Department of English

Ph.D. ENGLISH ENTRANCE EXAMINATION, MAY 2019

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do not reveal your identity in any manner on the OMR sheet or answer book.
2. Enter your Hall Ticket Number on the question paper, the OMR sheet and the answer book.
3. This question paper consists of two sections:
   - **Part A** consists of Multiple Choice Questions in Research Methodology and must be answered in the OMR sheet. Each question carries 1 (ONE) Mark. 0.33 marks will be deducted for every wrong answer. No marks will be deducted for questions not attempted. **Part A** carries 35 (THIRTY FIVE) marks.
   - **Part B** must be answered in the answer book provided, and requires you to write an essay and a critical analysis of the given passages. The essay carries 15 (FIFTEEN) marks and the critical analysis carries 20 (TWENTY) marks. **Part B** carries 35 (THIRTY FIVE) marks.

This question paper contains 12 (TWELVE) printed pages.

4. At the end of the examination return the OMR sheet and the answer book.

[Turn to Page 2 for PART A]
PART A
Research Methodology
(1x35 = 35 marks)

1. Which of the following would be likely to have a copy of the writings of early Indian
travellers to the West?

A. Gutenberg.org
B. Archive.org
C. Bartleby.com
D. EEBO

2. Several authors have journals devoted exclusively to their work. Identify the one which
is a misfit in the list below.

A. James Joyce Quarterly
B. Emily Dickinson International Society Bulletin
C. John Clare Annual
D. George Herbert Journal

3. Match the journals with their descriptors:

I. Hypatia
II. Marvels and Tales
III. The Journal of Inkling Studies
IV. Mnemosyne

a. dedicated to the work and legacies of the
circle centred on C S Lewis, JRR Tolkien, etc.
b. the leading academic journal focussing on
Greek and Latin literature
c. a forum for cutting-edge work in feminist
philosophy
d. Publishes scholarly work dealing with the
fairy tale in any of its diverse manifestations
and contexts

A. I - c; II - a; III - d; IV - b
B. I - c; II - d; III - a; IV - b
C. I - b; II - c; III - a; IV - d
D. I - d; II - a; III b; IV - c

4. If in a standard reference guide to English Studies, abbreviations and acronyms such
as AA refer to the American Archivist; ALS to American Literary Scholarship and
AHA to American Historical Association, what does AHC refer to?

A. American Historical Council
B. Arts and Humanities Citation Index
C. Arts, History, Commerce
D. Arts and Humanities Index of China
5. Which is the odd one out in the list of titles (I to III) and identify why it is so from the second list (a to c)?

I. Transformations: the Journal of Inclusive Scholarship and Pedagogy
II. Approaches to Teaching Dickinson's Poetry
III. Radical Teacher

a. The others are journals devoted to inclusive teaching practices
b. The others are American journals
c. The others privilege far left politics in the classroom

A. I – c
B. II – b
C. III – b
D. II – a

6. A flyleaf is ------------.

A. an empty page at the beginning or end of a book next to the cover
B. something that has been added to a book, speech, or document
C. an introduction at the beginning of a book explaining its purpose
D. a long article or a short book on a particular subject

7. According to the MLA 8th edition how is a URL of the Web source text House of a Thousand Doors cited in works-cited-lists entries?


8. Which of the following research methods is particularly associated with a 'recovery motif'?

A. Oral history
B. Inductive Method
C. Discourse Analysis
D. Quantitative Analysis
9. Who among the following scholars was a key advocate of Oral History as a research method?

A. Paul Thompson  
B. Eric Hobsbawm  
C. Homi Bhabha  
D. Dipesh Chakrabarty

10. Which of the following research methods specifically aims to produce an "explanatory critique"...of how and to what purpose language use is invested through the deployment of specific textual features (lexical, grammatical and semantic), in order to facilitate understanding of its effects and the possibility of resistance to that investment?

A. Oral History  
B. Ethnographic Method  
C. Historiography  
D. Discourse Analysis

Answer questions 11 to 15 based on the following text:

The researcher must have a vivid sense of history: the ability to cast himself back into another age. He must be able to readjust his intellectual sights and imaginative responses to the systems of thought and the social and cultural atmosphere that prevailed in fourteenth century England or early twentieth century America. He must be able to think as people thought when Newton was educating them in the laws of physics, and to dream as people dreamed when Byron was spinning out his oriental romances. Otherwise he cannot comprehend the current attitudes or the artistic assumptions that guided an author as he set pen to paper. At the same time, he must retain his footing in the twentieth century for the sake of the indispensable perspective the historian needs. His sense of the past, then, must be a double vision—intimate and penetrating (in no way confined to the externals of an age, as that of historical novelists and popular biographers too often is) and yet detached.

