History of English Literature - Important MCQs (Part 41)

Page 202 - General Prose and Edinburgh Men

Q1. The rise of the modern review and magazine gave great encouragement to what form of writing?
A. The epic poem
B. Essay-writing
C. The dramatic monologue
D. The three-volume novel
Answer: B

Q2. The literature of criticism divided critics of the age into which two groups?
A. The conservative/classical and the radical/romantic
B. The optimists and the pessimists
C. The realists and the naturalists
D. The political and the philosophical
Answer: A

Q3. How is the prose of the eighteenth century (like that of Addison and Goldsmith) characterized?
A. It lacked lucidity and charm
B. It had strong passion and deep feeling
C. It had lucidity, grace, and charm, but lacked variety, warmth, and color
D. It was highly complex and deeply structural
Answer: C

Q4. What did the romantic movement bring to prose?
A. A return to strict classical rules
B. A complete lack of emotion
C. Strong passion, deep feeling, and a love of variety, warmth, and color
D. A purely scientific and analytical approach
Answer: C

Q5. The new movement in prose was partly connected with a revival of interest in which authors?
A. The early Augustan authors
B. The pre-Augustan authors
C. The contemporary French authors
D. The ancient Roman authors
Answer: B

Q6. The prose writers of this era are grouped into three categories. Which is NOT one of these?
A. The Edinburgh men
B. The London men
C. The Lake District men
D. Miscellaneous writers falling under neither head
Answer: C

Q7. Who was called by his admirers the 'Archcritic' and by his victims 'Judge Jeffrey'?

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A. Francis Jeffrey
B. Sydney Smith
C. John Wilson
D. John Gibson Lockhart
Answer: A

Q8. To which periodical did Francis Jeffrey contribute some 200 articles?
A. The Quarterly
B. Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine
C. The Edinburgh Review
D. The London Magazine
Answer: C

Q9. The nickname 'Judge Jeffrey' references a notorious 'bloody judge' of which century?
A. The sixteenth century
B. The seventeenth century
C. The eighteenth century
D. The nineteenth century
Answer: B

Q10. How is Francis Jeffrey's critical stance described?
A. Radically romantic
B. As representing the conservative side in criticism
C. As completely rejecting all Augustan traditions
D. As heavily favoring the new romantic poets
Answer: B

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Page 203 - Jeffrey, Smith, and Wilson

Q1. Which of the following is described as a limitation of Francis Jeffrey's criticism today?
A. He had too much sympathy for the romantics
B. He lacked breadth of sympathy and flexibility of judgment
C. He focused too much on subject-matter and neglected form
D. He was too deeply concerned with the large human aspects of literature
Answer: B

Q2. Who was an exceedingly clever clergyman better known for his witticisms than his literature?
A. Francis Jeffrey
B. John Wilson
C. Sydney Smith
D. Thomas De Quincey
Answer: C

Q3. What is the title of Sydney Smith's brilliant satire on the Irish question (1807)?
A. Noctes Ambrosianae
B. Peter Plymley's Letters
C. Murder considered as one of the Fine Arts
D. The Bride's Tragedy
Answer: B

Q4. Why are Sydney Smith's writings now little read?
A. They are too complex to understand
B. They deal mostly with dead abuses and forgotten controversies
C. They are written in difficult Latin
D. They lack humor and are too serious
Answer: B

Q5. Which 'Blackwood's man' was famous under the pen-name of Christopher North?
A. Thomas De Quincey
B. John Gibson Lockhart
C. John Wilson
D. Sydney Smith
Answer: C

Q6. Which position did John Wilson hold while also being a devotee of the prize ring?
A. Editor of the Edinburgh Review
B. Professor of Moral Philosophy in the University of Edinburgh
C. Prime Minister
D. Poet Laureate
Answer: B

Q7. What is considered John Wilson's best work?

