

JAMB Literature-in-English Syllabus

Last Updated: 2025

1. DRAMA

Drama

Content:

- Types:
 - i. Tragedy
 - ii. Comedy
 - iii. Tragicomedy
 - iv. Melodrama
 - v. Farce
 - vi. Opera etc.
- Dramatic Techniques
 - i. Characterization
 - ii. Dialogue
 - iii. Flashback
 - iv. Mime
 - v. Costume
 - vi. Music/Dance
 - vii. Décor/scenery
 - viii. Acts/Scenes
 - ix. Soliloquy/aside
 - x. Figures of Speech etc
- Interpretation of the Prescribed Texts
 - i. Theme
 - ii. Plot
 - iii. Socio-political context
 - iv. Setting

Learning Objectives:

1. identify the various types of drama;
2. analyze the contents of the various types of drama;
3. compare and contrast the features of different dramatic types;
4. demonstrate adequate knowledge of dramatic techniques used in each prescribed text;

5. differentiate between styles of selected playwrights;
6. determine the theme of any prescribed text;
7. identify the plot of the play;
8. apply the lessons of the play to everyday living
9. identify the spatial and temporal setting of the play.

2. PROSE

Prose

Content:

- Types:
 - i. Fiction
 - - Novel
 - - Novella/Novelette
 - - Short story
 - ii. Non-fiction
 - - Biography
 - - Autobiography
 - - Memoir
 - iii. Faction: a combination of fact and fiction
- Narrative Techniques/Devices:
 - i. Point of view
 - - Omniscient/Third Person
 - - First Person
 - ii. Characterisation
 - - Round, flat, foil, hero, antihero, etc
 - iii. Language
- Textual Analysis
 - i. Theme
 - ii. Plot
 - iii. Setting (Temporal/Spatial)
 - iv. Socio-political context

Learning Objectives:

1. differentiate between types of prose;
2. identify the category that each prescribed text belongs to;
3. analyze the components of each type of prose;

4. identify the narrative techniques used in each of the prescribed texts;
5. determine an author's narrative style;
6. distinguish between one type of character from another;
7. determine the thematic preoccupation of the author of the prescribed text;
8. indicate the plot of the novel; identify the temporal and spatial setting of the novel.
9. identify the temporal and spatial setting of the novel
10. relate the prescribed text to real-life situations.

3. POETRY

Poetry

Content:

- Types:
 - i. Sonnet
 - ii. Ode
 - iii. Lyrics
 - iv. Elegy
 - v. Ballad
 - vi. Panegyric
 - vii. Epic
 - viii. Free verse
 - ix. Blank verse
 - x. Dramatic monologue

Learning Objectives:

1. differentiate between types of poetry;
2. analyze the contents of the various types of poetry;
3. compare and contrast the features of different poetic types;
4. demonstrate adequate knowledge of poetic techniques used in each prescribed text;
5. differentiate between styles of selected poets;
6. determine the theme of any prescribed text;
7. identify the structure and form of the poem;
8. apply the lessons of the poem to everyday living
9. identify the spatial and temporal setting of the poem.