11. Why should the researcher have a sense of history?

A. Without a sense of history, the scholar cannot grasp the context of the work or the psychology of the author.  
B. Because, without it, the scholar cannot grasp the meaning of the work.  
C. Without a sense of history, the scholar will inflate the value of the work and privilege a presentist viewpoint.  
D. Because, without it, the scholar will not be able to connect the past to the present

12. A vivid sense of history consists of --------.

A. extensive intimacy with and a detached perspective on the past  
B. personal affection for a work and its author  
C. indifference to the present period and a close affiliation to the past  
D. peer group validation of the research findings
13. The ability to cast oneself back into another age does not involve an awareness ---------.

A. that there are discrete periods in history
B. that history is a singular whole—it cannot be divided into phases
C. that one can detach oneself from the present sufficiently enough to grasp another age
D. that one needs to remain closely connected to the present so as to recognize the past as past

14. The literary scholar’s sense of the past ---------.

A. should be confined to only literary things of the bygone era
B. should not make a distinction between things literary and non-literary
C. should be more concerned with the non-literary context
D. should be aware of the past both in its literary and non-literary aspects

15. In what ways should the literary scholar’s method be different from those of popular biographers and historical novelists?

A. It should be able to cut through the surface and reach a deeper understanding of the past.
B. It should not be concerned about singular individuals and their fictional representations
C. It should not be concerned with novels
D. It should be attentive to both popular and historical narratives and confined to prose accounts.

16. *Profession*, a journal that publishes articles on, among other things, classroom teaching, is brought out by the ---------.

A. Modern Language Association
B. North American Victorian Studies Association
C. British Association of Romantic Studies
D. Australian Academy of Letters

17. Why would a researcher consider a book’s blurb to be a rather unreliable scholarly resource?

A. A blurb is a promotional piece of writing by the publisher that may not be impartial or scholarly.
B. A blurb is a professional endorsement by an expert that may well be challenged by other experts.
C. A blurb is a promotional piece of writing prepared by authors that may well be challenged by other authors.
D. A blurb is a professional endorsement by writers or critics that may not be impartial or scholarly.
18. Look at the following excerpt from an essay, and identify the incorrect statement that follows it.

Ascher shows how contact with the homeless can be unsettling and depressing. Yet she also suggests that these encounters are useful because they can teach others to be more compassionate (113-115).

A. This is a summary of Ascher’s views in her essay appearing on 113 to 115.
B. This passage plagiarises Ascher because it does not put words within quote marks.
C. Here, Ascher’s views do not appear in her words but they appear in other words.
D. This is not quite a paraphrase because it carries more than one idea from Ascher.

19. Identify the item below that does not call for documentation in research.

A. Sources from which you borrow your ideas, arguments, and texts.
B. Sources that are anonymous or of doubtful authenticity.
C. Disputed and controversial facts and figures that inform your study.
D. Information known and available in reference works and compendia.

20. Which of the following terms best describes a researcher’s thinking/ assumption that links ‘data’ and ‘claim’?

A. Hypothesis
B. Prolegomenon
C. Supposition
D. Warrant

21. CD-ROMs, pen drives, diskettes, and magnetic tapes are

A. transitional databases
B. portable databases
C. unseasonal databases
D. flexible databases

22. Which of the following courses would be avoidable when your larger area of study is the Teaching of English in India?

A. Translation and Adaptation of Classics
B. School Textbooks and Syllabi
C. History of Modern Indian Education
D. Indian Aesthetic Traditions and Theory

23. Ordinarily, to collate means to collect and combine texts or information, but research involving authenticity and authority of texts uses collate to mean

A. compare editorial notes and glossary in published work
B. check variant readings of cited material in a text
C. verify the number and order of sheets of printed matter
D. seek circumstantial evidence of interpolated material
24. The name widely known in library reference circles as a guide to trace familiar quotations is ———.

