

12th English Digest Chapter 4.1 History of Novel Textbook Questions and Answers

1. Match the columns:

Question 1.

Match the columns:

A	B
1. Murasaki Shikibu	(a) Cervantes
2. Novella	(b) Bankimchandra Chattopadhyaya
3. Don Quixote	(c) Tale of Genji
4. Rajmohan’s Wife	(d) New

Answer:

A	B
1. Murasaki Shikibu	(c) Tale of Genji
2. Novella	(d) New
3. Don Quixote	(a) Cervantes
4. Rajmohan’s Wife	(b) Bankimchandra Chattopadhyaya

2. Pick out the odd element from each group:

Question (i)

Arun Joshi, Vikram Seth, Graham Greene, Kiran Nagarkar

Answer:

Graham Greene (Graham Greene was an English novelist; the others are Indian writers)

Question (ii)

Place, Period, Theme, Climate, Lifestyle

Answer:

Theme (the others are aspects of the setting)

Question (iii)

Theme, Plot, Character, Novella

Answer:

Novella (‘Novella’ is a ‘novel’; the others are the elements of a novel)

3. Complete the following statements:

Question 1.

Complete the following statements:

Answer:

(i) The two types of conflicts that the plot may have are internal (inside the mind of the character) or external (with other characters or entities).

(ii) The word ‘picaresque’ is originated from the Spanish word ‘pícaro,’ which means a rogue.

(iii) The epistolary novel presents the narrative through a series of correspondence or other documents like letters or diary entries.

(iv) In the eighteenth century, the middle class could get the time for reading and discussing the novels because the spread of machines helped them in their work and could provide them with some spare time.

#### 4. Write short notes on:

Question 1.

Write short notes on:

- (i) Style of the novel
- (ii) Stream of consciousness novel
- (iii) Novella
- (iv) Indian tradition of novels.

Answer:

(i) Style of the novel: The language and the techniques used by the author for the narration of the course of events is known as the 'style'. An author can use extensive vocabulary and difficult phrases or he may be brief and could write only to the point or he may mix both according to the requirement of his story. He may use linguistic devices like figures of speech to make the narrative effective. All these factors decide the 'texture' of the narration and create an impact on the readers.

(ii) Stream of consciousness novel: The phrase 'Stream of consciousness' means the flow of thoughts in the minds of the characters. This phrase was coined by William James in his treatise 'Principles of Psychology.' (1890). In such a novel, incidents in the plot are in the sequence of their occurrence. The novelist narrates them just as they occur in the minds of the characters. Sometimes they do not make sense; but they truthfully represent the thoughts without any censoring or editing.

(iii) Novella: The word 'Novella' which means new is originated from the Italian word 'novelle'. A Novella is a type of prose fiction which is shorter than a full length novel and longer than short stories. It is a well-structured yet short narrative, often satiric or realistic in tone. Novella usually focuses on one incident or issue with one or two main characters and takes place at a single location. Given below are some of the famous novellas in English:

1. 'The Heart of Darkness' by Joseph Conrad
2. 'The Turn of the Screw' by Henry James
3. 'Billy Budd' by Hermann Melville
4. 'Death in Venice' by Thomas Mann
5. 'Seize The Day' by Saul Bellow
6. 'Pearl' by John Steinbeck

(iv) Indian tradition of novels: Indians have also played a major role in the writing of English Novels. 'Rajmohan's Wife', by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyaya was the first novel in English written by an Indian. The period after that is marked by a few more novels written by Indian writers. These novels were based on either nationalistic virtues or social issues. Mulkraj Anand, R.K. Narayan and Raja Rao were the major trio who prevailed in the period after that.

Novelists like Anita Desai, Nayantara Sahgal, Arun Joshi and Manohar Malgaonkar changed the current of Indian English novel through their works. Amitav Ghosh, Vikram Seth and Upamanyu Chatterjee improved upon the Indian novel in English by adding new features to it. In recent years, Indian novelists like Salman Rushdie, Arvind Adiga, Arundhati Roy, Kiran Desai and Kiran Nagarkar have come into the limelight. The tradition of the Indian English novel has undergone a vital change since its birth and has undoubtedly a very bright future.

