



RCM Examinations

Speech Arts History and Literature Theory Level 1 Sample Exam

Unless otherwise indicated, answer all questions directly on the examination paper in the spaces provided.

Confirmation Number

Maximum Marks

15

1. Mark **EACH** of the following statements as either True (T) or False (F).

- _____ The poets of the Romantic Age were inspired by the poetry of Classical Greece and Rome.
- _____ The sonnet form originated in France.
- _____ Sonnets of the Elizabethan period often contain conventional expressions such as “eyes like stars” and “cheeks like roses”.
- _____ Wordsworth lived during the reign of King Charles I.
- _____ Shakespeare and Ben Jonson both wrote poetry and plays.
- _____ Sir Walter Raleigh made many voyages to South America.
- _____ The Romantic poets had little concern for humble and oppressed people.
- _____ *carpe diem* is a term which refers to the carefully constructed rhythms of Cavalier poetry.
- _____ *Bonny Barbara Allen* tells the story of a woman that disappears during Mayday celebrations.
- _____ The Victorian age is known as an age of reform.
- _____ 1837 - 1897 are usually accepted as the dates of the Romantic period of English Literature.
- _____ The Industrial revolution began with the invention of the factory system.
- _____ Metrical romances often include reference to King Arthur and Camelot.
- _____ Elizabeth Barrett Browning was the sister of poet Robert Browning.
- _____ *The Solitary Reaper* contains one of the first literary depictions of the “grim reaper”.

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2. Identify the period with which the following are associated.

chivalry

Medieval Renaissance Jacobean Romantic Victorian

King James I

Medieval Renaissance Jacobean Romantic Victorian

William Wordsworth

Medieval Renaissance Jacobean Romantic Victorian

metaphysical poetry

Medieval Renaissance Jacobean Romantic Victorian

Lyrical Ballads

Medieval Renaissance Jacobean Romantic Victorian

the French Revolution

Medieval Renaissance Jacobean Romantic Victorian

My Last Duchess

Medieval Renaissance Jacobean Romantic Victorian

feudalism

Medieval Renaissance Jacobean Romantic Victorian

Get Up and Bar the Door

Medieval Renaissance Jacobean Romantic Victorian

John Keats

Medieval Renaissance Jacobean Romantic Victorian

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3. Define **FIVE** of the following terms.

sonnet cycle _____

ballad stanza _____

minstrel _____

narrative poetry _____

chivalry _____

conceit _____

iambic pentameter _____

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4. a. Define the following terms associated with sonnets. Give the author and title of a sonnet you have studied, and a summary of its content.

Octave _____

Sestet _____

Volta _____

Shakespearean sonnet rhyme scheme _____

Petrarchan/Italian sonnet rhyme scheme _____

Title _____

Author _____

Summary _____

continued.....

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Question 4 continued

10

- b. Describe the origins and **THREE** typical characteristics of pastoral poetry. Give the title and author of one poem of this type.

Origins _____

Characteristics _____

Title _____

Author _____

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- c. Give the title and author of a Romantic Age poem that contains the theme of joy in nature. Briefly explain how the theme is developed in the poem.

Title _____

Author _____

Use of theme _____

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- 15 5. Choose **ONE** of the following forms of poetry. Write a paragraph outlining the form including defining elements of structure, theme and subject, and style. Include reference to **ONE** representative poem.
- metrical romance
dramatic monologue
ballad
- 15 6. a. Write an essay on a poet of your choice. Your essay should describe the life, career, and writing style of the poet.
- 10 b. Describe **TWO** poems written by the poet you wrote about in part (a). Give a brief summary of each one, and explain how they are representative of the poet's writing style.

Note: Poets and works discussed in answers to question 6 may not be used in question 5.