A. Granger's
B. Stallman's
C. Brewer's
D. Bartlett's

25. Identify from the bibliographical list the source(s) that you wouldn't consider primary, of the English writer whose texts form the core of your doctoral research.

a. The writer's interviews with fellow-writers and critics.
b. All major writing for which he/she is justly famous.
c. The writer's Nobel Prize citation and allied press reports
d. Minor writings, letters printed in newspapers and book news
e. Juvenilia and miscellanea collected over the years.

A. Only 'e'
B. 'a,' 'b' and 'e'
C. Only 'c'
D. 'b,' 'd,' and 'e'

26. The introductory paragraph of your research article / chapter of dissertation must essentially carry the following:

a. Brief information your reader ought to have regarding the status of scholarship in the subject
b. Some words on the disputatious status of such scholarship of which the reader might be unaware
c. The objective/scope of your research and its purported contribution to scholarship
d. How you would consider yourself competent for such work as you hope to present in your work
e. What your reader might hope or expect to look for or find in your study
f. How different your approach/view will be from the scholarship in the area of your research.

A. c, d, e.
B. a, c, e, f.
C. c, d, e, f.
D. a, c, e.

27. Identify the one detail scholars seldom look for in the abstract of an article.

A. essential content of the work
B. circumstances of composition
C. select details of method and motive
D. data on which the arguments rest
28. That John Milton’s caesuras in *Paradise Lost* lead one to this conclusion or that is a study one undertakes exclusively on the basis of evidence. How does one characterize that evidence?

A. extraneous
B. desultory
C. hypothetical
D. internal

29. *Post hoc* reasoning is flawed because it assumes ----------.

A. That one thing didn’t cause another simply because it preceded the other.
B. That one thing caused another simply because it preceded the other.
C. That one thing preceded another simply because it caused the other.
D. That neither one nor the other caused anything by sheer antecedence.

30. Jerome G. McGann pioneered “social textual criticism” that has considerably influenced our understanding of literary texts in their public availability. In brief, what McGann proposed was the following:

A. Revisions of literary texts may become necessary depending on their colonial and other contexts which will certainly not end with one important commentary or the other. Such revisioning permits historians to reconsider literary texts in order to locate them in the long tradition of the production of imperial fictions and help us remap British or other cultural geographies through centuries.

B. All public appearances of a text — as revised and changed by authors, editors, readers, publishers, friends, and relations — have potentially equal textual significance and that the “bibliographical code” (the various physical forms in which a text appears publicly) is just as much part of its social meaning as is the “linguistic code” of its verbal content.

C. Forms of textuality appear to emphasize the sheer aesthetic experience of linguistic sound over the denotationality of the word, states of being over states of knowing, poetic over prose forms, mood over mind. *Logos* was critically important for the Anglo-American mind within the highest-value text, the Bible, for the salvation of the people’s souls depended upon it.

D. If we accept that actions, objects, beliefs, languages, ideas, and so on are culture-relative, we hide the power of texts from which “different cultures” came into being in the first place. “Cultures” have not been there all the time, but have been forced into being what they “are” today by the making of the modern/colonial world of texts and textuality.
31. Match the following journals with their distinguishing aims and methods of scholarship:

(a) *The Harvard Advocate*
(b) *Prooftexts*
(c) *Diacritics*
(d) *Kunapipi*
(e) *Obsidian*
(f) *Clio*

(i) A Review of Contemporary Criticism
(ii) Literature & Arts in the African Diaspora
(iii) A Journal of Jewish Literary History
(iv) Journal of Postcolonial Writing
(v) A Journal of Literature, History, and the Philosophy of History...
(vi) The oldest continuously published collegiate literary magazine in the US

A. (a) – (vi); (b) – (v); (c) – (i); (d) – (iv); (e) – (ii); (f) – (iii).
B. (a) – (v); (b) – (iii); (c) – (ii); (d) – (iv); (e) – (i); (f) – (vi).
C. (a) – (vi); (b) – (iii); (c) – (v); (d) – (iv); (e) – (ii); (f) – (i).
D. (a) – (vi); (b) – (iii); (c) – (i); (d) – (iv); (e) – (ii); (f) – (v).

32. In a standard *scholarly* edition of a literary text, a reader will hardly ever expect to:

A. find the original text bowdlerized.
B. see the language of the text modernized.
C. find the sections of the original text excised.
D. see the long original text abridged.

* Answer questions 33-34, based on the poem given below.


