

# JAMB

## Literature

### Past questions

*Paper Type:* **Objective (PT. 6-10)**

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## JAMB LITERATURE PAST QUESTIONS (PT.6)

1. *...The usual works you know these things. We'll dangle this babe before the Chief for a price. He will employ her and we can make use of her to get what we want. She will run the errands while we pick the bucks'.*

The babe in the excerpt above refers to \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Ogeyi
- B. Alice
- C. Ochuole
- b. Aloho

2. *'O! God forgive me. Is this a trap or what? God! Poor girl! Whatever is her reason for this dangerous decision.'*

- A. Chief
- B. Doctor
- C. Inspector Inaku
- D. ACP Yakubu

Questions **3 – 5** are based on Frank Ogodo Ogbecchi's ***Harvest of Corruption***

3. The central setting of the play is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Mabu
- B. Gbossa
- C. Darkin
- D. Jabu

4. *'Good day (He says without looking up.) See me there by 4 p.m. Okay? Bye!'*

There in the excerpt above refers to the \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Court room
- B. Police station
- C. Airport
- D. Akpara hotel

5. Chief Ade Amaka is involved in which of the following crime?

- A. Child trafficking

- B. Land grabbing
- C. Smuggling
- D. Rigging

**Questions 6 – 10 are based on  
Williams Shakespeare's  
Othello**

6. *'ill-starred wench, pale as thy  
smock, When we shall meet at  
compt.'*

The device used in the lines above  
is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. simile
- B. pun
- C. metaphor
- D. paradox

7. Othello kills Desdemona  
because the \_\_\_\_\_

- A. former is jealous
- B. former's race is insulted
- C. latter is a witch

8. Brabantio is opposed to the  
relationship between Othello and  
Desdemona because \_\_\_\_\_

- A. he prefers Iago
- B. Othello is a Moor
- C. Roderigo woos her first
- D. Desdemona is too young

9. *'soft you; a word or two before  
you go.*

*I have done the state some  
service, and they know't*

*No more of that, I pray you, in  
your letters,*

*When you shall these unlucky  
deeds relate ',*

The speech above is made when  
the speaker is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. travelling
- B. sick
- C. dying
- D. eloping

10. *'O heaven; How got she out?  
O treason of the blood.*

*Father, from hence trust not your daughters' minds*

*By what you see them act. Is there not charms*

*By which the property of youth and maidhood may be abused?*

The speaker of the excerpt above is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Brabantio
- B. Othello
- C. Gratiano
- D. Roderigo

Question **11 – 13** are based on **Ammadarko's *Faceless***

11. The name of Kabria's husband is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Kwei
- B. Kpakpo
- C. Adade
- D. Ottu

12. *'She was both a child and an adult and could act like both*

The character being referred to in the excerpt above is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Fofo
- B. Baby T.
- C. Odarley
- D. Obea.

13. The writer of the novel is from \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Germany
- B. Scotland
- C. Ghana
- D. Nigeria

Question **14 – 16** are based on Bayo Adebowale's ***Lonely Days***.

14. Windows in mourning in Kufi wear garments that are \_\_\_\_\_

- A. red
- B. black
- C. white
- D. dull

15. In the novel bage cap signifies everlasting \_\_\_\_\_

- A. happiness
- B. sorrow
- C. freedom
- D. despair

16. Yaremi's only son is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Alani
- B. Wande
- C. Olode
- D. Deyo

Questions **17 – 20** are based on Richard Wright's ***Native Son***

17. Bigger burns Mary body in the \_\_\_\_\_

- A. toilet
- B. basement
- C. backyard
- D. wardrobe

18. Mary's lover is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Earlone
- B. Buckley
- C. Bigger
- D. Max

19. 'Suppose Mary had not burned?

Suppose she was still there, expose'

The dominant literacy device in the excerpt above is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. apostrophe
- B. euphemism
- C. syntactical parallelism
- D. rhetorical question

20. Bigger and the gang rob Negroes because \_\_\_\_\_

- A. they are the same
- B. it is not a crime
- C. they are helpless
- D. it is easier

21. One of the themes in Morris ***The Proud King*** is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. arrogance
- B. greed
- C. education
- D. achievement

22. *'The panic Of growing older  
Spreads fluttering wings from  
year to year'*

The dominant figure of speech in the lines above from **Peters' *The Panic of Growing Older*** is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. onomatopoeia
- B. metaphor
- C. personification
- D. apostrophe

23. Kofi Awoonor is a poet from \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Cameroon
- B. Nigeria
- C. Ghana
- D. Kenya

24. Okara's ***Piano and Drums*** symbolizes \_\_\_\_\_

- A. superiority of the white man
- B. how Africa is becoming complex
- C. simplicity of the European society

D. the complexities of the Western society

25. *But such a tide moving seems  
asleep,  
Too full for sound and foam,  
When that which drew from out  
the boundless deep  
Turns again home.'*

The rhyme scheme in the excerpt above from Tennyson's ***Crossing the Bar*** is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. abba
- B. abab
- C. abed
- D. aabb

26. *'So strength first made a way;  
Then beauty flowed, then wisdom,  
honour, pleasure.'*

The lines above from Herbert's ***The Pulley*** is an example of \_\_\_\_\_

- A. personification
- B. paradox
- C. metaphor

D. antithesis

27. Blake's **The School Boy** can be referred to as \_\_\_\_\_

- A. dramatic
- B. instructive
- C. satiric
- D. expository

28. *'If we cry roughly of our torments;  
Ever increasing from the start of things,  
What eyes will watch our large mouths;  
Shaped by the laughter of big children  
What eyes will watch our large mouths?'*

The language of the persona of the above excerpt in Diop's **Vanity** is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. inciting
- B. submissive
- C. imploring
- D. diplomatic

