles

A literary work in which the characters and events are used as symbol is known as

- A characterization
- B allegory
- C metaphor
- D parallelism

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22 This question is based on Literary Appreciation.

In William Shakespeare: Twelfth Night
I have said too much unto a heart of stone,
And laid my honour too unchary on it',
There's something in me that
reproves my fault. But such a headstrong potent fault

it is That it but mocks reproof.'

A heart of stone in the lines above is an example of

- A** assonance
 - B** Metaphor
 - C** Litotes
 - D** antonym
-

23 This question is based on Buchi Emecheta's *The Joys of Motherhood*.

Why did Nnaife blame Nnu Ego for all his problems

- A** Because his daughter slapped him
- B** Because his daughter disobeyed him by travelling to abroad
- C** Because his daughter disobeyed him by moving with prostitutes
- D** Because his daughter ran away with a Yoruba man.

24 This question is based on J.C. De Graft's Sons and Daughters

Paternal aunt to Aaron and Maanan is

- A Fosuwa
 - B Hannah
 - C Mrs. Bonu
 - D Adwao
-

25 Plays are basically meant to be

- A presented on stage
- B presented in the aircraft
- C presented in an office
- D presented in the hospital

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26 Travelogue is a work of art written

- A by a famous playwright
 - B before the death of the author
 - C by an unpopular novelist
 - D on a journey
-

27 This question is based on selected poems from

Johnson, R. et al (eds): *New Poetry African*; Soyinka W. (ed): *Poems of Black Africa*; Senanu, K.E. and Vincent. T. (eds): *A Selection of African Poetry*, U. Maduka, C. T et al: *Exam Focus: Literature in English*; Eruvbetine, A. E. et al (eds): *Longman Examination Guides*; Nwoga D. I. (ed): *West African verse and Adeoti G: Naked Soles*.

The excerpt below from Marvell's 'To His Coy Mistress' is an example of

'As if men hung here unbloom,
Their mildewed buds of love like pollen
Late caught, damp in a swollen...'

The sound device in the stanza above from Kalu Uka's 'Earth to Earth' is

- A** Onomatopoeia
 - B** repetition
 - C** rhythm
 - D** rhyme
-

28 Sweet smile in time of snarl

gives pride in spite of sneer
sing, rid this world of despair
and save, a snared heart from
cascading stream of strife

The dominant rhetorical device in the excerpt above is

- A** rhyme
- B** alliteration
- C** chiasmus
- D** onomatopoeia

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- 29** Narrative poem indicates that the poet is attempting to
- A** preach a sermon
 - B** tell a story
 - C** summarize a story
 - D** describe a place
-

30 The use of sound pattern to suggest meaning in poetry is

- A lyric
 - B lullaby
 - C mimic
 - D rhythm
-

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31 This question is based on selected poems from Johnson, R. et al (eds): *New Poetry African*; Soyinka W. (ed): *Poems of Black Africa*; Senanu, K.E. and Vincent. T. (eds): *A Selection of African Poetry*, U. Maduka, C. T et al: *Exam Focus: Literature in English*; Eruvbetine, A. E. et al (eds): *Longman Examination Guides*; Nwoga D. I. (ed): *West African verse and Adeoti G: Naked Soles*.
The excerpt below from Marvell's *To His Coy Mistress* is an example of

The literary devices used in the lines 'Pataki and Mustard flowers like blue and yellow eyes peep through the green grass' are _____ from Mohan Singh's 'A Village Girl'

- A** alliteration and assonance
 - B** simile and irony
 - C** repetition and alliteration
 - D** rhyme and rhythm
-

32 This question is based on Literary Appreciation.

Move him into the sun
Gently its touch awoke him once,
At home, whispering of field unsown
Always it woke him even in France
Until this morning and this snow
If anything might rouse him now
This kind of old sun will know
Think how it woke the seeds
Woke, once, the clay of a cold star

Are limbs, so dear achieved, are
sides full nerved still warm too hard
to stir was it, for this the clay grew
tall? O what made fatuous sunbeams
toil to break earth's sleep at all.

The poem can be described as

- A** a lyric
 - B** an epic
 - C** a sonnet
 - D** an elegy
-

33 In literary devices, pun deals with

- A** placing words side by side
 - B** playing on words
 - C** arrangement of words placing two opposite phrases
 - D** placing two opposite phrases
-

34 This question is based on Literary Appreciation.

O! Ceremony, show me but thy worth what is thy soul of adoration.

The figure of speech in the lines above is

- A antithesis
 - B apostrophe
 - C personification
 - D euphemism
-

35 This question is based on William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet.

In Romeo and Juliet, the major role of Mercutio is to

- A Count Paris in Praise of Juliet
- B annoy Tybalt

- C** take another wife
- D** serve as an assistance to Romeo

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36 This question is based on Buchi Emecheta's *The Joys of Motherhood*.