Call the roller of big cigars,
The muscular one, and bid him whip
In kitchen cups concupiscent curds.
Let the wenches dawdle in such dress
As they are used to wear, and let the boys
Bring flowers in last month's newspapers.
Let be be finale of seem.
The only emperor is the emperor of ice-cream.

Take from the dresser of deal,
Lacking the three glass knobs, that sheet
On which she embroidered fantails once
And spread it so as to cover her face.
If her homy feet protrude, they come
To show how cold she is, and dumb.
Let the lamp affix its beam.
The only emperor is the emperor of ice-cream.

33. You want to cite the line from “Let be be ... ice cream” from the first stanza of the poem. How will you cite the lines in the body of the text as per the MLA 8th Edition?

A. Let be be finale of seem.
The only emperor is the emperor of ice-cream (W. Stevens, p.64).
B. Let be be finale of seem/The only emperor is the emperor of ice-cream (Stevens lines 7-8)
C. Let be be finale of seem.
The only emperor is the emperor of ice-cream (Stevens, Wallace 7-8).
D. Let be be ... ice cream (Stevens, lines 7-8, p.64)

34. How will you include the entry in the Works Cited List (as per MLA 8th Edition)?


35. If you are studying narratives, the following lines from To the Lighthouse will be regarded as:

'It must have been fifteen - no, twenty years ago - that I last saw her', she was saying, turning back to him again as if she could not lose a moment of talk, for she was absorbed by what they were saying. So he had actually heard from her this evening!

A. Open direct discourse
B. Free indirect discourse
C. Reported speech
D. Closed indirect speech

(Please turn to Page 11 for Part B)
Part B

Essay
(15 marks)

Write an essay on any ONE of the following topics. Your essay will be evaluated on the basis of your cohesive argument and the range of texts and illustrative material you draw upon.

1. The historical novel in India
2. Epidemics and literature
3. Is there a human in the posthuman?
4. Literary futures, the dystopic present
5. Feminism vs. feminisms
6. Literature and power structure
7. "The lost home": refugees and repatriates
8. Gaming and literature: a new narrative
9. Literary gerontology
10. Oral narratives and archives

Passage for Analysis
(20 marks)

1. What significant themes or preoccupations connect the passage in prose to the poem that follows it? Comment on the perspectival differences or similarities that strike you as remarkable.

At some point in life, you can't live on your own anymore. We don't like thinking about it, but after retirement age, about half of us eventually move into a nursing home, usually around age 80. It remains your most likely final address outside of a hospital.

To the extent that there is much public discussion about this phase of life, it's about getting more control over our deaths (with living wills and the like). But we don't much talk about getting more control over our lives in such places. It's as if we've given up on the idea. And that's a problem.

This week, I visited a woman who just moved into a nursing home. She is 89 years old with congestive heart failure, disabling arthritis, and after a series of falls, little choice but to leave her condominium. Usually, it's the children who push for a change, but in this case, she was the one who did. "I fell twice in one week, and I told my daughter I don't belong at home anymore," she said. She moved in a month ago. She picked the facility herself. It has excellent ratings, friendly staff, and her daughter lives nearby. She's glad to be in a safe place — if there's anything a decent nursing home is built for, it is safety. But she is struggling.

The trouble is — and it's a possibility we've mostly ignored for the very old — she expects more from life than safety. "I know I can't do what I used to," she said, "but this feels like a hospital, not a home." And that is in fact the near-universal reality.
I met the Bishop on the road
And much said he and I.
'Those breasts are flat and fallen now
Those veins must soon be dry;
Live in a heavenly mansion,
Not in some foul sty.'

'Fair and foul are near of kin,
And fair needs foul,' I cried.
'My friends are gone, but that's a truth
Nor grave nor bed denied,
Learned in bodily lowliness
And in the heart's pride.'

'A woman can be proud and stiff
When on love intent;
But Love has pitched his mansion in
The place of excrement;
For nothing can be sole or whole
That has not been rent.'

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2019 Entrance Exams

English Ph.D. Key

1. B
2. C
3. B
4. B
5. D
6. A
7. C
8. A
9. A
10. D
11. A
12. A
13. B
14. D
15. A
16. A
17. A
18. B
19. D
20. D
21. B
22. D
23. C
24. D
25. C
26. B
27. B
28. D
29. B
30. B
31. D
32. A
33. B
34. B
35. B