

BA ENGLISH CORE -5: READING POETRY

Question Bank

1. A lengthy poem in the form of an address to a person or an entity is called ____
a. lyric b. sonnet c. ballad d. ode
2. The poetic forms of Haiku and Tanka have originated from ____
a. India b. Japan c. Korea d. China
3. A Japanese poem that encapsulates a single impression of a natural object or scene.
a. Tanka b. Jintishi c. Rubai d. Haiku
4. Homer's *Illiad* and *Odyssey* are examples of ____
a. Lyric Poetry b. Dramatic Poetry c. Epic Poetry d. Satiric Poetry
5. Which type of poem has an octave and a sestet?
a. Ode b. Lyric c. Sonnet d. Tanka
6. The sonnet was perfected by ____
a. Homer b. Petrarch c. Virgil d. Juvenal
7. The metrical foot that most closely resembles natural English speech is ____
a. Iambic pentametre b. iambic hexametre c. trochaic metre d. dactylic metre
8. The line 'Love is not Love' employs the technique of ____
a. Assonance b. alliteration c. hard rhyme d. soft rhyme
9. Edward Fitzgerald is well known for his translation of ____.
a. Omar Khayam b. Homer c. Valmiki d. Virgil
10. Prosody is the study of ____
a. Prose b. verse c. essays d. novels
11. Shakespeare wrote ____ sonnets.
a. 164 b. 165 c. 154 d. 155
12. In Sonnet 116 Shakespeare personifies ____
a. Love b. time c. marriage d. doom
13. A sonnet has ____ lines.
a. 10 b. 12 c. 14 d. 16
14. *abab cdcd efef gg* is the rhyme scheme for the ____ sonnet.
a. Petrarchan b. Spenserian c. Shakespearan d. Wordsworthian
15. Which poem describes the love and courtship between the two poets Robert Browning and Elizabeth Barret Browning?
a. *How Do I Love Thee* b. *Longing* c. *When We Two Parted* d. *The Mosquito*

16. "Love is not love / Which alters when it alteration finds" means that —
- a. love is a fake romantic illusion
 - b. what people usually call love is not love
 - c. true love does not change with circumstance
 - d. as life progresses, love must be prepared to change
17. In Sonnet 116, lines 9–12, beginning "Love's not Time's fool," suggest that love —
- a. is not deceived by any material wealth
 - b. cannot last forever
 - c. outlives the end of youth
 - d. is strongest when people are young
- 18 The poem *How Do I Love Thee* is written by _____
- a Elizabeth Barrett Browning c. Lord Byron
 - b John Keats d. John Donne
- 19 The poem *How Do I Love Thee* is a _____ sonnet
- a. Shakespearian c. Spenserian
 - b. Petrarchan d. Marlovian
- 20 What is the effect of the repetition the poet uses in the poem *How Do I Love Thee*?
- a. The effect is annoying. c. The effect is highly romantic
 - b. The effect is that her love is temporary. d. The effect is to show her anger.
- 21 What references to religion do you find in the poem *How Do I Love Thee*?
- a. *Childhood's faith* c. *As they turn from prairie*
 - b. *As men strive for right* d. *Being and ideal Grace*
- 22 The octave of the poem *How Do I Love Thee* has the _____ rhyme scheme.
- a. abab bcba c abab abab
 - b. abba abba d abab cdcd
- 23 In the poem *How Do I Love Thee* the poet describes her love for _____.
- a John Keats c Alfred Lord Tennyson
 - b Lord Byron d Robert Browning
- 24 The poem *Longing* is by _____.
- a Robert Browning c William Wordsworth
 - b Matthew Arnold d Thomas Gray
- 25 The poem *Longing* is a _____ poem.
- a Epic c Satire
 - b. Love d. Haiku
- 26 *Longing* consists of four _____.
- a. Couplets c. Quatrains
 - b Terza Rima d. Spenserian stanzas

