

Health and the Human Body in English Literature

English Literature · Practice Test · 12 Questions

1. Which infectious disease, historically known as 'consumption,' caused the death of Romantic poet John Keats in 1821?

- A) Smallpox
- B) Tuberculosis
- C) Cholera
- D) Typhoid

2. The author of 'Paradise Lost,' John Milton, became completely afflicted by which condition in his late 40s?

- A) Deafness
- B) Paralysis
- C) Blindness
- D) Mutism

3. Lord Byron was famously born with which physical deformity that caused him lifelong insecurity and a noticeable limp?

- A) Clubfoot
- B) Cleft palate
- C) Scoliosis
- D) Polydactyly

4. The medical term 'Pickwickian Syndrome' is named after a character in which Charles Dickens novel?

- A) Oliver Twist
- B) Great Expectations
- C) The Pickwick Papers
- D) David Copperfield

5. Before finding success as the creator of Sherlock Holmes, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle practiced as a doctor in which specialty?

- A) Cardiology
- B) Ophthalmology
- C) Pediatrics
- D) Psychiatry

6. Alexander Pope, the 18th-century poet, stood only 4 feet 6 inches tall due to which form of spinal tuberculosis?

- A) Lupus
- B) Pott's disease
- C) Rickets
- D) Paget's disease

7. Mary Shelley's 'Frankenstein' was heavily influenced by which 18th-century scientific theory involving electricity and muscle tissue?

- A) Phrenology
- B) Miasma theory
- C) Galvanism
- D) Humorism

8. Modern medical analysis suggests that Jane Austen likely died from which adrenal gland disorder?

- A) Addison's disease
- B) Cushing's syndrome
- C) Diabetes mellitus
- D) Hyperthyroidism

9. Irish writer James Joyce suffered from chronic health issues that required over a dozen surgeries on which part of his body?

- A) His hands
- B) His ears
- C) His eyes
- D) His legs

10. Which Brontë sister is believed to have died in 1855 from complications related to hyperemesis gravidarum (severe morning sickness)?

- A) Emily Brontë
- B) Anne Brontë
- C) Charlotte Brontë
- D) Maria Brontë

11. American novelist Flannery O'Connor died at the age of 39 from complications of which autoimmune disease?

- A) Rheumatoid arthritis
- B) Lupus
- C) Multiple sclerosis
- D) Psoriasis

12. Virginia Woolf's episodes of mental illness, characterized by extreme mood swings, are now widely recognized as which condition?

- A) Schizophrenia
- B) Bipolar disorder
- C) Obsessive-compulsive disorder
- D) Post-traumatic stress disorder