29. *'Dinner tonight conies with;  
gun wounds,  
Our desert tongues lick the vegetable;  
blood-the pepper'*

From the lines above in Hallowell's **The Dining Table**, the persona is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. thirsty
- B. displeased
- C. hungry
- D. sick

30. *'blue Peter on empty ships all peters with petered out desires.'*

It can be deduced from the lines above in Adeoti's **Ambush** that the **Peters** are \_\_\_\_\_

- A. disappointed
- B. betrayed
- C. lazy
- D. greedy

31. An art that is both literary and theatrical is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. prosody
- B. a prose
- C. drama
- D. a poem

32. The speech made by a character to himself on stage is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. epilogue
- B. monologue
- C. aside
- D. soliloquy

33. In literature, a round character is associated with \_\_\_\_\_

- A. change and growth
- B. simplicity and modesty
- C. stability and determination
- D. running down other characters

34. In a narrative poem, the poet attempts to \_\_\_\_\_

- A. summarize a story
- B. preach a sermon
- C. describe a place
- D. tell a story

35. The continuation of meaning without pause, from one line to the next is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. enjambment
- B. synecdoche
- C. alliteration
- D. melodrama

36. The plot of a story generally refers to the \_\_\_\_\_

- A. way in which the writer begins the story
- B. intrigue made by a character against the hero
- C. way the writer ends the story
- D. way in which the events of the story are organized

37. A didactic piece is one in which the writer \_\_\_\_\_

- A. teaches human lessons
- B. dictates to the reader
- C. condemns human foibles
- D. discusses dialectic themes



38. What basically distinguish literature from other disciplines?

- A. communication of idea
- B. use of creative imagination
- C. portrayal of places
- D. exposition of human experience

39. A reward or punishment a character receives in a literary work is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. point of attack
- B. poetic justice
- C. popular outcry
- D. poetic license

40. In literary criticism, the vocabulary or language used by a writer is generally known as \_\_\_\_\_

- A. figure of speech
- B. diction
- C. expression
- D. rhythm

41. *Weep not child, weep not my darling,*

*With these kisses, let me remove your tears*

*The ravening clouds shall no longer be victorious*

*They shall no longer possess the sky ...*

The speaker of the lines is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. pessimistic
- B. optimistic
- C. helpless
- D. carefree

42. *'You see that Benz at the rich's end? Ha! That motoka is motoka, It belongs to the Minister for fairness. Who yesterday was loaded with a doctorate. At Makerere with whisky and I don't know what Plus I hear the literate thighs of an undergraduate*

**Theo Luzuka: *The Motoka***

The excerpt above can be described as \_\_\_\_\_

- A. sad
- B. humorous

- C. strange
- D. serious

**Questions 43 to 50 are based on Literary Appreciation.**

43. *'...for my purpose holds To sail beyond the sunset and the baths; of all the western stars, until I die.*

**'Tennyson: Ulysses.**

From the excerpt above, the persona does not intend to \_\_\_\_\_

- A. undertake dangerous adventure
- B. stop travelling
- C. die
- D. travel at night

44. *'And my children left their peaceful nakedness for the uniform of iron and blood.'*

David Diop: **Loser of Everything.**

In the lines above, the imagery depicts a displacement of \_\_\_\_\_

- A. village life by barrack life
- B. nature by science
- C. innocence by violence
- D. the natural by the artificial

45. *'Now we have come to you, And are amazed to find Those you have loved and respected Mock you to your face.'*

Kwesi Braw: **Lest we should Be The Last**

The lines above convey the feeling of \_\_\_\_\_

- A. satisfaction
- B. hope
- C. disappointment
- D. fear

46. *The times has come when I can fool myself no more I am no man, Sadiku. My manhood ended near a week ago.*

The lines above reveal that the speaker \_\_\_\_\_

- A. has become impotent
- B. loves women
- C. is tired of marriage
- D. is disgusted with life

47. *'In those days*

*When civilization kicked us in the  
face*

*When holy water slapped our  
cringing brows.*

*The vultures built in the shadow  
of their talons.'*

David Diop: ***The Vulture.***

The dominant Literary device  
used in the lines above is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. metaphor
- B. pun
- C. simile
- D. personification

48. 'The leaves are withered

Roses fold and shrink

Dog the panting athlete shows his  
tongue dwarfed

A shadow flees

Nude under and crack.' Nuts  
wrinkle and crack.'

W. Kamera: **Poems in Four  
Parts.**

One dominant image presented in  
the lines above is that of \_\_\_\_\_

- A. death
- B. summer
- C. tiredness
- D. spent life

49. *When I remember by gone  
days*

*I think how evening follows  
morning*

*So many I loved were not yet  
dead,*

*So many I love not yet born.*

The period of life the poet has  
arrived at is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. middle age
- B. adolescence
- C. old age
- D. early childhood

50. *'Behold her, single in the field  
You solitary Highland lass!  
Reaping and singing by herself  
O listen!  
For the value profound is  
overflowing with sound.'*  
Wordsworth: **The Solitary  
Reaper.**

The lines above constitute \_\_\_\_\_

- A. an apostrophe
- B. an aside
- C. an interior monologue
- D. soliloquy

## **CHECK YOUR ANSWERS**

*Would you like to get or confirm  
the **correct answer(s) with  
explanations** to any or all of  
these questions?*

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**Question 1 to 5 are based on Frank Ogodo Ogbeche's Harvest of Corruption**

1. Aloho perceives her pregnancy as a form of \_\_\_\_\_

- A. reward
- B. blessing
- C. punishment
- D. injustice

2. The play can be referred to as \_\_\_\_\_

- A. dramatic irony
- B. allegory
- C. fable
- D. satire

3. According to Ochuole, government job is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. a waste of time
- B. time consuming
- C. good for hardworking youths
- D. an avenue to personalize public fund