- 27 In the poem *Longing*, Matthew Arnold begs his love to come to him in _____.
- a. Dreams c. morning
 - b. Evening d. night
- 28 In which poem does the line *My love why sufferest thou?*
- a. *When We Two Parted* c. *Sonnet 116*
 - b. *Longing* d. *How Do I Love Thee*
- 29 Matthew Arnold was a _____ poet.
- a. Romantic c. Victorian
 - b. Renaissance d. restoration
- 30 Who wrote the poem *When We Two Parted*?
- a. Lord Byron c. Robert Browning
 - b. William Shakespeare d. John Keats
- 31 The Metaphysical poets consisted of _____
- a. John Donne, Henry Vaughan, Andrew Marvell
 - b. John Keats, William Wordsworth, Samuel Coleridge
 - c. John Dryden, Alexander Pope, Samuel Johnson
 - d. TS Eliot, Ezra Pound, GM Hopkins
- 32 The poem *A Valediction: Forbidding Mourning* was written by _____
- a. John Keats c. John Donne
 - b. John Dryden d. WB Yeats
- 33 The scene described in the first stanza of *A Valediction: Forbidding Mourning* is _____
- a. a childbirth c. a marriage
 - b. a deathbed d. a divorce
- 34 In *A Valediction: Forbidding Mourning* the poet compares the lovers to the two legs of a _____
- a. Chair c. table
 - b. Compass d. easel
- 35 Who did Donne address through the poem *A Valediction: Forbidding Mourning*?
- a. his wife c. his girlfriend
 - b. his mistress d. nobody
- 36 The term metaphysical was first used by _____
- a. John Donne c. Henry Vaughan
 - b. Andrew Marvell d. John Dryden
- 37 In which year was the *Lyrical Ballads* published?
- a. 1798 c. 1796
 - b. 1898 d. 1698
- 38 William Wordsworth was a _____ poet.

a. Metaphysical c. Romantic

b. Victorian d. Modernist

39 *The Affliction of Margaret* was written by _____

a. William Wordsworth c. John Keats

b. PB Shelley d. Walter Scott

40 *The Affliction of Margaret* takes the form of a _____.

a. Satire c. epic

b. Ballad d. sonnet

41 In the poem *The Affliction of Margaret* what is her affliction?

a. Disease c. poverty

b. Widowhood d. not knowing where her child is

42 In *The Affliction of Margaret* how many years has it been since Margaret has heard from her

son?

a. Six c. seven

b. Eight d. nine

43 In *The Affliction of Margaret* the phrase *the rustling of the grass* is an example of _____

a. Simile c. metaphor

b. Onomatopoeia d. personification

44 *Ode on a Grecian Urn* was written by _____

a. John Keats c. William Wordsworth

b. Lord Byron d. Shelley

45 John Keats specialized in the writing of one genre of poetry, name it.

a. Epic c. satire

b. Ode d. ballad

46 According to John Keats in *Ode on a Grecian Urn* where do all the events depicted on the

urn take place?

a. Arcadia, Greece c. Athens, Greece

b. The Lake District, England d. Ancient India

47 *Hard melodies are sweet but those unheard are sweeter still.*

What does this line from *Ode on a Grecian Urn* mean?

a. What cannot be heard is more beautiful than what can be heard

b. The imagination is more powerful than reality

c. The music of the Greeks was much better than the music of England

d. Keats does not like music

48 In the term *sylvan historian* in *Ode on a Grecian Urn* the word *sylvan* means

a. Of animals c. of trees

b. Of birds d. of fish

49 In *Ode on a Grecian Urn*, which animal is depicted as being led to the sacrificial altar?

- a. A calf c. a lamb
- b. A goat d. a pig

50 *Beauty is truth, truth beauty* from *Ode on a Grecian Urn* is the message of the _____ to humanity.

- a. Poet c. urn
- b. Greeks d. the figures on the urn

51 *The Laboratory* is a poem by _____

- a. Elizabeth Barret Browning c. Thomas Gray
- b. Robert Browning d. DH Lawrence

52 Robert Browning specialized in the form known as _____.

- a. Epic c. lyric
- b. Dramatic monologue d. ballad

53 How many speakers are there in a dramatic monologue?

- a. One c. two
- b. Three d. four

54 What does *Ancien Regime*, in the poem *The Laboratory* signify?

- a. England before the Restoration c. Ancient Greece
- b. France before the Revolution d. Ancient Rome

55 Who is the speaker in *The Laboratory*?

- a. A jealous woman c. A brilliant scientist
- b. A naughty child d. A sorcerer

56 What does the speaker want in *The Laboratory*?

- a. A potion to make her more beautiful c. Poison to kill her rival
- b. Poison to kill herself d. A potion to make her invisible

57 The speaker in *The Laboratory* names the people she wishes to kill. Who are they?

- a. Paul and Elizabeth c. Pauline and Elize
- b. Lizzie and Mary d. Lizbeth and Hetty

58 The verse form of *Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard* is _____

- a. Blank verse c. alexandrines
- b. Rhymed couplets d. quatrains

59 The reference to the “hoary-headed swain” in *Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard*

suggests Gray’s desire for recognition from

- a. Poets c. the humble
- b. Politicians d. the proud

60 The opening lines of the *Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard* are set at

- a. Twilight c. daybreak
- b. Midnight d. noon

61 In the *Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard* Gray's speaker stresses the _____

- a. Generosity of land owners
- b. Shallowness of family life
- c. Equalizing nature of death
- d. Laziness of the rural poor

62 Who wrote *Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard*?

- a. John Keats c. Thomas Gray
- b. William Wordsworth d. Robert Browning

63 Who wrote the poem *The Mosquito*?

- a. Robert Browning c. D H Lawrence
- b. Robert Frost d. Alexander Pushkin

64 In *The Mosquito* the poet refers to it as a phantom because it is _____

- a. Light c. very thin
- b. Translucent d. a flying creature

65 The poet uses a simile to demonstrate the mosquito's ability to sail in the poem *The*

Mosquito. What does he compare the mosquito to?