In Nnaife's house, life became miserable to Nnu Ego by the news that

- A** Nnaife's elder brother had died
 - B** Nnaife has inherited buildings and properties
 - C** Nnaife had lost Ngozi
 - D** Nnaife has inherited his brother's wives and children.
-

37 This question is based on Buchi Emecheta's *The Joys of Motherhood*.

In the novel, it is necessary that Ona has to leave her father's house because

- A of the safety of her child
 - B of her love for Agbadi
 - C her father is dead
 - D that is the tradition
-

38 This question is based on William Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*.

_____ decides that Juliet should marry a young man named Paris, who has been asking for her hand

- A Friar Laurence

B Lord Capulet

C Balthasar

D Friar John

39 This question is based on Buchi Emecheta's *The Joys of Motherhood*.

Nnu Ego's Second Marriage as to Nnaife, a man who works in Lagos as the washer for

A Nwakusor

B Dr. and Mrs. Meers

C Nwaeze

D Ngozi

40 Ballad is meant to be

A discussed

B read

C sung

D acted

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41 This question is based on General literacy principles

The repetition of single words or phrases at the beginning of lines is

A parallelism

B assonance

C alliteration

D pun

42 The account of experiences of an individual during the course of a journey is known as

- A an epilogue
- B an autobiography
- C a travelogue
- D a prologue

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43 Read the extract below and this answer question.

The pattering rain was kicking up little explosions of dust in the glade. He heard the faint whisper of the stream

as it stole across the land and disappeared into the bush.

The underline expression in line 3 is

- A** litotes
 - B** personification
 - C** hyperbole
 - D** synecdoche
-

44 This question is based on Literary Appreciation.

The old man slept in his favorite chair
The wind ran its fingers through his hairs
He looked like a tree gone dry of sap
And his hands were dry upon his lap
The rhyme scheme of the poet above is

- A** bbaa
 - B** aabb
 - C** abab
 - D** baba
-

45 This question is based on selected poems from

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The excerpt below from Marvell's *To His Coy Mistress* is an example of

'... The youthful hue/sits on thy skin like a morning dew...'

- A Onomatopoeia
- B Oxymoron
- C Paradox
- D Simile

46 This question is based on J.C. De Graft's Sons and Daughters

The Major issues at hand in the Sons and Daughters play is that

- A Laboratory attendant is trying to act as a nurse
 - B The medical doctor is in love with Maanan
 - C James sees Awere as a bad influence
 - D Lawyer B is trying to Kiss Maanan.
-

47 This question is based on General literacy principles

A poet's use of regular rhythm is known as

- A allegory
- B assonance
- C metre

48 This question is based on Literary Appreciation.

That age is best which the first is.
When youth and blood are Warner;
But being spent, the worse ,
and worst Times still succeed the former.
The rhyme scheme is

A abba

B abab

C aabb

D bbaa

49 This question is based on J.C. De Graft's Sons
and Daughters

The device used by Aaron in the excerpt below is _____

'Now look what we have: a permanent bloom of ugly paper flowers!

- A** Rhetorical question
- B** Oxymoron
- C** Alliteration
- D** Euphemism

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50 This question is based on William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet.

What can you infer about Benvolio based on his interaction with Romeo and parents

- A** Benvolio is a troublemaker

- B** Benvolio is a cabinet maker
 - C** Benvolio is kingmaker
 - D** Benvolio is a peacemaker
-

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Answers: JAMB Past Questions: JAMB » Literature » 2015

1. A

Mr. Charrington, was the man who sold the diary, and later a coral paperweight to Winston.

2. C

In the novel, the death of the first child "Ngozi led to Nnu Ego's committing suicide at the waterfront to

Cater Bridge. The second child is therefore called Oshia, who belongs to Nnaife.

3. A

Simile is the comparison of two things using 'as' or 'like'. The simile in the excerpt is comparing 'this day as is the night before some festival'

4. A

Drama is happenings written in form of scripts that are not narrated but acted out on stage, television or radio by cast to the audience

5. C

Apostrophe is an address that is directed to an absent person as if the person is present. Therefore, the persona addresses the dead athlete as if the athlete is still present or alive.

6. B

Oxymoron is the placement of the two opposite words side by side.

7. A

Irony is the recognition of a reality different from its masking appearance. It is the "reversal" of meaning.

8. A

Eulogy is the word or writing used to praise a person or a thing for what had happened or what is happening.

9. C

Romeo was expelled or banished to Mantua for killing Tybalt in a street combat.

10. C

In the novel, Nnaife lost his job. Nnu Ego struggled to feed the family. Nnaife's family was sent out of their previous apartment; Nnu Ego rented a small apartment and finally travelled to the village of Ogboli in Ibuza homeland where she ended her life.

11. A

Mime is the gesture without any speech to the audience.

12. A

This is found on the third page of the book, where all characters and their roles in the play are written.