4. *En! En! En! You have come again... I am not always comfortable when you start dishing out this you born again stuff...'*

- A. Ochuole
- B. Aloho

5. Aloho is warned about associating with Ochuole because the latter is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. too sophisticated
- B. proud
- C. mischievous
- D. born-again

**Question 6 to 10 are based on William Shakespeare's Othello.**

6. *She is abused, stol'n from me and corrupted  
By spells and medicines bought of mountebanks; .*

The excerpt above refers to \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Brabantio's suspicion
- B. Iago's distrust of Emilia
- C. Othello's suspicion
- D. Cassio's disaffection for Iago

7. The play is first staged at \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Liverpool stadium
- B. Manchester stadium
- C. Whitehall palace London
- D. London Theatre

8. *'All's One-Good faith, how foolish are our minds!  
If I do die before thee, prithee,  
shroud me.  
In one of those same sheets.'*

The plea in the excerpt above is made by \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Desdemona to Emilia
- B. Othello to Iago
- C. Iago to Emilia
- D. Cassio to Bianca

9. *'Let him do his spite;  
My services which I have done the  
signiory*

*Shall out-tongue his complaints.  
'Tis yet to know  
Which, when I know that boasting  
is an honour,'*

The speaker in the excerpt above is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Brabantio
- B. Othello
- C. Cassio
- D. Iago

10. *'O heaven; How got she out?  
O treason of the blood  
Father, from hence trust not your  
daughter's minds  
By which the property of youth  
and maidhood May be abused?*

The speaker of the excerpt above is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Brabantio
- B. Othello
- C. Gratiano
- D. Roderigo

**Question 11 to 13 are based on Amma Darko's Faceless.**

11. Sodom and Gomorrah used in the novel is an example of \_\_\_\_\_

- A. mixed metaphor
- B. allusion
- C. synecdoche
- D. euphemism

12. The novel focuses on \_\_\_\_\_

- A. stubborn children
- B. negligent parents
- C. greedy politicians
- D. peer group influence

13. Fofo chooses to spend the night in front of the provision store because \_\_\_\_\_

- A. it is a Sunday
- B. she is ill
- C. she does not want to risk losing her job
- D. she has nowhere to go

**Question 14 to 16 are based on Bayo Adebowale's Lonely Days.**

14. Labankada signifies \_\_\_\_\_

- A. wealth and peace
- B. wealth and life
- C. wealth and prosperity
- D. wealth and protection

15. The women of kufi are powerful \_\_\_\_\_

- A. singers
- B. farmers
- C. traders
- D. widows

16. The windows in the land are joined by the loss of \_\_\_\_\_

- A. love
- B. family
- C. fame and wealth
- D. dignity and status

**Question 17 to 20 are based on Richard Wright's Native Son**

17. *'Light flooded the room and revealed a black boy standing in a narrow space between two'*

The style of the lines above is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. narrative
- B. dramatic
- C. descriptive
- D. expository

18. Bigger kills Mary due to \_\_\_\_\_

- A. fear
- B. envy
- C. hatred
- D. distrust

19. Weekly, Bigger is to be paid \_\_\_\_\_

- A. twenty dollars
- B. twenty-five dollars
- C. thirty dollars

D. thirty-five dollars

20. Mr Dalton is of the opinion that Negroes are happier when they are \_\_\_\_\_

- A. together
- B. servants in the white family
- C. educated
- D. given some respect

**Question 21 to 30 are based on Selected Poems from Johnson, Ret al(eds): New poetry from Vincent, T. (eds): A selection of African Poetry; Gbemisola.: Naked Soles; Hayward, J African Verse. Morris'**

21. The Proud King is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. didactic
- B. pastoral
- C. traditional
- D. lyrical



22. Mystic rhythm in the third line of the first stanza of Okara's **Piano and Drums** \_\_\_\_\_

- A. express mood
- B. provides music
- C. carries a definite message
- D. are for pleasurable dancing

23. The line above in Adeoti's **Ambush** is an example of \_\_\_\_\_

- A. pun
- B. alliteration
- C. metaphor
- D. simile

24. The mood of the person in Tennyson's **Crossing the Bar** is that \_\_\_\_\_

- A. pain
- B. frustration
- C. hope
- D. love

25. *Having a glass of blessings standing by,*

The line above from Herbert's **The Pulley** is an example of \_\_\_\_\_

- A. synecdoche
- B. personification
- C. hyperbole
- D. simile

26. Peter's **The Panic of Growing Older** can be referred to as \_\_\_\_\_

- A. metaphysical
- B. philosophical
- C. satirical
- D. metaphorical

27. One vivid device in Blake's **The School Boy** is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. oxymoron
- B. rhetorical question
- C. ironical statement
- D. metaphor

28. *'...and my boots have suddenly become too reluctant to walk me.'*

The persona in the above excerpt in Hallowell's **The Dining Table** is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. exhausted
- B. excited
- C. indifferent

29. The tone of Diopo's **Vanity** is one of \_\_\_\_\_

- A. anger
- B. pity
- C. joy
- D. scorn

30. Awoonor's **The Anvil and The Hammer** presents a picture of the \_\_\_\_\_

- A. past and present
- B. past and future
- C. future
- D. olden days

**Question 31 to 40 are based on General Literacy Principles**

31. Totality of the effects produced on a reader of a literary work is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. tone
- B. mood
- C. plot
- D. diction

32. An art form in which singers and musicians performs dramatic work combining text and music is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. concert
- B. opera
- C. theatre
- D. pantomime

33. In literature, local colour is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. universal
- B. restricted
- C. only English
- D. only American

34. A clue to an event that will happen later in a work of art is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. flashback
- B. fore-shadowing
- C. premonition
- D. digression

35. Comedy of lower kind in which believability is sacrificed for the main objective of exciting laugh is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. farce
- B. comedy
- C. melodrama
- D. tragi comedy

36. 'I am on the world's extreme corner.'

