

Code: 76

Booklet Serial No.

Signature Invigilator

Maulana Azad National Urdu University
PhD in Comparative Literature
Entrance Test 2025
Question Paper cum Answer Script

Hall Ticket No.

OMR Serial No.

Time: 2hrs

Maximum Marks: 70

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CANDIDATES

1. Candidate should write their Hall Ticket number and OMR number on the space provided above. Candidate should not write their Hall Ticket number and OMR at any other place.
2. This booklet contains (12) pages. The Candidate should check the booklet before taking the Test. In case of any discrepancy a new booklet may be provided by the Invigilator. 8 Pages booklet will be provide for answers separately.
3. The question booklet contains Part (A & B). In Part A there is 50 Multiple Choice Questions. For each question there are four options. The candidate is required to choose the correct answer and darken the circle with blue / black ballpoint pen in the OMR sheet against the corresponding answer. Each question carries 1 mark. Part ((B) contains (4) Descriptive Questions. Each question carries 5 marks
4. The candidate will get one mark each for each correct reply in the OMR sheet. If the candidate does not bubble the correct answer against the corresponding question number in the OMR sheet, they will not get marks.
5. If the candidate bubbles more than one circle in OMR Sheet for any question, marks shall not be awarded for the question.
6. There are no Negative marks.
7. At the end of Entrance Test, candidates are allowed to take their question booklet.

Part - A**Section -I (Research Methodology)**

1. What is a key feature of 'comparative' research methodology in literary studies?
 - (A) The examination of a single work of literature
 - (B) The study of how different literary traditions influence each other
 - (C) The application of a single theoretical approach to all texts
 - (D) The focus on a quantitative analysis of literary themes

2. What does the term 'epistemology' refer to in research?
 - (A) The study of moral values
 - (B) The theory of knowledge
 - (C) The use of statistics in research
 - (D) The history of science

3. In the context of Comparative Literature, what does the term 'intertextuality' mean?
 - (A) The relationship between a text and its historical context
 - (B) The comparison of different literary genres
 - (C) The study of texts in relation to one another
 - (D) The translation of texts across languages

4. Which of the following methods is often used in comparative literature to analyze texts across different languages and cultures?
 - (A) Literary criticism
 - (B) Thematic analysis
 - (C) Interdisciplinary analysis
 - (D) Cross-cultural analysis

5. Which research methodology would be most suitable for studying the evolution of literary themes across different time periods?
 - (A) Ethnography
 - (B) Meta-analysis
 - (C) Historical-comparative method
 - (D) Experimental research

6. Which of the following is a strength of using qualitative research in Comparative Studies?
 - (A) It provides quantifiable data for broad generalizations
 - (B) It allows for in-depth exploration of cultural contexts and literary works
 - (C) It can predict future trends in literary studies
 - (D) It simplifies complex themes into clear categories

7. Which of the following best describes the 'feminist methodology' in literary research?
- (A) A focus on empirical data and statistical analysis
 - (B) A critical approach that challenges gender biases in texts and research
 - (C) A method of analyzing texts solely through historical context
 - (D) A focus on structuralist analysis of literary forms
8. What does the term 'literary canon' refer to in Comparative Literature?
- (A) A set of universally agreed-upon literary works that represent the best of a culture
 - (B) A list of works that have been formally accepted by critics
 - (C) A collection of modern literary works
 - (D) A theoretical framework for analyzing texts
9. Which of the following is a limitation of using surveys in literary research?
- (A) They provide an in-depth understanding of literary themes
 - (B) They cannot capture complex human experiences
 - (C) They allow for easy data collection from a large number of people
 - (D) They provide qualitative data
10. What does 'theoretical saturation' refer to in qualitative research?
- (A) The point at which the researcher has gathered enough data to make conclusions
 - (B) The stage when hypotheses can no longer be tested
 - (C) The moment when a new theory emerges from the research
 - (D) The exhaustion of a particular research method
11. What is the primary purpose of 'discourse analysis' in literary studies?
- (A) To analyze the narrative structure of texts
 - (B) To explore how language reflects social power and ideologies
 - (C) To examine the historical context of literary works
 - (D) To categorize literary genres
12. What is the primary goal of 'meta-analysis' in research?
- (A) To combine results from multiple studies to find overall patterns
 - (B) To create new hypotheses based on existing research
 - (C) To compare case studies from different disciplines
 - (D) To examine historical developments in a specific field

