RGUKT AP English Lecturer

DAILY CHALLENGE | DAY 2 | 10 Advanced MCQs with Answers & Explanations

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Original practice questions aligned to the RGUKT English screening-test syllabus (Subject Code 90). These are not official examination questions.

Q1. Shakespeare - The Tempest

Prospero's decision to renounce his magical powers towards the conclusion of The Tempest is most convincingly interpreted as:

A. An acknowledgement that Caliban possesses superior magical abilities.

B. A movement from controlling others through supernatural power towards accepting human limitations and reconciliation.

C. A rejection of his political claim to the dukedom of Milan.

D. An indication that Ariel has permanently refused to obey him.

Answer: B

Explanation: Prospero's renunciation accompanies his movement towards forgiveness and restored political and familial relationships. Breaking his staff and drowning his book symbolise relinquishing extraordinary control, not abandoning his dukedom.

Q2. Wordsworth - Tintern Abbey

Which statement best explains the development of memory in Wordsworth's Tintern Abbey?

A. Memory preserves sensory impressions without changing their meaning.

B. Memory transforms an earlier experience of nature into a source of moral reflection and emotional sustenance.

C. Memory is rejected because childhood experience has no value in adulthood.

D. Memory replaces the natural world with an exclusively supernatural vision.

Answer: B

Explanation: Remembered landscapes sustain the speaker during absence from nature. The poem traces a movement from youthful sensory excitement towards reflective awareness; memory actively shapes feeling and moral perception.

Q3. Keats - Ode to a Nightingale

In Ode to a Nightingale, the speaker's movement between imaginative escape and awareness of suffering primarily illustrates:

A. The complete triumph of artistic imagination over mortality.

B. The tension between the desire for transcendence and the inescapable conditions of human existence.

C. The poet's rejection of music as a source of aesthetic experience.

D. The superiority of historical knowledge over poetic imagination.

Answer: B

Explanation: The bird's song inspires a desire to escape suffering and mortality, but the imaginative journey cannot permanently transcend the speaker's human condition. The ending remains unresolved.

Q4. Browning - My Last Duchess

The Duke's description of the portrait in My Last Duchess is an example of dramatic irony primarily because:

A. The Duchess directly contradicts the Duke's version of events.

B. The Duke unintentionally reveals his possessiveness and authoritarian temperament while attempting to justify himself.

C. The painter provides an independent account of the Duchess's death.

D. The listener openly condemns the Duke during the conversation.

Answer: B

Explanation: Readers infer the Duke's controlling temperament from his own words, although he appears to regard his account as a justification. The gap between self-presentation and reader inference produces dramatic irony.

Q5. Beckett - Waiting for Godot

Assertion (A): Repeated actions and conversations undermine conventional dramatic progression. Reason (R): Waiting recurs without a decisive resolution of the characters' central expectation.

A. Both A and R are true, and R correctly explains A.

B. Both A and R are true, but R does not explain A.

C. A is true, but R is false.

D. A is false, but R is true.

Answer: A

Explanation: The two acts repeat encounters, actions and conversations, while Godot does not arrive. The recurring condition of waiting explains the resistance to conventional progression and resolution.

Q6. Achebe - Things Fall Apart

Achebe's representation of Igbo society before and during colonial intervention is significant because it:

A. Portrays precolonial Igbo culture as completely harmonious and without internal tensions.

B. Presents African society as historically and culturally complex while examining the disruptive effects of colonialism.

C. Treats colonial rule as the sole cause of every conflict experienced by Okonkwo.

D. Removes indigenous beliefs and institutions from the narrative.

Answer: B

Explanation: Achebe portrays institutions, oral traditions, kinship, belief and internal tensions, as well as the disruptions of colonial intervention. The novel avoids both idealisation and reductive colonial stereotypes.

Q7. Rushdie - Midnight's Children

Saleem Sinai's relationship with the history of independent India is best understood through which narrative principle?

A. Historical events are presented through a fully detached and impersonal narrator.

B. Personal memory and national history are interwoven through an unreliable, self-conscious narrative.

C. The novel excludes political history in favour of private domestic events.

D. The narrator presents chronological accuracy as more important than interpretation.

Answer: B

Explanation: Saleem connects his personal story with national history through digression, uncertainty and self-conscious narration. The form foregrounds the construction of history through memory and storytelling.

Q8. Literary Theory - Match the Following

Match 1. Defamiliarisation, 2. Interpellation, 3. Différance, 4. Carnivalesque with P. ideological constitution of subjects, Q. festive inversion of hierarchy, R. making the familiar strange, S. difference and deferral.

A. 1–R, 2–P, 3–S, 4–Q

B. 1–P, 2–R, 3–Q, 4–S

C. 1–R, 2–S, 3–P, 4–Q

D. 1–Q, 2–P, 3–R, 4–S

Answer: A

Explanation: Defamiliarisation: Shklovsky (R); interpellation: Althusser (P); différance: Derrida (S); carnivalesque: Bakhtin (Q).

Q9. Phonetics and Phonology

Which statement most accurately distinguishes aspiration from phonemic contrast in standard English?

A. Aspiration distinguishes separate phonemes in every word containing /p/, /t/ or /k/.

B. Aspiration is typically a context-conditioned phonetic feature of voiceless stops rather than an independent phonemic contrast in English.

C. English voiceless stops are invariably aspirated in every environment.

D. Aspiration is restricted to voiced consonants in stressed syllables.

Answer: B

Explanation: In many English varieties, /p/, /t/ and /k/ are aspirated at the start of stressed syllables (pin), but typically unaspirated after /s/ (spin). This is usually an allophonic, not phonemic, distinction.

Q10. ELT - Audio-Lingual Method

A teacher uses substitution drills, memorised dialogues and immediate correction to establish sentence patterns. Which theoretical orientation underlies this practice?

A. Behaviourist learning theory combined with structural linguistics.

B. Constructivist learning theory combined with critical discourse analysis.

C. Humanistic counselling combined with learner-directed discovery.

D. Task-based learning combined with negotiation of meaning.

Answer: A

Explanation: The Audio-Lingual Method is associated with behaviourist habit formation and structural linguistics. Repetition, drills and reinforcement are characteristic teaching practices.

Quick Answer Key

Question	Answer	Topic
1	Prospero’s renunciation	Shakespeare – The Tempest
2	Remembered landscape	Wordsworth – Tintern Abbey
3	The bird’s song inspires	Keats – Ode to a Nightingale
4	Readers infer the Duke’s	Browning – My Last Duchess
5	The two acts repeatedly	Beckett – Waiting for Godot
6	Achebe portrays	Achebe – Things Fall Apart
7	Saleem connects his	Rushdie – Midnight’s Children
8	Defamiliarisation: Shklovsky (R); intertextuality: Kristeva (S); différance: Derrida (S); carnivalesque: Bakhtin (Q).	
9	In many English varieties, /p, t, k/ are aspirated at the start of stressed syllables (pin), but typically unaspirated after /s/ (spin).	Phonetics and Phonology
10	The Audio-Lingual Method is associated with behaviourist habit formation and structural linguistics. Repetition, drills and reinforceme	ELT – Audio-Lingual Method