Kofi Awoonor: **Song of Sorrow.**

The speaker in the lines move is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. indifferent
- B. sad
- C. angry

D. in pain

37. *Then I sat myself quiet...*

*For five and forty turbulent years  
I waited, sapped, famished,  
For love to wake from her sickly  
slumber;*

The figure of speech in the last line above is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. assonance
- B. personification
- C. metaphor
- D. oxymoron

38. *We have rain but hate to plant*

*We have the heat and the glory of the rainbow*

*But we kill our own suns with hurtful glee*

The poet's feeling can be described as that of \_\_\_\_\_

- A. disappointment
- B. indifference
- C. anxiety

D. joy

39. *When I remember by gone days*

*I think how evening follow morning*

*So many I loved were not yet dead,*

*So may I love not yet born*

The period of life the poet has arrived at is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. middle age
- B. adolescence
- C. old age
- D. early childhood

40. *'Behold her, single in the field  
You solitary Highland Lass'*

*Reaping and singing by herself*

*O listen! for the value profound*

*Is overflowing with the sound.'*

Words worth: **The Solitary  
Reaper**

The lines above constitute \_\_\_\_\_

- A. an apostrophe

B. an aside

C. an interior monologue

D. soliloquy

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**Questions 1 to 10 are based on General Literacy Principles.**

1. A literary work in which the characters and events are used as symbols is known as \_\_\_\_\_

- A. characteristics
- B. allegory
- C. metaphor
- D. parallelism

2. Characterisation in a novel refers to the \_\_\_\_\_

- A. writer's opinion of the characters
- B. way the characters are revealed to the reader
- C. characters and the way they behave
- D. readers of the characters

3. In literacy work, verbal Irony refers to a \_\_\_\_\_

A. device in which the speaker means the opposite of what he says

B. situation in which a Character speaks or acts against the tread of events

C. difficult situation which defies a local or rational resolution

D. device in which the actor on stag: means exactly what he says.

4. In the theatre, words spoken by a character that are meant to be heard by the audience but not by the other; characters on stage is called \_\_\_\_\_

- A. aside
- B. soliloquy
- C. acoustic
- D. tone

5. Drama is the representation of a complete series of actions by means of \_\_\_\_\_

A. movement and gesture for the screen and audience

B. speech, movement and gesture for the stage only

C. speech, movement and gesture for the stage, screen and radio

D. speech, gesture and movement for the screen and radio

6. A poet's use of regular rhythm is known as \_\_\_\_\_

A. allegory

B. assonance

C. metre

D. onomatopoeia

7. A literary genre which directly imitates human actions is \_\_\_\_\_

A. drama

B. comedy

C. prose

D. poetry

8. A fable is a story in which \_\_\_\_\_

A. allegations are made about characters

B. animals or things are used as characters

C. there is an important setting

D. the story is told in poetic form

9. The juxtaposition of two contrasting ideas in a line of poetry is \_\_\_\_\_

A. euphemism

B. synecdoche

C. catharsis

D. oxymoron

10. The main aim of caricature is to \_\_\_\_\_

A. describe

B. expose

C. emphasize

D. ridicule

**Questions 11 to 13 are based on Richard Wright's Native Son.**

11. Bigger kills Mary due to \_\_\_\_\_

A. fear

- B. envy
- C. hatred
- D. distrust

12. Weekly, Bigger is to be paid \_\_\_\_\_

- A. twenty dollars
- B. twenty-five dollars
- C. thirty dollars
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13. Mr Datton is of the opinion that Negroes are happier when they are \_\_\_\_\_

- A. together
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14. Windows in mourning in Kofi wear garments that are \_\_\_\_\_

- A. red

- B. black
- C. white
- D. dull

15. In the novel, bage cape signifies everlasting \_\_\_\_\_

- A. happiness
- B. sorrow
- C. freedom
- D. despair.

16. Yaremi's only son is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Alani
- B. Wande
- C. Olode
- D. Deyo

**Questions 17 to 20 are based on George Orwell's Nineteen Eighty-four.**

17. The novel draws a picture of \_\_\_\_\_

- A. a useless past
- B. a totalitarian future
- C. an unstable moment

D. a peaceful atmosphere

18. The power and oppression of an irresistible evil debased Winston's dreams of \_\_\_\_\_

- A. freedom and democracy
- B. internal security
- C. wealth and capitalism
- D. sovereignty

19. Room 101 symbolises a place of \_\_\_\_\_

- A. rest
- B. fun
- C. humiliation
- D. torture

20. The novel can be described as \_\_\_\_\_

- A. optimistic
- B. antagonistic
- C. persuasive
- D. pessimistic

**Questions 21 to 25 are based on J.P Clark's Wives Revolt.**

21. In the play, the central idea is that gender equality is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. both undesirable and unattainable
- B. desirable but unattainable
- C. attainable and desirable
- D. obnoxious but desirable

22. In their flight, the women settle at Iyara in order to \_\_\_\_\_

- A. cure cross-piece
- B. hurt their husbands
- C. forestall reconciliation
- D. seek peace

23. *'...Great Orators in the assembly, and poor nannies at home:'*

Those being ridiculed here are the \_\_\_\_\_

- A. husbands
- B. old-women
- C. wives
- D. spinsters



24. "...Those with full breasts have walked out, and that leaves you, me, and, the old-girls returned home on retirement, it's the dry season child."