13. C

Synecdoche is an expression that uses part of a thing to represent a whole or a whole to represent a part.

14. B

15. D

The casualties discovered in Launko's End of the War were men.

16. B

Personification is the idea that represents a thing, an object, or abstract idea as though it were a living being.

17. A

Assonance is defined as the repetition of similar vowel sounds within lines. Therefore /i/ is the assonance.

18. A

It is earthquake because earth is tired of remaining constant in a place, buildings and mountains begin to shift in a position.

19. A

In Cope's Sonnet VII the poem is all about adventure.

20. B

The play took place in Ofo's place because James Ofo had allowed himself to be manipulated by Lawyer Bonu and seems to follow Lawyer Bonu's advice blindly.

21. B

An allegory is a work of art, such as a story or painting, in which the characters, images, and/or events act as symbols. The symbolism in an allegory can be interpreted to have a deeper meaning. An author may use allegory to illustrate a moral or spiritual truth, or political or historical situation. Allegory is an attempt through which abstract or symbol is used to portray evils and ills common in our society.

22. B

A heart of stone in the excerpt is metaphor because it is a direct comparison without the use of 'as' or 'like'.

23. D

I Kehinde, the daughter of Nnaife broke his father's (Nnaife) rules by running away with a Yoruba man, he assaulted the father of Kehinde's husband. Sent to prison, Nnaife therefore blamed Nnu Ego for all his problems.

24. A

This can easily be found at the beginning of the play where all the characters are listed.

25. A

Play is associated to drama and a drama is a situation whereby happenings written in form of scripts are not narrated but acted on stage, television or radio by cast to the audience.

26. D

Travelogue is associated to a journey

27. D

Rhyme is the similar sound at the end of each line of a poem. The rhyme of the poem above is indicated as /abb/.

28. B

29. B

A poet is a person who writes poetry.

30. D

Rhythm is the frequency of a sound, sound pattern or sound flow of a poetry.

31. B

The simile is Pataki and Mustard flowers like blue and yellow eyes, it compares Pataki flower and blue eyes; mustard flower and yellow eyes using 'like'. The irony is peeping through the green grass.

32. C

An epic is a long and elaborated narrative poem. It has a very serious philosophical or historical perspective.

33. B

Pun is the repetition of words with similar sound which has different meanings in the context in which they were used.

34. B

Apostrophe is an address directed to an absent person as if present. The apostrophe in the line above is the soul of adoration.

35. B

Mercutio and Benvolio who were Romeo's friends were waiting on the street when Tybalt arrives with the intention of challenging/punishing Romeo for sneaking into the party. Mercutio aggressively jumps into Romeo and Tybalt issues and drew out his sword on Tybalt but Tybalt cuts Mercutio.

36. D

Nnu Ego was sad to share Nnaife's pitiful salary with Adaku and her children. Life became worst for Nnu Ego and continues to struggle for survival.

37. B

It is obvious that once Onais married, she must leave her father's house except she gives birth to a boy. Unfortunately, she dies during childbirth.

38. B

39. B

Nnu Ego's first marriage was without a child, she therefore married Nnaife who washed for a white family, Dr. and Mrs. Meers.

40. C

Ballad can be seen as another form of narrative poem. It is written in short stanzas and formed by ordinary people who are not poets. It is meant to be sung. It tells simple stories of amusement, war, death, love and the supernatural.

41. A

The question is simply the definition of parallelism.

42. C

A travelogue is the correct answer because travelogue has to do with a journey from one place to another.

43. B

Personification is the idea of representing a thing, an object, a quality, inanimate thing or abstract idea as though it were a living being. The expression in line 3 above used an abstract idea to represent a living being i.e. explosion of dust hearing the whisper of the stream

44. B

This question is to test students understanding of rhymes. It is the similarity in the sound of the last word on each of the poetry line.

45. D

The excerpt in the question above is testing students knowledge on figure of speech. Simile is the comparison of two things using 'as' or 'like'. The excerpt compared skin and morning dew using 'like'.

46. D

Most student failed to read, understand and this discuss play among themselves. The lawyer fell in love with Maanan which is not interested in lawyer B's love. Lawyer effort to kiss Maanan became an issue in the play.

47. C

Metre is the measurement and arrangement of regular number of stressed and unstressed syllabus within a line. It is determined by rhythm in a poem

48. B

Rhyme is the language of poetry that is expressed rhythmically. In poem, the similar sound of the last word is arranged as sounds.

49. B

The excerpt ended with exclamation mark not a question mark which automatically nullify option A (i.e. Rhetorical question - which is a question that requires no answer). Oxymoron is the answer because it is the placement of two opposite words side by side; paper flower in the excerpt is oxymoron.

50. D

Benvolio is a peacemaker. He is a Montague and Romeo's friend. He attempts to stop the opening fight with the Capulets in the market.

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