

# Historical Milestones in Creative Writing

Creative Writing History · Answer Key · 20 Questions

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**1. Which 14th-century work is widely considered one of the first major examples of literature written in Middle English?**

- A) The Canterbury Tales**
- B) The Divine Comedy
- C) Beowulf
- D) Le Morte d'Arthur

**2. Who is credited with writing the first modern novel, 'Don Quixote', published in two parts in 1605 and 1615?**

- A) William Shakespeare
- B) Miguel de Cervantes**
- C) Dante Alighieri
- D) Giovanni Boccaccio

**3. In which literary movement did authors like Virginia Woolf and James Joyce experiment with 'stream of consciousness' narrative techniques?**

- A) Romanticism
- B) Victorian Realism
- C) Modernism**
- D) Post-structuralism

**4. Which author is historically recognized for popularizing the gothic novel genre with the 1764 publication of 'The Castle of Otranto'?**

- A) Mary Shelley
- B) Horace Walpole**
- C) Ann Radcliffe
- D) Bram Stoker

**5. Which epic poem, written in Old English by an anonymous poet, is the oldest surviving major work of Old English literature?**

- A) Sir Gawain and the Green Knight
- B) The Wanderer
- C) Beowulf**
- D) Paradise Lost

6. The term 'epistolary novel' refers to stories told through which medium?

- A) Dialogue exclusively
- B) Letters or documents**
- C) Flashbacks
- D) Poetic verse

7. Which famous 19th-century author is credited with standardizing the modern short story format through his analytical tales, such as 'The Murders in the Rue Morgue'?

- A) Charles Dickens
- B) Edgar Allan Poe**
- C) Mark Twain
- D) Oscar Wilde

8. What was the primary literary form of the 'Beat Generation' writers, such as Jack Kerouac and Allen Ginsberg, in the 1950s?

- A) Epic fantasy
- B) Minimalist confessional prose and poetry**
- C) Hard-boiled detective fiction
- D) Neoclassical satire

9. Which novel, published in 1818, is often cited by literary historians as the first work of science fiction?

- A) Dracula
- B) Frankenstein**
- C) The Time Machine
- D) Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea

10. Who wrote the 'Panchatantra', an ancient Indian collection of interrelated animal fables that heavily influenced global storytelling traditions?

- A) Vishnu Sharma**
- B) Kalidasa
- C) Valmiki
- D) Kautilya

11. The 'Lost Generation' was a group of American expatriate writers living in which city after World War I?

- A) London
- B) Berlin
- C) Paris**
- D) Rome

**12. Which 17th-century poet wrote 'Paradise Lost', an epic poem in blank verse concerning the biblical story of the Fall of Man?**

- A) John Donne
- B) John Milton**
- C) Alexander Pope
- D) Andrew Marvell

**13. What is the title of the first novel written in the Japanese language, composed by Murasaki Shikibu in the early 11th century?**

- A) The Pillow Book
- B) The Tale of Genji**
- C) The Gossamer Years
- D) Hojoki

**14. Which writing technique, popularized by Ernest Hemingway, involves removing descriptive passages to focus on the surface action of a story?**

- A) Stream of consciousness
- B) The Iceberg Theory**
- C) Magical realism
- D) Epistolary style

**15. Which literary movement of the late 18th century emphasized emotion, individualism, and the glorification of the past and nature?**

- A) Enlightenment
- B) Romanticism**
- C) Naturalism
- D) Modernism

**16. Which influential 19th-century author published 'The Adventures of Tom Sawyer' and 'Adventures of Huckleberry Finn', establishing a new American vernacular in literature?**

- A) Nathaniel Hawthorne
- B) Herman Melville
- C) Mark Twain**
- D) Henry James

**17. The term 'magical realism' became associated with the literature of which region during the 20th century?**

- A) Scandinavia
- B) Latin America**
- C) Southeast Asia
- D) Eastern Europe

**18. Which writer is famous for the 1922 publication of 'Ulysses', a landmark work for its complex use of stream of consciousness?**

**A) James Joyce**

B) T.S. Eliot

C) Ezra Pound

D) W.B. Yeats

**19. What is the significance of the 'Sumerian Epic of Gilgamesh' in the history of creative writing?**

A) It introduced the rhyme scheme

**B) It is the earliest known piece of epic literature**

C) It was the first work printed on a press

D) It was the first novel written in French

**20. Which 18th-century literary figure is known for producing 'A Dictionary of the English Language' and profoundly influencing English prose style?**

**A) Samuel Johnson**

B) Jonathan Swift

C) Daniel Defoe

D) Tobias Smollett