History of English Literature - Important MCQs (Part 30)

Page 147 - Historical Significance of the Novel

Q1. The popularity of the novel coincided with the growth of a reading public where who were becoming increasingly numerous?

A. Politicians

B. Women

C. Children

D. Soldiers

Answer: B

Q2. As a new form of art, the novel abandoned the cramping limitations of...

A. Romanticism

B. Classicism

C. Realism

D. Medievalism

Answer: B

Q3. The rise of the novel was one result of the...

A. Aristocratic movement

B. Democratic movement

C. Conservative movement

D. Industrial movement

Answer: B

Q4. The romance, like tragedy, had been almost consistently...

A. Middle-class

B. Proletarian

C. Aristocratic

D. Democratic

Answer: C

Q5. The novel's sympathetic handling of middle-class and low life is evidence of its...

A. Tragic nature

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B. Democratic quality

C. Aristocratic bias

D. Religious purpose

Answer: B

Q6. Under whose firm rule was England settling down when the novel appeared?

A. King George III

B. Sir Robert Walpole

C. William Pitt

D. Lord North

Answer: B

Q7. As commerce and industry grew, the prestige of the old feudal nobility was on the...

A. Rise

B. Wane

C. Same level

D. Way to dominance

Answer: B

Q8. Who said of Pamela that it was the 'landmark of a great social, no less than a great literary transition'?

A. Macaulay

B. Lord Morley

C. Samuel Johnson

D. Thackeray

Answer: B

Q9. What did Lord Morley say all England went mad with enthusiasm over?

A. A tragic hero

B. A rustic lady's maid

C. A fallen king

D. A young explorer

Answer: B

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Q10. The novel tended from the first to take a peculiar place as the typical art-form of the...

A. Feudal era

B. Introspective and analytical modern world

C. Classical world

D. Dark Ages

Answer: B

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Page 148 - Samuel Richardson and Pamela

Q1. What was Samuel Richardson's profession before he drifted into authorship?

A. Lawyer

B. Prosperous printer

C. Physician

D. Clergyman

Answer: B

Q2. At what age did Richardson begin his authorship?

A. 30

B. 40

C. 50

D. 60

Answer: C

Q3. Richardson was asked by publishers to prepare a little volume of...

A. Essays

B. Sermons

C. Poems

D. Letters

Answer: D

Q4. What was the underlying purpose of Richardson's suggested volume of letters?

A. Political debate

B. Guidance in conduct combined with instruction in composition

C. History of England

D. Entertainment for children

Answer: B

Q5. What was the title of Richardson's first epoch-making book?

A. Clarissa

B. Tom Jones

C. Pamela, or Virtue Rewarded

D. Sir Charles Grandison

Answer: C

Q6. What is the profession of the protagonist in 'Pamela'?

A. Governess

B. Cook

C. Lady's maid

D. Seamstress

Answer: C

Q7. What happens at the end of the story to Pamela?

A. She runs away

B. She becomes wealthy

C. The libertine son makes her his wife

D. She dies tragically

Answer: C

Q8. To a modern reader, the moral teaching in Pamela seems to the last degree...

A. Pure and noble

B. Sordid and mercenary

C. Complex and deep

D. Irrelevant

Answer: B

Q9. What was Richardson's masterpiece?

A. Pamela

B. Clarissa

C. Sir Charles Grandison

D. Amelia

Answer: B

Q10. What is the name of Richardson's third novel published in 1753?

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A. Joseph Andrews

B. Tom Jones

C. Sir Charles Grandison

D. The Vicar of Wakefield

Answer: C

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Page 149 - Clarissa and Richardson's Style

Q1. Who is the scoundrel character in 'Clarissa' whose name has become proverbial?

A. Tom Jones

B. Lovelace

C. Blifil

D. Squire Western

Answer: B

Q2. How are Richardson's books structured?

A. As an epic poem

B. In the form of letters

C. As a diary

D. As a dramatic play

Answer: B

Q3. What is one disadvantage of Richardson's epistolary method?

A. It lacks detail

B. It leaves a sense of extreme artificiality

C. It is too brief

D. It is overly realistic

Answer: B

Q4. For what does Richardson still hold a pre-eminent place despite his prolixity?

A. Microscopic analysis of motive and passion

B. Action-packed plots

C. Historical accuracy

D. Comic relief

Answer: A

Q5. In many of its fundamental characteristics, Richardson's genius was rather...

A. Masculine than feminine

B. Feminine than masculine

C. Universal and objective

D. Cold and detached

Answer: B

Q6. From boyhood up, Richardson sought by preference the society of...

