

# ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS – 2023

PhD (COMPARATIVE LITERATURE)

C - 23

**Time: 2 Hours**  
**Max. Marks: 70**

**Hall Ticket No:**

## INSTRUCTIONS

1. Write your hall ticket number in the OMR Answer Sheet given to you. Also write the Hall Ticket Number in the space provided above.
2. The question paper consists of seventy (70) objective questions in two parts (A and B) for a total of 70 marks (35 + 35) marks.
3. There is NO negative marking.
4. Answers are to be marked on the OMR answer sheet following the instructions provided there upon.
5. Hand over the OMR answer sheet at the end of the examination to the invigilator.
6. No additional sheets will be provided. Rough work can be done in the question paper itself/space provided at the end of the booklet.

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5) Cricket exemplifies the Indian life, because:

- (A) It is the Indian way of life (B) It is the national sport  
(C) It is prone to interruptions (D) It is the colonizer's game

6) "Humdrum" means:

- (A) Humble (B) A drum (C) A bird (D) Ordinary

7) Being interrupted, the overall Indian attitude would be to:

- (A) Adopt a stoic attitude (B) Become sardonic  
(C) Become sarcastic (D) Adapt to the change

8) "To quip" is to:

- (A) Equip (B) Retort (C) Whip (D) Equalize

9) According to the author, the authentic Indian is:

- (A) Argumentative (B) Anxious (C) Accommodative (D) Atavistic

10) "Machinations" is about:

- (A) Maintenance (B) Manoeuvring (C) Moderation (D) Machines

11) The passage suggests that claims of any "singular trajectory" may ultimately be:

- (A) Admirable (B) Historical (C) Consistent (D) Hollow

12) The last line of the passage ends abruptly because:

- (A) The author is interrupted (B) It underscores the theme  
(C) Interruption is pervasive (D) The author fears interpretation

13) In the following question, two statements are given, and these statements are followed by two conclusions, I and II. Read the conclusions and then decide which of the given conclusions logically follows from the two given statements, disregarding commonly known facts.

*Statements:*

Some cows are crows. Some crows are elephants.

*Conclusions:*

I. Some cows are elephants.

II. All crows are elephants.

- (A) Only I follows (B) Only II follows  
(C) Both I and II follows (D) Neither I nor II follows

14) There are five books A, B, C, D and E placed on a table. If A is placed below E, C is placed above D, B is placed below A and D is placed above E, then which of the following books touches the surface of the table?

- (A) C (B) B (C) A (D) E

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15) Complete the series: AI, BJ, CK, \_\_\_\_.

- (A) DL (B) DM (C) GH (D) LM

16) If Book : Publisher; Film : \_\_\_\_.

- (A) Director (B) Producer (C) Editor (D) Scriptwriter

17) The relation of an Author to a Manuscript is similar to \_\_\_\_.

- (A) Optician : Spectacles (B) Engineer : Bridge  
(C) Architect : Blueprint (D) Doctor : Stethoscope

18) If ACE is coded as 135 and HEDGE as 85475, FADE would be coded as \_\_\_\_.

- (A) 9145 (B) 0145 (C) 2145 (D) 6145

19) Class A has a higher enrolment than Class B.

Class C has a lower enrolment than Class B.

Class A has a lower enrolment than Class C.

If the first two statements are true, the third statement is:

- (A) True (B) False  
(C) None of the above (D) Uncertain

20) Blueberries cost more than strawberries.

Blueberries cost less than raspberries.

Raspberries cost more than strawberries and blueberries.

If the first two statements are true, the third statement is:

- (A) True (B) False  
(C) None of the above (D) Uncertain

21) Here are some words translated from an artificial language.

*jalkamofti* means happy birthday

*moftihoze* means birthday party

*mentogunn* means goodness

Which word could mean "happiness"?

- (A) jalkagunn  
(B) mentohoze  
(C) moftihoze  
(D) hozemento

22) Fact 1: Mary said, "Ann and I both have cats."

Fact 2: Ann said, "I don't have a cat."

Fact 3: Mary always tells the truth, but Ann sometimes lies.

If the first three statements are facts, which of the following statements must also be facts:

- I. Ann has a cat.                      II. Mary has a cat.                      III. Ann is lying.  
 (A) I only                      (B) II only                      (C) I and II                      (D) All are facts

23) Erin is twelve years old. For three years, she has been asking her parents for a dog. Her parents have told her that they believe a dog would not be happy in an apartment, but they have given her permission to have a bird. Erin has not yet decided what kind of bird she would like to have.

According to the given information, which of the following statements must be true.

- (A) Erin's parents like birds better than they like dogs.  
 (B) Erin does not like birds.  
 (C) Erin and her parents live in an apartment.  
 (D) Erin and her parents would like to move.

