

MA PROGRAMME – STATE EXAM TOPICS

LINGUISTICS

Phonetics – phonology

1. Phonetics – phonology, speech sounds, phonemes, allophones, IPA, production of speech
2. The subsystem of English vocalic phonemes, monophthongs, diphthongs
3. The subsystem of English consonantal phonemes
4. Economy of articulatory effort, assimilation, affrication, elision, linking
5. Connected speech – stress, rhythm, intonation, strong, weak forms

Morphology

1. Nouns – countable n., uncountable n., number, gender, the genitive
2. Articles – the indefinite a., the definite a., the zero article
3. Pronouns
4. Numerical expressions
5. Quantifiers
6. Adjectives – formation, position, comparison
7. Adverbs
8. Verbs – auxiliaries, modals, lexical verbs: intransitive, transitive, ditransitive, complex transitive, phrasal verbs, the bare infinitive, the to infinitive, the –ing form, the passive, the causative
9. Spelling

Syntax

1. Sentence, clause, word classes, sentence/clause elements, word order
2. Statements, questions, commands, exclamations, negation
3. Compound sentence – coordination
4. Complex sentence – subordination
5. Noun clauses – direct, indirect speech, noun clauses after wish, subjunctive
6. Relative clauses
7. Adverbial clauses – time, place, reason, condition, concession, purpose, result, comparison
8. Non-finite clauses – participial constructions, gerund phrases, infinitive phrases, absolute constructions
9. Apposition, comment clauses
10. The complexity of noun phrases
11. Cleft/pseudo cleft sentences
12. Pro-forms
13. Ellipsis, cohesion
14. Irregular sentences
15. Punctuation
16. Theme – focus, the division of communicative dynamism
17. Scope of negation

Lexicology

1. Lexicology – main areas, relations to other disciplines
2. Morphological structure of words – roots, derivational and inflectional morphemes
3. Word formation – compounding, affixation, combining forms, conversion, shortening, back-formation, specific processes, lexical borrowing
4. Lexical semantics – basic terminology, relations between lexical units.
5. Paradigmatic relations – polysemy, homonymy (homograph, homophone); synonymy, antonymy, hyperonymy, hyponymy, meronymy.
6. Syntagmatic relations.
7. Semantic transfer – metaphor and simile, metonymy. Multi-word units – proverbs, idioms.
8. Lexicography. Types of dictionaries. Corpora.

METHODOLOGY OF TEACHING ENGLISH

1. Methods of teaching/learning a foreign language
2. Teaching pronunciation
3. Teaching vocabulary
4. Teaching structures
5. Receptive skills in EFL classes
6. Speaking in EFL classes
7. Writing in EFL classes
8. Development of cultural and intercultural awareness in EFL classes
9. Teacher's knowledge, competences and skills in EFL classes
10. Language learner
11. Error in EFL classes
12. Resources and materials in EFL classes
13. Testing in EFL classes
14. Planning in EFL
15. Classroom management
16. Learner autonomy development
17. Teaching English to mixed ability/heterogeneous classes
18. Specifics of TEFL for young learners.
19. Cross-curricular approach to TEFL
20. Further professional growth – learning from experience

CULTURE

- Students are examined orally, on the basis of their readings in British and American literature.
- Every student is expected to come up with a list of ten books (five American and five British) that they are prepared to talk about at the exam.
 - Of those ten:
 - eight (four American and four British) are selected from a list provided by the department,
 - the other two are left to the individual choice and taste of the candidate. Of these two, however, one also has to be British and the other American, and they also have to be books of fiction.
- Students have to create a numbered list of the ten titles on a sheet of paper that they bring to the state exam, and hand in to the person in charge.
 - The numbering is as follows: 1 to 5 for the British books, and again 1 to 5 for the American books.
- At the spot, students pick two numbers from a bag.
- Students are then given some time for preparing their oral performance focusing on those two books that the numbers they picked correspond to.
 - During the preparation, and at the oral exam, students focus on the following issues:
 - the cultural trend, and historical period the texts belong to
 - main ideas
 - literary art:
 - characters and plot construction, narration (for fiction)
 - tropes (for poetry)
 - comparison with another literary work written during the same period, and/or belonging to the same cultural trend.
- At the exam, students present what they prepared, and get other questions from the examiners that aim to map the candidates' ability to do the same with the rest of their books, as well as their knowledge of their wider cultural context.

- The list of those works from which students can choose the eight compulsory elective titles (four American and four British) is provided on the following page.
- In accordance with the internal regulations of the faculty, the state exam tests not only the skills and knowledge acquired directly in the MA program, but also builds on the ability to creatively use what students obtained during their BA studies. In fact, the analysis of narration, plot construction and tropes, as well as putting the works in the context of cultural trends, schools and historical periods requires active familiarity with the curriculum of the department's BA courses in culture or their equivalents taught elsewhere. Students uncertain about their ability to perform these tasks should therefore consult the Moodle courses online, as well as the textbooks recommended by those individual courses.

List of Books:

American Literature

Chopin, Kate. *The Awakening*.
 Doctorow, Edgar Lawrence. *Ragtime*.
 Dreiser, Theodore. *An American Tragedy*.
 Heller, Joseph. *Catch 22*.
 Hemingway, Ernest. *The Old Man and the Sea*.
 Hemingway, Ernest. *The Sun also Rises*.
 Faulkner, William. *The Sound and the Fury*.
 Fitzgerald, Francis, Scott. *The Great Gatsby*.
 Hawthorne, Nathaniel. *The Scarlet Letter*.
 Hurston, Zora Neale. *Their Eyes Were Watching God*.
 Kerouac, Jack. *On the Road*.
 Melville, Hermann. *Moby Dick*.
 Miller, Arthur. *Death of a Salesman*.
 Morrison, Toni. *Beloved*.
 Nabokov, Vladimir. *Lolita*.
 O'Neill, Eugene. *Long Day's Journey into the Night*.
 Roth, Philip. *American Pastoral*.
 Steinbeck, John. *The Grapes of Wrath*.
 Twain, Mark. *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*.
 Vonnegut, Kurt Jr. *Slaughterhouse-Five*, or *The Children's Crusade: A Duty-Dance With Death*.
 Walker, Alice. *The Color Purple*.
 Whitman, Walt. *Leaves of Grass*.
 Williams, Tennessee. *Streetcar Named Desire*.

British Literature

Austen, Jane. *Pride and Prejudice*.
 Beckett, Samuel. *Waiting for Godot*.
 Brontë, Emily. *Wuthering Heights*.
 Defoe, Daniel. *Robinson Crusoe*.
 Dickens, Charles. *Oliver Twist*.
 Fielding, Henry. *Tom Jones*.
 Greene, Graham. *The Quiet American*.
 Ishiguro, Kazuo. *The Remains of the Day*.
 Joyce, James. *Dubliners*.
 Lawrence, David, H. *Lady Chatterley's Lover*.
 Lawrence, David H. *Sons and Lovers*.
 Lodge, David. *Nice Work*.
 Orwell, George. *1984*.
 Rushdie, Salman. *Midnight's Children*.
 Shakespeare, William. *The Merchant of Venice*.
 Shakespeare, William. *The Sonnets*.
 Shaw, Georgie Bernard. *Pygmalion*.
 Shelley, Mary. *Frankenstein*.
 Swift, Jonathan. *Gulliver's Travels*.
 Wilde, Oscar. *The Importance of Being Earnest*.
 Woolf, Virginia. *Mrs. Dalloway*.
 Woolf, Virginia. *To the Lighthouse*.
 Wordsworth, William and Samuel Taylor Coleridge. *Lyrical Ballads*.