13. Which type of research would most likely involve the use of textual analysis?
(A) Phenomenological research (B) Content analysis
(C) Experimental research (D) Case study research
14. Which of the following best defines the term 'heuristic' in the context of research?
(A) A predetermined set of rules for data collection
(B) A method used to generate new hypotheses based on existing knowledge
(C) A statistical model used to analyze data
(D) A framework for categorizing types of literature
15. In Comparative Literature, the concept of 'translation studies' involves:
(A) The analysis of how texts are rewritten in different languages and cultures
(B) The history of literary movements in various languages
(C) The comparative study of grammar structures in different languages
(D) The examination of political influence on literature in different languages
16. In the context of research, the term 'paradigm shift' refers to:
(A) A gradual change in research methodology over time
(B) A sudden change in the theoretical framework of a field
(C) A consistent pattern of research results
(D) The application of new statistical techniques
17. Which of the following is NOT a qualitative research method?
(A) Narrative analysis (B) Grounded theory
(C) Experimental design (D) Discourse analysis
18. Which is the most appropriate tool for studying symbolism in literature?
(A) Likert scale (B) Narrative analysis
(C) Chi-square test (D) T-test
19. In research, which of the following is a primary source?
(A) A research article (B) A historical document
(C) A review paper (D) A dictionary entry

20. Ethnographic research primarily involves:
- (A) Testing theoretical frameworks in a controlled environment
 - (B) Analyzing data through surveys and questionnaires
 - (C) Observing and participating in the daily life of a community
 - (D) Conducting experiments in a lab setting
21. In grounded theory, data is primarily collected through:
- (A) Pre-existing theories
 - (B) Surveys and experiments
 - (C) Interviews and qualitative data
 - (D) Statistical analysis
22. Which of the following describes triangulation in research?
- (A) Using multiple perspectives, methods, or data sources to enhance validity
 - (B) Testing multiple hypotheses in a single study
 - (C) Analyzing data from a variety of subjects
 - (D) Focusing on a single method to ensure deep analysis
23. In literary criticism, the method of examining relationships between texts is known as:
- (A) Intertextuality
 - (B) Psychoanalysis
 - (C) Structuralism
 - (D) Phenomenology
24. Which research method is primarily concerned with the structure and function of language?
- (A) Discourse analysis
 - (B) Phenomenological research
 - (C) Historical research
 - (D) Statistical analysis
25. Conceptual framework in a research study provides:
- (A) A detailed statistical analysis plan
 - (B) A visual representation of the study's main ideas and variables
 - (C) The complete list of references used
 - (D) A detailed summary of findings

32. Which of the following critical approaches in Comparative Literature examines the role of power and ideology in the construction of texts?
- (A) Poststructuralism (B) Postcolonialism
(C) Feminism (D) Psychoanalysis
33. The concept of ‘world literature’ in Comparative Literature emphasizes:
- (A) Literary works that are popular in one specific nation
(B) A universal canon of literature shared by all cultures
(C) The translation and circulation of texts across different linguistic and cultural boundaries
(D) The study of classical texts only
34. Which of the following best describes “cultural hybridity” in postcolonial literature?
- (A) The blending of different literary styles and genres
(B) The mixing of cultural traditions and identities in postcolonial societies
(C) The study of ancient cultural artifacts
(D) The separation of cultural identities through literature
35. A researcher comparing the depiction of memory in Toni Morrison’s *Beloved* and Marcel Proust’s *In Search of Lost Time* would likely use which of the following critical approaches?
- (A) Structuralism (B) Comparative Psychoanalytic Criticism
(C) Marxist Literary Criticism (D) New Criticism
36. The notion of “literary universals” in comparative literature is primarily used to:
- (A) Promote Western canon globally
(B) Deny cultural specificity in literature
(C) Explore shared motifs, archetypes, and structures across literatures
(D) Analyze only ancient texts
37. How does Itamar Even-Zohar’s Polysystem Theory apply to Comparative Literature?
- (A) It restricts literature to national boundaries
(B) It emphasizes dominant and peripheral literary systems interacting dynamically
(C) It ignores the socio-political context of literature
(D) It considers only canonical literature for comparison