24) Which number comes next in the series: 80, 10, 70, 15, 60, \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) 20                      (B) 25                      (C) 30                      (D) 50

25) A good hypothesis should be:

- (A) Formulated in such a way that can be tested by primary texts/data.  
 (B) Very general and universal.  
 (C) Make arguments based on existing theories.  
 (D) None of the above.

**Read the passage and answer questions 26 to 30.**

Since no two languages are identical, either in the meanings given to corresponding symbols or in the ways in which such symbols are arranged in phrases and sentences, it stands to reason that there can be no absolute correspondence between languages. Hence there can be no fully exact translations. The total impact of a translation may be reasonably close to the original, but there can be no identity in detail. Constance B. West clearly states the problem: "Whoever takes upon himself to translate contracts a debt; to discharge it, he must pay not with the same money, but the same sum." One must not imagine that the process of translation can avoid a certain degree of interpretation by the translator. In fact, as D. G. Rossetti stated, "A translation remains perhaps the most direct form of commentary."  
 Eugene Nida

26) According to the passage, which of the following statements is valid?

- (A) Not two, but many languages are identical.  
 (B) Any two languages are identical.  
 (C) Languages are not always identical.  
 (D) Any two languages are never identical.

27) What according to you is "absolute correspondence between languages"?

- (A) A situation where meaning from one language is completely transferred to another language.
- (B) A situation where two languages correspond through translation.
- (C) A situation where a person can correspond proficiently in more than two languages.
- (D) A situation where meanings do not correspond.

- 28) The total impact of translation is always
- (A) Identical to the original.
  - (B) Far from being identical to the original.
  - (C) Reasonably close but not identical to the original.
  - (D) Subject to interpretation.

- 29) A translator "must pay not with the same money, but the same sum" means
- (A) A translator should pay close attention to words and sentences during translation.
  - (B) A translator should be faithful to every detail.
  - (C) A translator should not interpret.
  - (D) A translator should focus on the overall meaning and not necessarily the individual words or sentences.

- 30) Does translation involve a certain degree of interpretation?
- (A) Never
  - (B) Always
  - (C) Sometimes
  - (D) None of the above

- 31) Which of the following are the basic rules of APA style of referencing format?

- (I) Italicize titles of shorter works such as journal articles or essays.
- (II) Invert authors' names (last name first).
- (III) Italicize titles of longer works such as books and journals.
- (IV) Alphabetically index reference list.

Select the correct answer from the codes given below:

- (A) (I) and (II)
- (B) (II), (III) and (IV)
- (C) (III) and (IV)
- (D) (I), (II), (III) and (IV)

- 32) What is meant by the term "grounded theory"?
- (A) Theories should be tested by rigorous scientific experiments.
  - (B) As a social researcher, it is important to keep your feet on the ground.
  - (C) Theories should be grounded in political values and biases.
  - (D) Theoretical ideas and concepts should emerge from the data.

- 33) What do discourse analysts study?
- (A) Forms of communication other than talk.
  - (B) The way discourses "frame" our understanding of the social world.

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- (C) The rhetorical styles used in written and oral communication.
- (D) All of the above.

34) One New York publisher has estimated that 50,000 to 60,000 people in the United States want an anthology that includes the complete works of William Shakespeare. And what accounts for this renewed interest in Shakespeare? As scholars point out, his psychological insights into both male and female characters are amazing even today. This paragraph best supports the statement that

- (A) Shakespeare's characters are more interesting than fictional characters today.
- (B) People today are interested in Shakespeare's work because of the characters.
- (C) Academic scholars are putting together an anthology of Shakespeare's work.
- (D) New Yorkers have a renewed interest in the work of Shakespeare.

35) Critical reading is a demanding process. To read critically, you must slow down your reading and, with pencil in hand, perform specific operations on the text. Mark up the text with your reactions, conclusions, and questions. When you read, become an active participant. This paragraph best supports the statement that

- (A) Critical reading is a slow, dull, but essential process.
- (B) The best critical reading happens at critical times in a person's life.
- (C) Readers should get in the habit of questioning the truth of what they read.
- (D) Critical reading requires thoughtful and careful attention.

### Part B

#### Read the passage and answer questions 36 to 40

Ganesh Devy suggests that comparative literature in India is directly linked to the rise of modern Indian nationalism, noting that comparative literature has been 'used to assert the national cultural identity'. There is no sense here of national literature and comparative literature being incompatible. The work of Indian comparatists is characterized by a shift of perspective. For decades, comparative literature started with Western literature and looked outwards; now what is happening is that the West is being scrutinized from without. Majumdar points out that what Indian scholars call western literature, regardless of geographical precision, includes those literatures which derive from Graeco-Roman matrices via Christianity, and he terms English, French, German, etc. as 'sub-national literatures'. It is quite clear what he is bringing to comparative literature, in the terms in which he uses it, is a radically alternative perspective and a reevaluation of the discourse of national literature'. Accustomed as those of us in the West are to thinking in terms of 'great' literatures, of 'majority' vs 'minority' literatures, the Indian perspective as articulated by Majumdar, is a startling one.