A. Scholars

B. Soldiers

C. Women

D. Politicians

Answer: C

Q7. What did the moral element in Richardson's work suffer greatly from?

A. His wide worldly experience

B. His narrow view and small first-hand knowledge of the world

C. His lack of religious faith

D. His political ambitions

Answer: B

Q8. Whose ethical traditions did Richardson carry on?

A. Swift and Pope's

B. Addison and Steele's

C. Dryden and Milton's

D. Chaucer's

Answer: B

Q9. The atmosphere of Richardson's books is compared to that of a...

A. Battlefield

B. Hot-house

C. Marketplace

D. Courtroom

Answer: B

Q10. Richardson's moralising is said to sometimes sink into wearisome...

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A. Debate

B. Philosophy

C. Twaddle

D. Rhetoric

Answer: C

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Page 150 - Henry Fielding and His Novels

Q1. Who was the second of the eighteenth-century novelists and by far the greatest?

A. Tobias Smollett

B. Laurence Sterne

C. Henry Fielding

D. Oliver Goldsmith

Answer: C

Q2. How did Richardson judge Fielding's writings?

A. 'Magnificent and true'

B. 'Wretchedly low and dirty'

C. 'Pompous and heavy'

D. 'Divine and moral'

Answer: B

Q3. Before he took up the novel, what had Fielding been writing for some ten years?

A. Poetry

B. Essays

C. Plays

D. Biographies

Answer: C

Q4. Fielding's long training in drama taught him valuable lessons in the art of...

A. Rhyming

B. Construction

C. Stage design

D. Acting

Answer: B

Q5. What feeling did Fielding have towards 'Pamela'?

A. He admired its morality

B. He was disgusted by its sentimentalism and absurdities

C. He thought it was too short

D. He felt it was realistic

Answer: B

Q6. What was Fielding's first novel, originating as a burlesque of 'Pamela'?

A. Tom Jones

B. The Adventures of Joseph Andrews

C. Amelia

D. Jonathan Wild

Answer: B

Q7. In 'Joseph Andrews', the hero is supposedly the brother of...

A. Clarissa

B. Pamela

C. Amelia

D. Sophia

Answer: B

Q8. After parodying 'Pamela' for ten chapters, 'Joseph Andrews' becomes an epic of the...

A. Highway

B. Seas

C. Court

D. Battlefield

Answer: A

Q9. What is Fielding's greatest novel, published in 1749?

A. Joseph Andrews

B. Amelia

C. The History of Tom Jones

D. Pamela

Answer: C

Q10. Who is the squire that brings up the foundling hero in 'Tom Jones'?

A. Squire Western

B. Squire Allworthy

C. Squire Booby

D. Sir Charles

Answer: B

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Page 151 - Fielding's Structure and Smollett

Q1. What was Fielding's third great novel, published in 1751?

A. Jonathan Wild

B. Amelia

C. Tom Jones

D. Joseph Andrews

Answer: B

Q2. In 'Amelia', Fielding centered the interest in the character of a...

A. Foundling boy

B. Woman

C. Libertine

D. Corrupt politician

Answer: B

Q3. 'Amelia' is described as far less vigorous and humorous than its predecessors, exhibiting signs of...

A. Failing power

B. Growing genius

C. Romantic influence

D. Religious conversion

Answer: A

Q4. Fielding was much concerned about the structural principles of prose fiction, which he treated as a form of...

A. Science

B. History

C. Art

D. Philosophy

Answer: C

Q5. Where does Fielding present a skilled craftsman's essays on questions connected with his craft?

A. In his personal letters

B. In the prefaces and introductory chapters

C. In an independent pamphlet

D. In his plays

Answer: B

Q6. Which two writers lavished wildly extravagant praise upon the plot of 'Tom Jones'?

A. Johnson and Boswell

B. Pope and Swift

C. Coleridge and Thackeray

D. Addison and Steele

Answer: C

Q7. As a social satirist and teacher, Fielding's place is close beside his friend...

A. Joshua Reynolds

B. Hogarth

C. Garrick

D. Burke

Answer: B

Q8. In depicting vice, Fielding assumed limitless...

A. Freedom

B. Caution

C. Preaching

D. Censorship

Answer: A

Q9. What was the name of the third writer usually associated with Richardson and Fielding in the eighteenth-century novel?

A. Laurence Sterne

B. Oliver Goldsmith

C. Tobias Smollett

D. Daniel Defoe

Answer: C

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Q10. How did Smollett gain first-hand knowledge of the sea and sailors?

A. He was an admiral

B. He spent some years as a surgeon on a man-of-war

C. He was a pirate

D. He worked as a merchant captain

Answer: B