The character to whom the words are spoken in the play is in \_\_\_\_\_

- A. front of the veranda of Okoro's house
- B. the-kitchen, upstage
- C. Okoro's front yard, down stage
- D. the direction of the kitchen, off stage

25. The mutual exchange of abuse in the play is reminiscent of \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Ikaki
- B. Udje
- C. Etiyeri
- D. Ekpe

**Questions 26 to 30 are based on Williams's Shakespeare's Othello.**

26. "ill-starred wench, Pale as thy smoke;

When we shall meet at compt"

The device used in the line above is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. simile
- B. pun
- C. metaphor
- D. paradox

27. Othello kills Desdemona because the \_\_\_\_\_

- A. former is jealous
- B. former's race is insulted
- C. latter is a witch
- D. latter is an idol

28. Brabantio is opposed to the relationship between Othello and Desdemona because \_\_\_\_\_

- A. he prefers Lago
- B. Othello is a moor
- C. Rodgerigo woos her first
- D. Desdemona is too young

29. *"Soft you; a word or two before you go.*

*I have done the state some service an,' they know'nt*

*No more of that, I pray you, in your letters,*

*When you shall these unlucky deeds relate"*

The speech above is made when the speaker is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. travelling
- B. sick
- C. dying
- D. eloping

30. *"O heaven; How got she out?*

*O treason of the blood!*

*Father; from hence trust not your daughters' minds*

*By what you see them act. Is there not charms*

*By which the property of youth and maidhood may be abused?*

The speaker of the excerpt above is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Brabantio
- B. Othello
- C. Gratiano
- D. Roderigo

**Use the following excerpt to answer questions 31 to 33.**

*"I wonder how long, you awful parasites,*

*Shall share with me this little bed,*

*And awake me, from my sweet dreams be lost,*

*Sucking blood from my poor head...*

Mbure: **"To Bed-Bug"**

31. The lines are an example of a \_\_\_\_\_

- A. limerick
- B. lampoon
- C. light verse
- D. light opera

32. The poet persona expresses dismay about \_\_\_\_\_

- A. bat

- B. cockroaches
- C. grass coppers
- D. light opera

33. The most dominant figure of speech in the excerpt is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. metaphor
- B. simile
- C. personification
- D. hyperbole

34. *You*

*Your head is like a drum that is beaten for spirits*

*You*

*Yours ears are like the fans used for blowing fire.*

The lines above are a good example of \_\_\_\_\_

- A. caricature
- B. ridicule
- C. satire
- D. lampoon

35. *How can I look at Oyo and say I hate long shiny cars?*

*How can I come to the children and despise international schools? And Koomson comes; and the family semi Jesus Christ in him...*

The feeling conveyed by the speaker above is one of \_\_\_\_\_

- A. anger
- B. alienation
- C. hope
- D. despair

36. *"Hide me now, when night children haunt the earth"*

Wole Soyinka: **"Night" Night children**

In the stanza above reflects the consciousness of \_\_\_\_\_

- A. birds
- B. armed robbers
- C. animals
- D. spirit beings

37. *Serrated shadows, through dark leaves*

*Till, bathed in warm suffusion of  
your dapped cells*

*Sensation pained me, faceless,  
silent as night thieves*

Wole Soyinka: "**Night**"

The dominant mood in the lines  
above is one of \_\_\_\_\_

- A. apprehension
- B. defiance
- C. joy
- D. indifference

38. "*The drum overwhelmed the  
guns...*"

J.P Clark: "**Causalities**"

The poet in the excerpt above  
uses \_\_\_\_\_

- A. litotes
- B. symbolism
- C. onomatopoeia
- D. alliteration

39. "... *They do not see the  
funeral piles,  
At home eating up the forests...*"

J.P Clark: "**Causalities**"

The imagery created in the above  
uses \_\_\_\_\_

- A. metaphor
- B. personification
- C. synecdoche
- D. metonymy

*"I cannot rest from travel: I will  
drink, life to the lees, all times I  
have enjoyed,  
Greatly, have suffered greatly".*

A.L. Tennyson: "**Ulysses**"

40. The lines above inform the  
reader that poet \_\_\_\_\_

- A. is determined to suffer
- B. has his poetic imagination  
kindled
- C. will cure his soar mood
- D. will not drink much

## JAMB LITERATURE PAST QUESTIONS (PT.9)

This Questions (1 to 5) is based on **Femi Osofisan's Women of Owu**.

*"...Human beings, it is clear, learn only from suffering and pain.*

*Already Esu has promised me there'll be*

*Such confusion at every crossroads*

*They'll never find their way..."*

1. Those referred to in the speech are \_\_\_\_\_

- A. the gods of Owu
- B. Oba Akinjobi's men
- C. women of Owu
- D. Allied Forces

2. Erelu is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. a courtier to the Alaafin of Oyo
- B. the most brilliant woman in Owu
- C. the first wife of the Oba

D. the oldest wife of the Oba Akinjobi

3. The significance of the ritual of releasing the spirits of the dead is to \_\_\_\_\_

- A. show the weakness of the gods
- B. portray disunity among women
- C. extol the gods
- D. condemn war in totality

4. In the war against Owu, those held as captives by the Allied Forces are \_\_\_\_\_

- A. old men
- B. strangers
- C. female children
- D. male children

5. Orisaye describes Balogun Kusa as \_\_\_\_\_

- A. enemy and butcher
- B. friend in need
- C. good leader
- D. great warrior

Questions 6 to 10 are based on **William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet**.