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A. Noctes Ambrosianae
B. Peter Plymley's Letters
C. Confessions of an English Opium Eater
D. The English Mail Coach
Answer: A

Q8. In what format are the 'Noctes Ambrosianae' written?
A. Formal essays
B. Dialogues
C. Epic poetry
D. Tragic drama
Answer: B

Q9. What makes 'Noctes Ambrosianae' difficult for the southern reader to appreciate today?
A. Their heavy use of Latin
B. Their broad Scotch language and largely local/temporary interest
C. Their lack of humor and dash
D. Their focus on deep theological arguments
Answer: B

Q10. Who was a personal friend of Wilson, wrote for the London Magazine, and is considered a far greater figure in literature?
A. Sydney Smith
B. Thomas De Quincey
C. Charles Lamb
D. Leigh Hunt
Answer: B

History of English Literature - Important MCQs (Part 41)

Page 204 - De Quincey and Lockhart

Q1. Thomas De Quincey is considered one of our chief masters of what kind of prose?
A. Augustan rational prose
B. Romantic impassioned prose
C. Scientific descriptive prose
D. Neoclassical satire
Answer: B

Q2. Which of the following is NOT listed as a defect in De Quincey's writing?
A. A habit of abusing his extraordinary learning
B. Sinking into obscurity and pedantry
C. Lacking any sense of humor
D. Indulging in huge unwieldy digressions
Answer: C

Q3. In which work did De Quincey achieve remarkable success combining grim humor with the horrible?
A. The English Mail Coach
B. Dream Fugue
C. Murder considered as one of the Fine Arts
D. Joan of Arc
Answer: C

Q4. By what work will Thomas De Quincey always be best remembered?
A. Confessions of an English Opium Eater
B. Life of Scott
C. The English Comic Writers
D. Spanish Ballads
Answer: A

Q5. Which writer acts as a connecting link between Edinburgh and London, editing the Quarterly from 1826?
A. Thomas De Quincey
B. John Gibson Lockhart
C. Charles Lamb
D. William Hazlitt
Answer: B

Q6. Who wrote the powerful study of a good man's sin and remorse in the novel 'Adam Blair'?
A. John Wilson
B. Thomas De Quincey
C. John Gibson Lockhart
D. Charles Lamb
Answer: C

Q7. What is Lockhart's principal title to fame?

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A. His Life of Burns
B. His Spanish Ballads
C. His magnificent Life of Scott
D. His novel Adam Blair
Answer: C

Q8. Lockhart was romantic with Scott and sympathized with Wordsworth, but how did he treat the younger generation (Shelley, Keats, Tennyson)?
A. With great admiration
B. With indifference
C. With hostility
D. By imitating their style
Answer: C

Q9. Lockhart is known to have written an almost equally savage criticism of whose 1833 volume in the Quarterly?
A. John Keats
B. Percy Bysshe Shelley
C. Lord Byron
D. Alfred Tennyson
Answer: D

Q10. Whose daughter did John Gibson Lockhart marry in 1820?
A. William Wordsworth's
B. Sir Walter Scott's
C. Francis Jeffrey's
D. John Wilson's
Answer: B

History of English Literature - Important MCQs (Part 41)

Page 205 - Lockhart and Charles Lamb

Q1. What nickname was given to John Gibson Lockhart due to his special gift of sarcasm used with deadly effect?
A. The Serpent
B. The Scorpion
C. Judge Jeffrey
D. The Archcritic
Answer: B

Q2. Who is described as 'first among these in our affections' when discussing the London men?
A. William Hazlitt
B. Leigh Hunt
C. Charles Lamb
D. Thomas De Quincey
Answer: C

Q3. According to Southey, whose memory 'will retain its fragrance as long as the best spice expended on the Pharaohs'?
A. Charles Lamb
B. John Keats
C. Percy Bysshe Shelley
D. William Wordsworth
Answer: A

