

World Literature

4th grade

Annual guide for the ordinary exams, first and second round

Teacher: Yamil Narchi Sadek

2009-2010



Dearest 402:

This guide will help you to study for the exam, but it will not solve all your questions. It is an invitation to study, nothing more, a tool to get organized with.

Make sure that you can develop every section. Remember to read and solve it with enough time to ask your teacher any questions that you have about it. I will be more than willing to give you tutorials if you schedule them on time, and if you have specific questions to answer.

You must be able to recognize all these terms and structures and apply them to different texts in the same way we have done. Focus. I wish you success!

Literary terms and theory

Make sure that you know what these are and that you can recognize them in the texts.

Art	Representation	Beauty
Aesthetic experience	Aesthetics	Artist
Literature	Prose	Verse
Fiction	Non-fiction	Genre
Ancient genres	Modern genres	Short story
Novel	Poetry	Narrative poetry
Epic poetry	Lyric poetry	Drama
Play	Plot	Plot line
Exposition of events	Rising action	Sub-climax
Climax	Falling action	Dénouement
Resolution	Science-fiction	Setting
Conflict	Argument	Theme
Characters	Description	Atmosphere
Mood	Foreshadowing	Suspense
Symbol	Allegory	Irony
Verbal irony	Situational irony	Dramatic irony
Line	Stanza	Sound/image/ meaning
Musicality	Onomatopoeia	Alliteration
Point of view	Speaker	Voice
Figures of speech	Figurative language	Rhythm
Simile	Metaphor	Tone
Repetition	Anaphora	Refrain
Synecdoche	Personification	Rhyme
Word choice & diction	Imagery	Meter
Free verse	Metered verse	Sonnet
Iambic pentameter	Puns	Tragedy
Comedy	Farse	Convention
Metatheatre	Poem	Narrative

Essay	Journalistic genres	Interview
Biography	Autobiography	Memoire
Epistolary	Thriller	Mystery
Terror	Peripeteia	Form
Content	Black humour	

Historical terms, places and personalities

Holocaust Adolph Hitler Dr. Mengele Auschwitz
African Americans

Texts: Apply all the theory to these. There may be new texts in the exam, though. Texts that we read in the year that do not appear here will not be asked about in the exam.

- “There Will Come Soft Rains,” by Ray Bradbury
- From *Everyday Use* by Alice Walker
- “Moon Rondeau,” by Carl Sandburg
- “The Bear,” by Anton Chekhov
- “Interview with Ray Bradbury,” by Frank Filosa
- From “Nobel Peace Prize Speech,” by Elie Weisel (the excerpt in the textbook)
- Allegories, written and visual.

World Literature

Unit I: Introduction to art and literature

1. What is literature? Support your definiton.
2. Identify a literary text and support why it is so.
3. What is art? Support
4. Identify a piece of art and support why it is so.
5. Are there arts that are not representational? Are they arts then?
6. Identify kinds of literature by their form: prose and verse
7. Identify kinds of literature by the reality of what they tell: fiction and non-fiction
8. Identify the genre of a text: novel, short story, essay, play (tragedy, comedy, farse), poem (lyric or narrative), interview, memoir, speech
9. Identify and differentiate plot and theme from a piece
10. Draw the plot structure line of a story
11. Understand vocabulary through context

Unit II: Understanding Narrative

1. Differentiate novels from short stories, and both from non-narrative genres and/or non-fictional genres
2. Identify in narrative plot, theme, setting, conflict, and argument
3. Identify science fiction (sci-fi) pieces and justify why they are so
4. Identify elements of suspense: atmosphere, mood, foreshadowing
5. Identify and decode visual symbols and allegories
6. Identify and decode literary symbols and allegories
7. Identify non-narrative genres of prose, like essays, speeches (spoken essays) and interviews

Unit III: Reading Poetry (Part I)

1. What is poetry?
2. Identify a poem

3. Identify line, stanza, sound, rhythm, form
4. Understanding a poem's general sense
5. Identifying its theme
6. Identifying in it:
 - a. lines and stanzas
 - b. musicality and musical figures of speech: rhythm, rhyme, meter, repetition, refrains, alliterations, onomatopoeias, anaphoras.
 - c. figures of speech for meaning:
 - i. metaphor
 - ii. simile
 - iii. synecdoche
 - iv. personification
7. Identifying lyric and narrative poetry and why it is so. Which elements characterize lyricism? Which elements characterize narrative?
8. Identifying irony and its kinds: verbal, dramatic, and situational.

Unit IV: Oral Tradition (We skipped this unit.)

Unit V: Non-fiction

1. What is non-fiction? Why is it different from fiction?
2. Identify non-fiction texts
3. Identify non-fiction genres:
 - a. Biographical genres: biographies, autobiographies, autobiographical short stories, memoirs, diaries.
 - b. Letters
 - c. Essays
 - d. Speeches (oral essays)
 - e. Journalistic genres: news, chronicles, interviews, editorials, etc.

Unit VI: Reading Poetry II

1. Identify and interpret images and imagery. Know what they are.
2. Free verse vs. metered verse: identify their presence and characteristics.
3. Identify elements of repetition and musicality such as anaphora, refrain, and alliteration.

Units VIII and IX: Drama

1. What is it?
2. Subgenres of drama
3. Tragedy, Comedy, and other possibilities
4. What makes a tragedy?
5. What makes a comedy? Identify it in a play.