*'Uncle, this is a Montague, our foe;  
A villain that is hither come in spite,  
To scorn at our solemnity this night.*

6. The villain in the excerpt above is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. holding a sword to commit murder
- B. attempting to steal
- C. attending a feast uninvited
- D. engaging in a shouty match

*'What, drawn, and talk of peace? I hate the word  
As I hate hell, all Montagues, and thee  
Have at thee, coward!'*

7. The lines above reveal the speaker as a \_\_\_\_\_

- A. trouble shooter

- B. violence seeker
- C. peace maker
- D. real Montague

8. Romeo's mood, at the beginning of the play can be described as \_\_\_\_\_

- A. gay and elated
- B. melancholic and sentimental
- C. dreamy and hopeful
- D. frustrated and pensive

*'O deadly sin! O rude unthankfulness!*

*Thy fault our law calls death, but the kind Prince, taking thy parts, hath rushed aside the law, And turned that black word 'death' to banishment.*

9. The speaker in the passage above is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Lord Capulet
- B. Lord Montague
- C. Friar Lawrence
- D. Apothecary

*'... Put up thy sword*

*Or it to part these men with me.'*

10. The speech above is made when \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Benvolio tries to separate the servants of the feuding families
- B. Tybalt challenges Romeo to a duel
- C. Prince Escalus arrives to make peace between the families
- D. Romeo and Paris engage themselves in a fight

11. The repetition of a consonant sound in quick succession for sound effect is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Alliteration
- B. Pun
- C. onomatopoeia
- D. Assonance

12. A play in which the acts succeed one another without probable or necessary sequence is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Episodic
- B. Simple
- C. linear
- D. convoluted

13. The device used in a play to shed light on the present action is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Climax
- B. Flashback
- C. Interlude
- D. Catharsis

14. Criticism is a literary activity which seeks to \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Find faults in a literary work
- B. Analyze and evaluate a literary work
- C. compare and contrast novels
- D. Discover the beauty of a literary work

15. A situation where an actor addresses the audience without the other actors hearing him is called \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Soliloquy
- B. Chorus
- C. aside
- D. solo

16. A band of singers and dancers in drama who act as a link between the play and the audience is the \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Chorus
- B. Clown
- C. Playwright
- D. Cast

17. A character whose name is used as the title of the a text is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Antagonist
- B. Round
- C. Eponymous
- D. Flat

18. In poetry, the term *license* implies \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Freedom to sell poems

B. Liberty the poets take with language

C. approval given to poets to compose poems

D. honour given to deserving poets

19. The person who takes the leading roles in a play or novel is the \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Protagonist
- B. Actor
- C. antagonist
- D. Actress

20. A form of writing in which the poet write with nostalgia about simple village life is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Ballad
- B. Romance
- C. Epic
- D. pastoral

21. This question is based on **Amma Darko's Faceless.**



Sodom and Gomorrah used in the novel is an example of \_\_\_\_\_

- A. mixed metaphor
- B. allusion
- C. synecdoche
- D. euphemism

22. This question is based on **Frank Ogodo Ogbeche's Harvest of Corruption.**

Aloho is warned about associating with Ochuole because the latter is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. too sophisticated
- B. proud
- C. mischievous
- D. born-again

23. This question is based on **Frank Ogodo Ogbeche's Harvest of Corruption.**

Aloho perceives her pregnancy as a form of \_\_\_\_\_

- A. reward

- B. blessing
- C. punishment
- D. injustice

24. This question is based on **Frank Ogodo Ogbeche's Harvest of Corruption.**

The play can be referred to as \_\_\_\_\_

- A. dramatic irony
- B. allegory
- C. fable
- D. satire

25. This question is based on **Selected Poems from Johnson, R. et a Vincent, T. (eds.): A Selection of African Poetry;** Gbemisola, A. African Verse.

Mystic rhythm in the third line of the first stanza of Okara's Piano and Drums connotes that drum \_\_\_\_\_

- A. express mood
- B. provides music

- C. carries a definite message
- D. rare for pleasurable dancing

26. This question is based on **Selected Poems from Johnson, R. et a Vincent, T.(eds.): A Selection of African Poetry;** Gbemisola, A. African Verse.

One vivid device in Blake's The School Boy is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. oxymoron
- B. rhetorical question
- C. ironical statement
- D. metaphor

27. This question is based on Selected Poems from Johnson, R. et a Vincent, T.(eds.): A Selection of African Poetry: Gbemisola, A. African Verse.

Peters' The Panic of Growing Older can be referred to as \_\_\_\_\_

- A. metaphysical
- B. philosophical
- C. satirical metaphorical

28. This question is based on Selected Poems from Johnson, R. et a Vincent, T.(eds.): A Selection of African Poetry; Gbemisola, A. African Verse.

The mood of the persona in **Tennyson's Crossing the Bar** is that of \_\_\_\_\_

- A. pain
- B. frustration
- C. hope
- D. love

29. This question is based on **Frank Ogodo Ogbeche's Harvest of Corruption.**

According to Ochuole, government job is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. a waste of time
- B. time consuming
- C. good for hardworking youths
- D. an avenue to personalize public fund

30. This question is based on **Richard Wright's Native Son.**

Weekly, Bigger is to be paid \_\_\_\_\_

- A. twenty dollars
- B. twenty five dollars
- C. thirty dollars
- D. thirty five dollars

**This question is based on General Literary Principles.**

31. The account of experiences of an individual during the course of a journey is known as \_\_\_\_\_

- A. a catalogue
- B. a memoir
- C. a travelogue
- D. an autobiography

32. Satire employs the use of \_\_\_\_\_

- A. onomatopoeia
- B. irony
- C. synecdoche
- D. melancholy

33. A plot in a literary work is about \_\_\_\_\_

- A. resolution of conflicts
- B. law of poetic justice
- C. character delineation
- D. causal arrangement of events

34. The metric pattern in a line of poetry with five stressed and five unstressed syllables is a/an \_\_\_\_\_

- A. dactylic metre
- B. trochaic decametre
- C. iambic pentametre
- D. anapestic metre

35. A formal dignified speech or writing praising or a thing for past or present deeds is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. anthology
- B. lampoon
- C. premiere
- D. eulogy