Q4. What is the most widely-known portion of Charles Lamb's work?
A. Tales from Shakespeare
B. John Woodvil
C. Essays of Elia
D. Specimens of English Dramatic Poets
Answer: C

Q5. In his essays, Charles Lamb is compared to which other great egotist writer?
A. Francis Bacon
B. Michel de Montaigne
C. Samuel Johnson
D. Thomas Browne
Answer: B

Q6. How is Charles Lamb's unique blending of tenderness and quaint fancies described?
A. Swiftian
B. Lambish
C. Byronic
D. Shakespearian
Answer: B

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Q7. Lamb's romanticism was largely retrospective and nourished itself on the literature of which age?
A. The Augustan age
B. The pre-Augustan age (Elizabethan and 17th century)
C. The Middle Ages
D. The Romantic revival in Germany
Answer: B

Q8. Which work by Lamb did much to spread the knowledge of older English playwrights?
A. John Woodvil
B. Tales from Shakespeare
C. Essays of Elia
D. Specimens of English Dramatic Poets
Answer: D

Q9. Lamb's style is flavored by constant contact with his favorite writers. Which of the following is NOT one of them?
A. Burton
B. Fuller
C. Sir Thomas Browne
D. Alexander Pope
Answer: D

Q10. Lamb whimsically said that he wrote neither for the present nor for the future, but for:
A. Antiquity
B. The romantics
C. Children
D. Money
Answer: A

History of English Literature - Important MCQs (Part 41)

Page 206 - William Hazlitt, Leigh Hunt, and Cobbett

Q1. William Hazlitt is a capital illustration of how the popularity of magazines turned literature into the channels of:
A. Novel-writing
B. Epic poetry
C. Journalism
D. Scientific treatises
Answer: C

Q2. Hazlitt's fine catholicity enabled him to do justice to the romantic school without being unjust to which other group?
A. The pre-Raphaelites
B. The Augustans
C. The Metaphysicals
D. The Victorians
Answer: B

Q3. Which of the following is NOT one of Hazlitt's collections of lectures or essays?
A. Characters of Shakespeare's Plays
B. The English Poets
C. The Dramatic Literature of the Age of Elizabeth
D. Specimens of English Dramatic Poets
Answer: D

Q4. Because of his insight, discrimination, and sureness of taste and touch, what has Hazlitt been called?
A. The Scorpion
B. Judge Jeffrey
C. The critic's critic
D. The Archcritic
Answer: C

Q5. What limitation is noted about Hazlitt's criticism?
A. It is too deeply focused on historical backgrounds
B. It makes no attempt to connect the author with the life and spirit of his age
C. It heavily relies on Latin and Greek sources
D. It is too romantic and rejects all classical literature
Answer: B

Q6. Leigh Hunt is included among the periodical prose writers, but what did he lack that made his books largely fragmentary?
A. The power of sustained effort
B. Basic literacy skills
C. Knowledge of pre-Augustan writers
D. Connections with magazine publishers

Answer: A

Q7. What quality does Leigh Hunt's genius possess, according to the text?
A. A heavy, moralistic tone
B. A butterfly quality
C. A scorpion-like sarcasm
D. A deep philosophical rigor
Answer: B

Q8. Which book of Leigh Hunt's did Thomas Carlyle call 'a pious, ingenious, altogether human and worthy book'?
A. Story of Rimini
B. The English Comic Writers
C. His Autobiography
D. His essays on Keats
Answer: C

Q9. Who was the coarse, vigorous, independent political reformer, journalist, and pamphleteer mentioned at the end of the page?
A. Charles Lamb
B. Thomas De Quincey
C. William Cobbett
D. John Gibson Lockhart
Answer: C

Q10. William Cobbett stood prominently as a prose writer of the period, but how did he relate to the other sets and groups?
A. He was the undisputed leader of the London men
B. He was a close coadjutor of Jeffrey in Edinburgh
C. He stood entirely apart from every set and group
D. He was the main financial backer of Blackwood's
Answer: C