

American Literature – Test Paper

1. Who is one of the Founding Fathers of the USA, the greatest exemplar of the 'self-made man' whose literary work is still praised today?
A. Mark Twain B. Walt Whitman C. Benjamin Franklin
2. Who is the Father of the American literature and novel?
A. Mark Twain B. Edgar Allen Poe C. Herman Melville
3. With a scarlet 'A' on the chest for 'adultery', which author examined religion and morality in Puritan Massachusetts in his book, *The Scarlet Letter*?
A. Ernest Hemingway B. Nathaniel Hawthorne C. Ralph Waldo Emerson
4. Which literary movement emphasized the individual and nature, a 'tormented, struggling individual' over 'the group'?
A. Naturalism B. Romanticism C. Realism
5. Which perpetually sullen poet was the author of *The Raven*?
A. Cormac McCarthy B. E. M. Forster C. Edgar Allen Poe
6. Which is the reclusive poet, praised posthumously for her body of work?
A. Sylvia Plath B. Edith Wharton C. Emily Dickinson
7. This poet, journalist and essayist is known as 'the father of the free verse'. Name that humanist.
A. Henry David Thoreau B. Walt Whitman C. William Wordsworth
8. The Movement before the American Realism is known as the:
A. Romanticism B. Puritan Era C. Modernism
9. The American Realism covered the years:
A. before the Revolutionary War B. after the Revolutionary War C. around the Civil War
10. Characters in Realist writings were:
A. extraordinary people B. ordinary people C. famous people
11. Which author confronted the Old World with the New World, and was one of the most important literary people of the late 19th century?
A. Mark Twain B. Henry James C. Eugene O'Neill

12. "Call me Ishmael..." Which author brought us Ahab and the great white whale?
A. Herman Melville B. Rudyard Kipling C. James Fenimore Cooper
13. Which literary movement dealt with the human condition, madness, the psychological wounds and spiritual scars of the war experience?
A. Naturalism B. Romanticism C. Modernism
14. Which of the following American writers got the Nobel Prize for literature?
A. Edgar Allen Poe B. Fenimore Cooper C. William Faulkner
15. The Jazz Age, an era of excess, glitter and glam, came swingin' with this author's book, *The Great Gatsby*. Name the novelist.
A. Lewis Carroll B. John Updike C. F. Scott Fitzgerald
16. Who won both the Pulitzer Prize and the Nobel Prize in Literature for such works as *The Grapes of Wrath* and *Of Mice and Men*?
A. John Steinbeck B. Thomas Hardy C. Arthur Miller
17. Who is considered among the three foremost playwrights of 20th -century American drama, the author of *A Streetcar Named Desire*?
A. T. S. Eliot B. Toni Morrison C. Tennessee Williams
18. Known for his sparse prose and sense of adventure, what author wrote *The Old Man and the Sea*?
A. Arthur Conan Doyle B. John Steinbeck C. Ernest Hemingway
19. Which reclusive writer captured the teenage angst and melancholy of youth in *The Catcher in the Rye*?
A. Washington Irving B. J. D. Salinger C. James Baldwin