Susan Bassnett

- 36) According to the passage above, literatures from the West are now
- (A) Scrutinized for its universalizing methods.
  - (B) Scrutinized by writers and historians from the emerging middle classes of the West.
  - (C) Scrutinized for its representation of the East.
  - (D) Adopted as a touchstone method by people outside of the West.

37) By asserting that there is no incompatibility between comparative literature and national literature in India, the passage

- (A) Argues that comparative literature deals with sub-national literatures.
- (B) Puts forth an idea national literature in the Indian context.
- (C) Locates literatures of India as superior to literatures from the West.
- (D) Posits that comparative literature and national literatures are one and the same.

38) In the passage above, literary historians in the West are accustomed to thinking

- (A) About literatures within canonical frameworks.
- (B) About literatures as a class-based phenomenon.
- (C) About literatures from the perspectives of the minorities.
- (D) About literatures from a aesthetic framework.

39) What is radical about Majumdar's proposition?

- (A) It posits a unified national literature for India.
- (B) It argues for an anti-colonial reading of literatures.
- (C) It posits a unified Western literature.
- (D) It redefines literatures from the west as sub-national literatures.

40) In Majumdar's understanding, literatures from the West can be best understood by

- (A) Their connection to geography.
- (B) Through their colonizing missions.
- (C) Through their great literatures.
- (D) Through their connection to civilizational history.

**Read the passage and answer questions 41 to 45**

The Sahitya Akademi's project of presenting a Indian literary history, I would argue, is suffused with a nationalist understanding of history. It posits a distinction between tradition and modernity – a paradigmatic feature of Indian nationalist history. It is in the ancient Indian civilization that Sisir Kumar Das locates tradition. The 'unity' of modern Indian literatures is premised on the idea of an enduring core: ancient Indian heritage. In this account, ancient India is both a Hindu nation and a state with clear boundaries. Das mobilizes the modern disciplines of comparative literature and history to construct Indian literary history. Drawing on the comparativist method, Das emphasizes the changes and interactions between various literary forms and traditions that go into the production of Indian literary history. Similarly, he employs a positivist notion of history (a chronological arrangement of facts) in presenting Indian literary history. I describe this Indian literary history as a history of the printed word, and of the canonical and of the canonical literatures of the English-educated middle class, upper-caste, Hindu male. I further argue that the the distinctive function of Das's nationalist literary history is to produce a new unified India in the context of serious contestations from below against the Indian nation in the 1980s and 1990s. In fact, the failure of the nationalist elite to produce a homogenized India is turned into a success by constructing a literary India.

K. Satyanarayana

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48) What according to Aijaz Ahmad is desirable in the conceptualization of Indian Literature as a category?

- (A) Positing a high textuality towards a unified literary history.
- (B) Assembling of literary histories of major languages of India.
- (C) Canonizing literary procedures of the 'great book' variety.
- (D) Locating the many language-literatures of India in the intersections between different disciplines.

49) *Hakki Pikki* and *Siddi* are ----- from Karnataka

- (A) Dance Forms
- (B) Indigenous Theatre Forms
- (C) Indigenous languages
- (D) None of the above

50) *Ramacharitamanas* was written in -----

- (A) Awadhi
- (B) Maithili
- (C) Bhojpuri
- (D) Braj

51) Which Indian state government presents the 'Kalidas Samman' award?

- (A) Bihar
- (B) Madhya Pradesh
- (C) Maharashtra
- (D) Uttar Pradesh

52) What is Dhanpat Rai Srivatsav famously known as?

- (A) Lakshminath Bezbaroa
- (B) Sadat Hasan Manto
- (C) Premchand
- (D) Kalidas

53) U. R. Ananthamurthy's *Samskara* is translated into English by

- (A) Girish Karnad
- (B) U. R. Ananthamurthy
- (C) H. S. Shivaprakash
- (D) A.K. Ramanujan

54) "Poetry is what gets lost in translation". This statement is attributed to

- (A) Robert Frost
- (B) William Wordsworth
- (C) Mathew Arnold
- (D) James Joyce

55) Direct translation or Close translation is also known as

- (A) Free translation
- (B) Literal translation
- (C) Word to Word translation
- (D) Sense to sense translation

56) Which one of the following is not attributed to Eugene Nida?