- a. Boat c. ship
- b. Aeroplane d. heron

66 The poem calls the mosquito _____ after one the world's most famous statues of the same name.

- a. Winged Victory c. clot of air
- b. Phantom d. streaky sorcerer

67 What happens to the mosquito at the end of the poem *The Mosquito*?

- a. It is killed by the poet c. It manages to fly away.
- b. It is deified. d. None of the above.

68 In the poem *No Tears* the poet expresses a man's feelings at the death of his _____

- a. Child c. beloved
- b. sister d. mother

69 Justify the title of the poem *No Tears*.

- a. The speaker feels so sad he cannot even cry.
- b. The speaker does not see his dead beloved so there are no tears.
- c. Although the speaker recalls their happy life together he cannot cry.
- d. The speaker did not love his wife.

70 The poem *No Tears* mourns _____

- a. The death of a person c. The loss of love
- b. The inability to shed tears d. Absence at the time of death

71 Alexander Pushkin is a _____ poet.

- a. Italian c. French
- b. English d. Russian

72 “And I Listened like a stone unshaken.” Identify the figure of speech used from the poem

No Tears.

- a. Metaphor c. simile
- b. Hyperbole d. personification

73 Which poet is called the Poet Laureate of the labouring classes?

- a. Alexander Pushkin c. D H Lawrence
- b. Edwin Markham d. Robert Frost

74 *The Man with the Hoe* draws its inspiration from a _____ of the same name.

- a. painting c. novel
- b. short story d. song

75 The poem *The Man with the Hoe* represents the sorry plight of the _____.

- a. American c. peasant
- b. Ruler d. master

76 Edwin Markham’s *The Man with the Hoe* is a poem of _____

- a. Social protest c. loss
- b. Description d. satirical worth

77 Edwin Markham in the poem *The Man with the Hoe* addresses questions to _____

- a. The peasants c. masters, lords and rulers
- b. Political parties d. God

78 *Birches* is a poem by _____

- a. Robert Frost c. Pablo Neruda
- b. Maya Angelou d. Alexander Pushkin

79 When Robert Frost sees birch trees he remembers his childhood activity of _____

- a. Collecting birch leaves c. Cutting birch trees
- b. Swinging birch trees d. Climbing the birches

80 The poet sees bent birch trees and realizes that they are so because _____

- a. A boy has been swinging on them c. Ice storms
- b. Of age d. None of the above

81 Who is known as the Wordsworth of America?

- a. Maya Angelou c. Robert Frost
- b. Pablo Neruda d. Edwin Markham

82 The poet compares the bent birches to _____ in the poem *Birches*.

- a. Girls on their knees drying their hair in the sun c. Steps to heaven
- b. Rainbows d. Old men

83 In the poem *Birches*, the poet uses the activity of birch swinging as metaphor for what?

- a. Sports c. Flights of fancy away from reality
- b. The pastimes of a country lad. d. Natural cycles

84 Who wrote the poem *Telephone Conversation*?

- a. Wole Soyinka c. Chinua Achebe
- b. Hira Bansode d. Bertolt Brecht

85 What is the main theme of the poem *Telephone Conversation*?

- a. Telephone Etiquette c. Racial Discrimination
- b. Housing problems in London d. Social inequality

86 In the poem *Telephone Conversation*, Soyinka states “*Madam,*” *I warned, “I hate a wasted*

journey. I am African.” Why does he think the journey may be a wasted one?

- a. He may not be able to meet the landlady.
- b. He may be refused because of his race.
- c. He may not find her house suitable.
- d. He does not know how to reach the house and may lose the way.

87 In the poem *Telephone Conversation* why is the woman silent?

- a. She does not want to talk to him.
- b. She does not like the rent he suggests.
- c. She is stunned by the revelation that he is black.
- d. She is a snob.

88 In the poem *Telephone Conversation* how does the poet outwit the woman?

- a. He tells her that his bottom is raven black.
- b. He criticizes her for her racial discrimination.
- c. He shouts at her.
- d. He hangs up the phone.

