

## CORE PAPER- IX UG ENGLISH

### SHORT QUESTIONS

1. What are some key characteristics that define European classical literature, and how did these characteristics develop over time?
2. How did the Renaissance period contribute to the revival and appreciation of classical literature from ancient Greece and Rome in Europe?
3. What factors contributed to the decline of classical literature as a dominant literary form in Europe, and when did this decline occur?
4. Can you name some notable classical literary works and authors from different European countries, and explain their significance in the broader context of European classical literature?
5. What were some literary movements or genres that emerged in response to or in contrast with classical literature during its decline in Europe, and how did they shape the course of literary history?
6. What is the main purpose of the assembly called by Telemachus in Book 1, and how does this gathering set the stage for the epic's events?
7. Describe the character of Telemachus in Book 1. How does he change or develop throughout this section of the epic?
8. How does the character of Penelope respond to the suitors in Book 1, and what do her actions reveal about her personality and her situation?
9. Explain the role of the gods, particularly Athena, in Book 1. How do they influence the events and characters in this part of "The Odyssey"?
10. How does the arrival of the disguised Athena impact Telemachus in Book 1, and what message does she convey to him?
11. Who is Oedipus, and what is his role in the city of Thebes at the beginning of the play?
12. What is the central prophecy that haunts Oedipus, and how does it drive the plot of the play?
13. Describe the character of Tiresias and his interactions with Oedipus. What important revelations does Tiresias make?
14. How does Oedipus react to the truth about his origins as it is gradually revealed in the play?
15. What themes and messages does Sophocles convey through the tragic story of Oedipus in "Oedipus the King"?

16. What is the primary focus of Aristotle's "Poetics," and why is it considered one of the most important works of literary theory in Western literature?
17. According to Aristotle, what are the six elements that make up a tragedy, and how do they contribute to the effectiveness of a tragic work?
18. What is the concept of "catharsis" as discussed in "Poetics," and why is it significant in the context of tragic drama?
19. How does Aristotle define the term "hamartia," and how does it relate to the downfall of a tragic hero?
20. In "Poetics," Aristotle discusses the concept of "mimesis." What does he mean by this term, and how does it apply to literature and drama?

## **LONG QUESTIONS**

1. Examine the development of classical literature in ancient Greece and Rome. Discuss the key characteristics, genres, and themes of classical literature in these civilizations.
2. How did Greek and Roman literature influence later European classical literature, and what enduring legacies did they leave in the world of letters?
3. Analyze the significance of Homer's epic poem, 'The Odyssey,' in the context of European classical literature. Explore the themes, characters, and narrative techniques in these works, and discuss their enduring impact on subsequent literature and storytelling.
4. Discuss the role of tragedy in European classical literature, focusing on playwrights like Aeschylus, Sophocles, and Euripides. Explore the themes, structure, and characters in Greek tragedies, and explain how they have shaped the tragic tradition in European literature.
5. Examine the works of Roman authors such as Virgil, Cicero, and Ovid in the context of European classical literature.
6. How did Roman literature build upon Greek foundations while also offering its unique contributions to the classical canon? Discuss the significance of Virgil's 'Aeneid' and its influence on later literature.

7. Trace the evolution of classical literature during the Renaissance period in Europe. Discuss the revival of classical texts and ideas, including the humanist movement and the translation of Greek and Latin works.
8. How did the Renaissance rekindle interest in classical literature, resulting in a cultural rebirth that had a profound impact on European art, philosophy, and literature?
9. Analyze the theme of fate versus free will in 'Oedipus the King.' How does Oedipus, the protagonist, grapple with the idea of destiny and his own agency throughout the play?
10. Discuss the role of prophecy, irony, and self-discovery in shaping Oedipus's tragic journey. What does the play suggest about the limits of human knowledge and the consequences of trying to evade one's fate?
11. Examine the character of Jocasta in 'Oedipus the King.' How does she contribute to the unfolding of the tragic events in the play? Explore her role as a mother, wife, and queen in the context of the broader themes of the play, including truth, identity, and the nature of power. Discuss the impact of Jocasta's revelation and her ultimate fate in the play's tragic outcome.
12. Discuss the significance of the chorus in 'Oedipus the King.' How does the chorus function as a commentary on the events of the play and a reflection of the audience's response? Analyze the choral odes and their themes, such as the nature of humanity, wisdom, and divine justice. How do the choral interludes enhance the dramatic impact of the play and contribute to its overall meaning?
13. Examine Aristotle's 'Poetics' as a foundational work in literary theory. Discuss the key elements of his analysis, including mimesis, the six elements of tragedy, catharsis, and his views on epic poetry.
14. How has 'Poetics' influenced subsequent literary criticism and the understanding of dramatic storytelling? Provide examples from classic and contemporary literature to illustrate Aristotle's principles."
15. Analyze Aristotle's concept of catharsis in 'Poetics.' What does he mean by this term, and how does it relate to the emotional and moral impact of tragic drama?
16. Discuss the role of pity and fear in catharsis and how these emotions are evoked in audiences through the actions and experiences of tragic

- characters. How have later interpretations and adaptations of catharsis evolved in the context of theater and literature?
17. Discuss Aristotle's ideas on character development and the tragic hero in 'Poetics.' How does he define the qualities and attributes of a tragic hero, and what purpose do these qualities serve in a tragic narrative?
  18. Explore the character of Oedipus from Sophocles' 'Oedipus the King' as an exemplar of Aristotle's concept of the tragic hero. How does Oedipus meet the criteria set forth by Aristotle, and how does his character contribute to the overall tragic effect of the play?
  19. Analyze the character of Penelope in 'The Odyssey.' How does Penelope embody the ideals of loyalty, cunning, and perseverance as she awaits the return of her husband, Odysseus? Explore the strategies and challenges she faces in maintaining her household and her fidelity to Odysseus in his long absence.
  20. Discuss the symbolic significance of Penelope's weaving and unweaving of the shroud for Laertes as it relates to her emotional and psychological journey. How does Penelope's character contribute to the overall themes of love, fidelity, and the endurance of the human spirit in the epic?"