38. Identify the pair that represents a comparative study of exile in literature:
- (A) T.S. Eliot's *The Waste Land* and James Joyce's *Ulysses*
 - (B) Salman Rushdie's *Midnight's Children* and W.G. Sebald's *Austerlitz*
 - (C) Virginia Woolf's *Mrs. Dalloway* and Sylvia Plath's *The Bell Jar*
 - (D) Chinua Achebe's *Things Fall Apart* and Jean Rhys's *Wide Sargasso Sea*
39. Which of the following is an example of a transcultural literary encounter?
- (A) Shakespeare's *Hamlet* performed in English at the Globe Theatre
 - (B) Rabindranath Tagore translating his poems for European audiences
 - (C) Homer's *Odyssey* studied in Greek grammar schools
 - (D) J.K. Rowling's works adapted into films
40. Which pair of texts would best illustrate transhistorical comparative analysis?
- (A) Arundhati Roy's *The God of Small Things* and Chimamanda Adichie's *Half of a Yellow Sun*
 - (B) Sophocles' *Antigone* and Jean Anouilh's *Antigone*
 - (C) J.K. Rowling's *Harry Potter* and Philip Pullman's *His Dark Materials*
 - (D) Margaret Atwood's *The Testaments* and George Orwell's *1984*
41. Which literary figure is known for introducing the concept of "literary history" in the study of Comparative Literature?
- (A) Victor Hugo
 - (B) Auerbach
 - (C) Roland Barthes
 - (D) Edward Said
42. What is the significance of 'deconstruction' in Comparative Literature?
- (A) It seeks to find hidden meanings within texts by breaking down binary oppositions
 - (B) It involves translating foreign texts into the native language
 - (C) It focuses on understanding the author's personal biography
 - (D) It deals exclusively with the structure of ancient literature
43. Which of the following would be the main concern of postcolonial theory in Comparative Literature?
- (A) The universal appeal of Western literature
 - (B) The role of literature in colonial oppression and resistance
 - (C) The study of purely Western texts
 - (D) The universality of human experiences in literature

44. Which author is a key figure in the development of “postcolonial” literature?
(A) F. Scott Fitzgerald (B) Gabriel García Márquez
(C) Chinua Achebe (D) William Faulkner
45. The study of how power is represented through language and its cultural implications is most closely associated with:
(A) Formalism (B) Structuralism
(C) Poststructuralism (D) Deconstruction
46. Which of the following literary techniques involves the direct comparison of two cultures or literatures?
(A) Synecdoche (B) Metaphor
(C) Interliterary analysis (D) Imagery
47. Which of the following would be an example of a “global” literary study?
(A) A study of the structure of the English novel
(B) An analysis of the influence of Western literature on Latin American authors
(C) An exploration of the universality of Shakespeare’s plays in world theatre
(D) A study of different national mythologies
48. A comparative reading of Franz Kafka’s *The Metamorphosis* and Haruki Murakami’s *Kafka on the Shore* would most likely focus on:
(A) Rural landscape traditions
(B) Depiction of political revolutions
(C) Modernist vs. postmodernist alienation
(D) Victorian moral values
49. Which of the following terms refers to the idea that all literary works are influenced by a larger cultural and ideological framework?
(A) Intertextuality (B) Cultural materialism
(C) Aestheticism (D) Biographical criticism
50. Which methodological approach would best suit a comparative study of gender roles in *The Thousand and One Nights* and *The Decameron*?
(A) Structuralism
(B) Eco-criticism
(C) Feminist and cross-cultural narrative analysis
(D) Formalism

Part-B (Descriptive)

Attempt all four (4) questions.

(5 x 4 = 20)

Section-I: Research Methodology

1. How does Comparative Literature contribute to decolonizing literary canons? Critically analyze with reference to at least two literatures from formerly colonized societies.
2. Design a research proposal using mixed methods to investigate cultural translation in world literature. Include your research questions, design, and rationale.

Section-II: Comparative Literature

3. How can digital humanities tools transform research in Comparative Literature? Critically evaluate their potential and limitations with a research case study.
4. Discuss the ethical implications of using translated texts in comparative literary research. How should a scholar ensure cultural and linguistic sensitivity in such work?

Rough Work

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