

Literary Landmarks and Legends

Literature · Practice Test · 18 Questions

1. Which of the following epic poems is attributed to Homer and details the wrath of Achilles during the Trojan War?

- A) The Odyssey
- B) The Aeneid
- C) The Iliad
- D) Beowulf

2. Who is the author of 'Pride and Prejudice,' a novel often cited for its exploration of manners, marriage, and social standing in Regency England?

- A) Charlotte Brontë
- B) Mary Shelley
- C) Jane Austen
- D) George Eliot

3. The concept of 'existentialism,' heavily influencing 20th-century literature, is most famously associated with which French philosopher and writer?

- A) Albert Camus
- B) Jean-Paul Sartre
- C) Simone de Beauvoir
- D) Maurice Merleau-Ponty

4. Which Shakespearean tragedy features the famous line, 'To be, or not to be, that is the question'?

- A) Othello
- B) Hamlet
- C) Macbeth
- D) King Lear

5. Considered one of the greatest works of dystopian fiction, 'Nineteen Eighty-Four' was written by which British author?

- A) Aldous Huxley
- B) Ray Bradbury
- C) George Orwell
- D) Anthony Burgess

6. The epic poem 'Paradise Lost,' which retells the biblical story of the Fall of Man, was written by whom?

- A) John Milton
- B) William Wordsworth
- C) Samuel Taylor Coleridge
- D) Alexander Pope

7. Which American author is renowned for his minimalist prose and short stories, particularly in collections like 'Cathedral' and 'What We Talk About When We Talk About Love'?

- A) Ernest Hemingway
- B) William Faulkner
- C) Raymond Carver
- D) F. Scott Fitzgerald

8. The literary movement known as 'Romanticism' in England, characterized by its emphasis on emotion and individualism, saw prominent works from poets like Wordsworth, Coleridge, and which other figure?

- A) Lord Byron
- B) Percy Bysshe Shelley
- C) John Keats
- D) William Blake

9. Who wrote 'The Interpretation of Dreams,' a foundational text for psychoanalysis that profoundly influenced modernist literature?

- A) Carl Jung
- B) Alfred Adler
- C) Sigmund Freud
- D) Jacques Lacan

10. The Russian novel 'War and Peace,' a sprawling epic of Russian society during the Napoleonic era, was authored by which writer?

- A) Fyodor Dostoevsky
- B) Ivan Turgenev
- C) Anton Chekhov
- D) Leo Tolstoy

11. Which novel, by Gabriel García Márquez, is a seminal work of magical realism and tells the multi-generational story of the Buendía family?

- A) The Autumn of the Patriarch
- B) Love in the Time of Cholera
- C) Chronicle of a Death Foretold
- D) One Hundred Years of Solitude

12. The term 'stream of consciousness' in literature refers to a narrative mode that depicts the multitude of thoughts and feelings that pass through the mind. Which novel is a prime example of this technique?

- A) Ulysses
- B) Mrs. Dalloway
- C) To the Lighthouse
- D) All of the above

13. Who is the author of 'The Metamorphosis,' a novella about a traveling salesman who transforms into an insect?

- A) Thomas Mann
- B) Franz Kafka
- C) Hermann Hesse
- D) Bertolt Brecht

14. The Beat Generation, a literary movement that emerged in the 1950s, is closely associated with which author's novel 'On the Road'?

- A) Allen Ginsberg
- B) William S. Burroughs
- C) Jack Kerouac
- D) Gregory Corso

15. Which ancient Greek philosopher wrote 'Poetics,' a treatise that lays the groundwork for dramatic theory and literary criticism?

- A) Plato
- B) Socrates
- C) Aristotle
- D) Herodotus

16. The dystopian novel 'Brave New World,' which envisions a future society controlled by technological conditioning and social engineering, was written by whom?

- A) George Orwell
- B) Ray Bradbury
- C) Anthony Burgess
- D) Aldous Huxley

17. Which American poet, known for her reclusive life and unique use of capitalization and punctuation, published over 1,800 poems in her lifetime, most of which were posthumously discovered?

- A) Walt Whitman
- B) Emily Dickinson
- C) Robert Frost
- D) Langston Hughes

18. The influential literary movement of 'Surrealism,' which sought to release the creative potential of the unconscious mind, originated primarily in which country?

- A) Germany
- B) Italy
- C) France
- D) Spain