#### Yuvakbharati English 12th Digest Chapter 4.1 History of Novel Additional Important Questions and Answers

Question 1.

Pick out the statements that are False. Rewrite them correctly:

1. Setting describes the behaviour of the characters in the story.
2. The main character in the story is referred to as the 'novella'.
3. The struggle between the opposite forces in the story is called 'conflict.'
4. Theme is the central idea in the novel which can be expressed in a nutshell.
5. The plot and character are affected due to the setting.
6. 'Plot' is the narrative style of the author.

Answer:

False statements:

1. Setting describes the behaviour of the characters in the story.
2. The main character in the story is referred to as the 'novella'.
6. 'Plot' is the narrative style of the author.

Corrected statements:

1. Characterization describes the behaviour of the characters in the story.
2. The main character in the story is referred to as the 'protagonist'.
6. Plot is the course of events that make up the theme.

Question 2.

Rewrite the following statements in chronological order:

1. Mulkraj Anand, R.K. Narayan and Raja Rao were the major trio who prevailed in the period after that.

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2. The novel originated as the literary form in England.
3. Indian novelists like Arvind Adiga, Arundhati Roy and Kiran Desai have dazzled with their writing.
4. Many stalwart novelists such as Charles Dickens, Walter Scott became famous.

Answer:

2. The novel originated as the literary form in England.
4. Many stalwart novelists such as Charles Dickens, Walter Scott became famous.
1. Mulkraj Anand, R.K. Narayan and Raja Rao were the major trio who prevailed in the period after that.
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Question 3.

List the types of novels.

Answer:

The types of novels are: Realistic

Novel, Picaresque Novel, Historical

Novel, Epistolary Novel, Gothic Novel, Autobiographical Novel, Allegorical Novel, Utopian/Dystopian Novel, Psychological Novel, Stream of Consciousness Novel, Bildungsroman Novel.

Question 4.

Choose the correct options from the brackets and fill in the blanks :

Answer:

1. The characters in the Realistic novel interact with other characters and undergo plausible and everyday experiences. (Realistic/Utopian)
2. A Picaresque novel narrates the adventures of the protagonist, who is an eccentric or a disreputable person, in an episodic form. (Picaresque/Realistic)
3. The Dystopian novel is about an imaginary community or society possessing the ideal qualities. (Dystopian/Picaresque)
4. In the Stream of Consciousness novel, the novelist narrates the character's thoughts as they enter the mind of the character. (Stream of Consciousness/ Utopian)
5. The Bildungsroman novel is a fictional biography or autobiography which is concerned with the growth of the protagonist's mind, spirit and character from childhood to adulthood. (Bildungsroman/Gothic)
6. The Gothic novel includes terror, mystery, horror, thriller, supernatural, doom, death or decay or haunted buildings. (Dystopian/Gothic)

### Glossary:

1. genre – a style, especially in the arts, that involves a particular set of characteristics,
2. embellishing – decorating.
3. adopted – followed,
4. precursor – something that happened or existed before another thing,
5. profoundly – deeply,
6. elite – upper class.
7. aspirations – ambitions, desires,
8. encompass – include,
9. plenteous – plentiful,
10. stalwart – (here) a person who has achieved great recognition and appreciation,
11. innovative – new and original,
12. pageant – a colourful or impressive procession of people.
13. ameliorate – to make something better,
14. dazzling – shining.
15. satiric – sharp or sarcastic.
16. interweaving – combining; twisting together,
17. thumbnail sketch – brief description,
18. antagonist – a person who is opposed to the hero,
19. laconic – short and crisp.
20. plausible – believable,
21. eccentric – peculiar; crazy; out-of-the-way.
22. disreputable – not respectable.
23. speculative – unproven, unreal,
24. extraterrestrial – of or from outside the earth or its atmosphere.
25. amateur – inexperienced; unprofessional.