89 Who wrote the poem *Tonight I Can Write the Saddest Lines*?

- a. Robert Frost c. Pablo Neruda
- b. Wole Soyinka d. Maya Angelou

90 According to the speaker in *Tonight I Can Write the Saddest Lines*, forgetting is:

- a. so simple c. so short
- b. so long d. so difficult

91 What color are the stars in *Tonight I Can Write the Saddest Lines*?

- a. Blue c. white
- b. Red d. silver

92 According to the speaker in *Tonight I Can Write the Saddest Lines*, love is:

a. So long c. so fickle

b. So short d. so painful

93 In *Tonight I Can Write the Saddest Lines* the speaker hears someone doing what in the distance?

a. Singing c. crying

b. Whistling d. laughing

94 In *Tonight I Can Write the Saddest Lines* what does the speaker believe will happen to his former love?

a. She will become another's c. She will disappear

b. She will return. d. She will be overcome with sadness.

95 In the poem *Tonight I Can Write the Saddest Lines* what does the speaker seem to miss most about his love?

a. her eyes c. her hair

b. her voice d. her smile

96 What are the stars doing on the night of *Tonight I Can Write the Saddest Lines*?

a. Twinkling c. dancing

b. Falling d. shivering

97 In the poem *Tonight I Can Write the Saddest Lines* the phrase 'blue stars shiver in the distance,' is an example of _____

a. Irony c. pathetic fallacy

b. Assonance d. simile

98 *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* is a poem by _____

a. Robert Frost c. Hira Bansode

b. Chinua Achebe d. Maya Angelou

99 In the poem *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*, what does the bird sing of?

a. Happiness c. freedom

b. Escape d. love

100 . What does the caged bird represent in the poem *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*?

a. The poor c. birds

b. The black people d. the farmers

101 . In the poem *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* who clips the wings and ties the feet of the bird?

a. The hunter c. the whites

b. The government d. the blacks

102 . In the poem *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*, why does the caged bird sing?

- a. Singing is the only way it can express itself.
- b. It has a lovely voice.
- c. It is trying to please others.
- d. None of the above.

103 . Who wrote the poem *Bosom Friend*?

- a. Maya Angelou c. Hira Bansode
- b. Chinua Achebe d. Pablo Neruda

104 . The poem *Bosom Friend* voices the grief of which section of society?

- a. The poor c. the blacks
- b. The dalits d. Indians

105 . In the poem *Bosom Friend* what is used to show the distinction between the castes?

- a. Clothes c. house
- b. Food d. cutlery

106 . In the last line of the poem *Bosom Friend* the poet refers to mistakes. Whose mistakes is

she actually referring to?

- a. Her own c. her friend's
- b. Society's d. her parents'

107 . Who wrote the poem *Refugee Mother and Child*?

- a. Maya Angelou c. Chinua Achebe
- b. Pablo Neruda d. Robert Frost

108 . Why does the poet say 'Most mothers had long ceased to care.' Why?

- a. Their children would die anyway.
- b. They were too sick to take care of their children.
- c. They didn't love their children.
- d. None of the above.

109 . In the opening lines of the poem *Refugee Mother and Child* the poet recalls a common

picture when he sees the mother and child. What is it?

- a. Madonna and Child c. a painting
- b. Photo of mother and child d. a postcard

110 . The poem *Refugee Mother and Child* is a celebration of _____

- a. Childhood c. motherhood
- b. Love d. caring

111 . Who is the poem *General, Your Tank* written by _____

- a. Chinua Achebe c. Bertolt Brecht
- b. Maya Angelou d. Robert Frost

112 . The poem *General, Your Tank* is a _____ poem.

- a. Anti war c. anti poverty
- b. Social reformation d. nature

113 . What is the one quality of man that makes him different according to Brecht.

- a. Feelings c. emotions
- b. Love d. thinking

ANSWER KEYS

1 d 18 a 35 a 52 b 69 c 86 b 103 c
2 b 19 b 36 d 53 a 70 c 87 c 104 b
3 d 20 c 37 a 54 b 71 d 88 a 105 b
4 c 21 a 38 c 55 a 72 c 89 c 106 b
5 c 22 b 39 a 56 c 73 b 90 b 107 c
6 b 23 d 40 b 57 c 74 a 91 a 108 a
7 a 24 b 41 d 58 a 75 c 92 b 109 a
8 b 25 b 42 c 59 c 76 a 93 a 110 c
9 a 26 c 43 b 60 a 77 c 94 a 111 c
10 b 27 a 44 a 61 c 78 a 95 a 112 a
11 c 28 b 45 b 62 c 79 b 96 d 113 d
12 a 29 c 46 a 63 c 80 c 97 c
13 c 30 a 47 b 64 b 81 c 98 d
14 c 31 a 48 c 65 d 82 a 99 c
15 a 32 c 49 a 66 a 83 c 100 b
16 c 33 b 50 c 67 a 84 a 101 c
17 c 34 b 51 b 68 c 85 c 102 a