36. A literary work that teaches moral is said to be \_\_\_\_\_

- A. didactic
- B. instructive
- C. corrective
- D. impressive

37. A reward or punishment a character receives in a literary work is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. point of attack
- B. popular outcry
- C. poetic license
- D. poetic justice

38. Pun as a literary device deals with \_\_\_\_\_

- A. playing on words
- B. arrangement of words
- C. placing two opposite phrases
- D. placing words side by side

39. A device used by a writer to recall past event in a literary work is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. anti-climax
- B. flashback
- C. foreshadowing

D. interlude

40. A character that is always against the interest of the protagonist is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. hero
- B. heroine
- C. opposition
- D. villain

**Questions 41 to 50 are based on Literary Appreciation.**

41. *He put himself in uniform, made one for his five year old and marched with the from dawn till noon every market day, in the main road singing 'Kayiwawa beturi'....*

The persona in the excerpt above is portrayed as \_\_\_\_\_

- A. energetic
- B. a policeman
- C. a soldier
- D. abnormal

42. *He is a faithful liar.*

The line above is an example of \_\_\_\_\_

- A. epigram
- B. oxymoron
- C. euphemism
- D. antithesis

43. *Fights by the book of arithmetic*

The figure of speech in the line above is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. hyperbole
- B. euphemism
- C. litotes
- D. inneundo

44. *And when you trudge on one horny pads Gullied like the soles of modern shoes Pads that even jiggers cannot conquer.*

*Horny pads* in the lines above is a reference to a \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Policeman
- B. madman
- C. sole of a pauper
- D. sole of a soldier

45. *'Lift not the painted veil which those who live call life: though unreal shapes be picture there, And it but mimic all we would believe With colours idly spread, behind, lurk fear:*

— P. B Shelley: **Sonner**

The stanza above is an example of a \_\_\_\_\_

- A. quatrain
- B. sonnet
- C. couplet
- D. sestet

**Use the following excerpt to answer questions 46 to 48**

*'I wonder how long, you awful parasites, Shall share with me this little bed, And awake me, from my sweet dreams be lost. By*

*sucking blood from my poor head...*

— Mbure **"To a Bed-Bug"**

46. The lines are an example of a \_\_\_\_\_

- A. limerick
- B. lampoon
- C. light verse
- D. light opera

47. The poet persona expresses dismay about \_\_\_\_\_

- A. bat
- B. cockroaches
- C. grasshoppers
- D. Bed-bugs

48. The most dominant figure of speech in the excerpt is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. metaphor
- B. simile
- C. personification

49. *You*

*Your head is like a drum that is beaten for spirits.*

*You*

*Your ears are like the fans used for blowing fire.*

The lines above are good example of \_\_\_\_\_

- A. caricature
- B. ridicule
- C. satire
- D. lampoon

50. *'This thing you are doing is too heavy for you, he said. 'I went to school only a little, but I have killed many more years in the world than you.'*

— G. Okara: **The Voice**

It can be inferred from the passage above \_\_\_\_\_

- A. listener is wise
- B. speaker is a porter
- C. listener is more experienced
- D. speaker is more experienced

## JAMB LITERATURE PAST QUESTIONS (PT.10)

1. "Ten thousand oceans cannot wash away her sin" is an example of \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Irony
- B. Paradox
- C. Oxymoron
- D. Hyperbole

2. Birago Diop is an African poet from \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Nigeria
- B. Congo
- C. Senegal
- D. Ghana

3. *Acquah* in **The Navel of The Soul** describes the \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Complications of motherhood and child bearing
- B. Lack of experienced midwives in the society
- C. Excesses of the new generation churches and politicians
- D. None of the above

**Question 4 is based on Buchi Emecheta's second class citizen**

4. The marriage of Adah and Francis collapses because of \_\_\_\_\_

- A Adah's desire for personal fulfilment
- B. External pressures on the couple
- C The influence of British culture
- D Adah's unfaithfulness to Francis

5. The subject matter of a literary work is the \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Structure
- B. Plot
- C. Setting
- D. theme

6. In Lawrence's *Bat*, the poet compares bats with \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Swans
- B. Swallows
- C. Sparrows

D. Crows

**Question 7 is based on AHMED TERIMA'S Attahiru**

7. *"I wish him luck with his infidel friends, but he must remember that there is only one moon at a time, sun, at a time"*

The speaker in the passage above is referring to \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Unsurper
- B. Slave raider
- C. Muezzin
- D. Moon gazer

8. The speech made by a character to himself on stage is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. epilogue
- B. aside
- C. monologue
- D. soliloquy

**Question 9 is based on WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S Romeo and Juliet**

9. Romero's death becomes inevitable because \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Friar Lawrence's letter is not delivered
- B. Juliet is married to Paris
- C. Juliet has committed suicide
- D. Romea kills Tybatt in a duel

10. The protagonist of the novel "**Faceless**" is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Fofu
- B. Essie
- C. Kwei
- D. Maa tsuru

11. *SYMBOLS OF FRUITFULNESS, SYMBOL OF BARRENNESS, MOTHER AND DESTROYER, THE CALM AND STORM! LIFE AND DESIRE AND DREAMS AND DEATH ARE BORN OF THE SEA; THIS SWARMING LAND.*



— Frank Coltymore, **Hymn to the sea.**

The address to the sea in the lines above is done by the use of \_\_\_\_\_

- A. apostrophe
- B. personification
- C. symbolism
- D. praise

12. A story that is mostly about ghost is called \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Horation
- B. Gothic story
- C. Ephithany
- D. Ghost story

13. The major theme of **Thomas Grey's Elegy** written in a country churchyard is that death renders life \_\_\_\_\_

- A. meaningless for the rich
- B. meaningful for all
- C. meaningful for the poor
- D. meaningless for all

**Question 14 is based on Femi Ademiluyi's The New Man.**

14. In the novel, Asejire refers to a \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Town
- B. Cleric
- C. Farmer
- D. River

15. *"On the sand hill her foot points gleam like a prisoner's chain"*

The lines above from **Mohan Singh's village girl** suggest the girl's \_\_\_\_\_

- A. slow movement
- B. psychedelic movement
- C. firmness of bearing
- D. difficulty in walking

16. *"Or else is this the ending of my life*

*An no man hence forth shall remember me*

*And a vain name in records shall i  
be"*

— William Morris' **The proud  
king.**

Identify the theme that can be  
inferred from the lines above.