- (A) Linguistic and cultural distancing
- (B) Dynamic equivalence
- (C) Creative transposition
- (D) Principles of correspondence

- 57) 'On Linguistic Aspects of Translation' by Roman Jakobson argues that
- (A) Untranslatability is the major concern of translation.
  - (B) Translation needs to emphasize on equivalence.
  - (C) Translation is a linguistic phenomenon.
  - (D) Translation is a metalinguistic phenomenon.
- 58) What is "strategic essentialism" according to Gayatri C. Spivak?
- (A) Strategic stereotyping of minoritized communities by the dominant.
  - (B) The manner in which minoritized communities represent themselves to create solidarity and social action.
  - (C) The manner in which dominant communities represent themselves to reinforce their hegemony.
  - (D) The manner in which state represents its history and culture to construct an essentialist nationalist narrative.
- 59) When translation is in the central position of a literary polysystem, it implies that
- (A) 'Original' writings are not valued in the system.
  - (B) That there is a huge distinction between 'original' and 'translated' writings.
  - (C) That there is not much of a distinction between 'original' and 'translated' writings.
  - (D) Translation is associated with conventional literary modes.
- 60) Talal Asad's "The Concept of Cultural Translation in British Social Anthropology"
- (A) Locates the transformative power of translation as central to fieldwork and ethnography.
  - (B) Argues for a Comparative Literature that is interdisciplinary with strong connections to translation.
  - (C) Locates the power of fieldwork and ethnography in the discourse of objectivity.
  - (D) Argues for a transformative Social Anthropology that is rooted in fieldwork and ethnography.
- 61) The ancient Sanskrit play *Mricchakatika* was authored by
- (A) Sudraka
  - (B) Kalidasa
  - (C) Vishnu Sharma
  - (D) None of the above
- 62) Which of the following are the terms coined by Sheldon Pollock in relation to the writing of languages?
- (A) Vernacularization and Scripting.
  - (B) Scripting and Literization.
  - (C) Literization and Literacy.
  - (D) Literization and Literarization.

- 63) Fredrick Jameson's idea of national allegory largely meant  
(A) All First world literature can be understood only as national allegories.  
(B) All Third world literature can be understood only as marginalized literatures.  
(C) All First world literature can be understood only as literature of the colonizer.  
(D) All Third world literature can be understood only as national allegories.
- 64) "The Black Atlantic" is a term associated with  
(A) Paul Gilroy  
(B) Stuart Hall  
(C) Germaine Greene  
(D) Toni Morrison
- 65) The institutionalization of Cultural Studies as a discipline can be traced to  
(A) Britain  
(B) France  
(C) America  
(D) Australia
- 66) "Tirukkural", the famous couplets in Tamil can be largely associated with  
(A) Sangam poetry  
(B) Secular poetry  
(C) Bhakthi poetry  
(D) Modern poetry
- 67) VIRASAM is an organization of  
(A) Telugu Progressive writers  
(B) Hindi Revolutionary writers  
(C) Kannada Feminist writers  
(D) Telugu Revolutionary writers
- 68) Which of the following statements are agreeable?  
(A) Translating Dalit Literatures into English gives it wider visibility.  
(B) Translating Dalit Literatures into English homogenizes differences.  
(C) Translating Dalit Literatures into English gives it a certain power.  
(D) All the above.
- 69) "Womanism", an alternate to dominant White feminism was a concept put forward by  
(A) Toni Morrison  
(B) Alice Walker  
(C) Maya Angelou  
(D) Angela Davies
- 70) Meiteilon is a language located in  
(A) Jharkhand  
(B) Uttarakhand  
(C) Mizoram  
(D) Manipur

**University of Hyderabad**  
**Entrance Examinations - 2023**

School/Department/Centre : Centre for Comparative Literature  
Course/Subject : PhD / Comparative Literature

Question No	Answer	Question No	Answer	Question No	Answer
1	B	26	D	51	B
2	A	27	A	52	C
3	A	28	C	53	D
4	C	29	D	54	A
5	C	30	B	55	B
6	D	31	B	56	C
7	D	32	D	57	D
8	B	33	D	58	B
9	C	34	B	59	C
10	B	35	D	60	A
11	D	36	A	61	A
12	B	37	B	62	D
13	D	38	A	63	D
14	B	39	D	64	A
15	A	40	D	65	A
16	B	41	B	66	B
17	C	42	D	67	D
18	D	43	C	68	D
19	B	44	C	69	B
20	A	45	D	70	D
21	A	46	A		
22	D	47	B		
23	C	48	D		
24	A	49	C		
25	A	50	A		

Note/Remarks:

**Signature**  
**School/Department/Centre**