- A. Theme of wit and knowledge
- B. Theme of arrogance
- C. Theme of self pity and loathe
- D. Theme of vanity and death

17. The speech made at the end  
of a dramatic performance is  
generally called \_\_\_\_\_

- A. a monologue
- B. an epilogue
- C. a prologue
- D. a dirge

18. This expression from **William  
Morris "Proud King"**, "*is this a  
dream that my wearied eyes  
behold?*" is an example of \_\_\_\_\_

- A. symbolism
- B. allegory

C. rhetorical question

D. zeugma

19. In the poem "**Crossing the  
Bar**" by Alfred Tennyson, the  
notion of \_\_\_\_\_ is repeatedly  
emphasized.

- A. Renaissance
- B. Death
- C. Rebirth
- D. Bar

20. Which of these is given  
libation to lick in Adebowale's  
"**Lonely days**"?

- A. Dedewe
- B. Rolake
- C. Radeke
- D. Fayoyin

**Question 21 is based on  
Willian Shakespeare's The  
Tempest**

21. Before the shipwreck that  
occurs at the beginning of the

play, Prospero and his daughter have lived in the island for \_\_\_\_\_

- A. twenty years
- B. forty years
- C. eighteen months
- D. two decades

22. *"And the fountain of Tololo is an oasis. It quenches the thirst of travellers. The myraid places of the mind fold their wings, for here too, growth emerges from sleep. From a beginning that was the end of an era."*

— Maliski Kunene: **The Ancestors and the Sacred Mountain.**

From the excerpt above, it can be said that the poet is being \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Illogical
- B. Tautological
- C. Paradoxical
- D. Antithetical

23. *"My song is the root touching other roots In a covenant below the crust"*

— Niyi Osundare; **Waiting  
laughters.**

The imagery used in the second line of the extract above is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Auditory
- B. Visual
- C. Tactile
- D. Olfactory

24. Pick the odd poet out.

- A. Gbemisola Adeoti
- B. Birage Diop
- C. Lenrie Peters
- D. Alfred Tennyson

**Question 25 is based on Ernest Hemingway's The Old Man and The Sea.**

25. The plot of the novel revolves around \_\_\_\_\_

- A. The adventure of a great fish

- B. A man fights with a great fish
- C. A boy's fight with a great fish
- D. A man's adventure on the sea

26. *"You do not have to be brutal to be a soldier, or rather you are brutal not because you are a soldier, but because there is a sadist, a rapist, a fascist and a murderer in you who is awaiting for war and army uniforms to give them expression"*

— Festus Iyayi: **Heroes**

The speaker here contends that \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Soldiers are characteristically gentle
- B. The latent brutality in man finds expression in war
- C. Soldiers are generally wicked
- D. Human nature has to do with a profession

27. Hallowell's '**Dining Table**' paints the picture of \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Adversaries and revenge

- B. Destruction and pain
- C. Adversities and love
- D. Hunger and colonisation

**Question 28 is based on George Orwell's Nineteen Eighty-Four**

28. Winston Smith begins his rebellion against the power of the state by \_\_\_\_\_

- A. educating the youth
- B. opposing the law
- C. purchasing arms
- D. keeping a private diary

29. What is the strength of a tragic hero?

- A. Ambition
- B. Pride
- C. Nobility
- D. Humility

30. A line or a group of lines repeated in the course of a poem is called \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Repetition
- B. Refrain
- C. Chorus
- D. Prologue

31. A literary genre which directly imitates human action is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Comedy
- B. Poetry
- C. Drama
- D. Prose

**Questions 32 - 36 are based on General Literary principles**

32. A literary work that teaches moral is said to be \_\_\_\_\_

- A. instructive
- B. didactic
- C. impressive
- D. corrective

33. An action without speech in a play is known as a/an \_\_\_\_\_

- A. epilogue
- B. mime

- C. soliloquy
- D. aside

34. The figure of speech in which the writer means the exact opposite of what he intends to say is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. paradox
- B. metaphor
- C. satire
- D. irony

35. A paragraph in prose is equivalent to \_\_\_\_\_

- A. a verse in poetry
- B. stanza in poetry
- C. metre in poetry
- D. trope in poetry

36. A fable is a brief narrative illustrating wisdom and \_\_\_\_\_

- A. urgency
- B. origin
- C. custom
- D. truth

37. *"And the promised pleasure will never ever be found in the face of vanished treasure, in the face of plundered pound hidden beneath roots of greener grasses in a land far from the masses"*

The tone of the poem above is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. interrogative
- B. persuasive
- C. optimistic
- D. pessimistic

38. The physical, historical or cultural background of a literary work is referred to as \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Time
- B. Episode
- C. Plot
- D. Setting

39. A play which is full of exaggerated laughter is called \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Masque

B. Farce

C. Tragi-comedy

D. Comedy

40. The flat character in a literary work \_\_\_\_\_

A. is the same as the round character

B. cannot be found in an allegory

C. always embodies a quality

D. is capable of growing

## **~~DISCLAIMER~~**

These are **not** JAMB expo questions for this year, but past questions of previous years.

You are advised to study these past questions and know their **correct answers** as well as how the answer to each question was gotten to be well-prepared for your JAMB exam.

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