

# University Chinese

## I. Overview of Exam Content

1. **Overview of Classical Chinese Literature:** Understanding the origins, schools, development, and influence of classical Chinese literature on later periods.
2. **Historical Phases of Classical Chinese Literature:** Major literary stages from the Pre-Qin period to the Qing dynasty and their representative works.
3. **Ideological Background of Classical Literature:** The influence of Confucianism, Daoism, and Legalism on literature, as well as the role of historical context in shaping literary schools.
4. **The Relationship Between Society and Literature:** How social changes, political turmoil, and cultural traditions influenced literary creation.
5. **Artistic Characteristics of Classical Chinese Literature:** The rhetorical techniques, expressive forms, poetry structure, symbolism, and emotional expression in classical literature.
6. **Classical Chinese Literature in a Global Context:** Analyzing the place and influence of classical Chinese literature in world literary traditions.

## II. Classical Chinese Literature and Representative Works

7. **The Book of Songs (Shi Jing):** Analyzing its historical significance as China's earliest anthology of poetry, divided into three sections: Feng, Ya, and Song.
8. **Language and Artistic Features of the Book of Songs:** The use of simple, plain language, depiction of daily life and nature, and the employment of parallelism and antithesis.
9. **Emotional Expression in the Book of Songs:** The portrayal of themes such as love, politics, and social issues.
10. **Chu Ci (Songs of Chu):** The background and literary contributions of Qu Yuan and other poets, focusing on works like *Li Sao* (The Lament).
11. **The Literary Status of Qu Yuan:** Qu Yuan's impact on Chinese classical literature, particularly the symbolic and emotional expression in *Li Sao*.
12. **Analysis of Li Sao:** A deep dive into the structure, rhetoric, and emotional content of *Li Sao*.
13. **Han Dynasty Literature:** The development of literature in the Han dynasty, particularly historical texts such as *Shi Ji* (Records of the Grand Historian) and *Han Shu* (Book of Han).
14. **Literary Features of Shi Ji and Han Shu:** The literary and historical value of these historical texts, including character development and narrative style.
15. **Tang Dynasty Literature:** The flourishing of Tang poetry, prose, and other forms, with particular attention to the artistic evolution in poetry.
16. **Artistic Features of Tang Poetry:** The structure, themes, and stylistic innovations of Tang poetry, highlighting rhythm, rhyme, and balance.

17. **The Poetry of Li Bai:** Exploring the bold, free-spirited style of Li Bai, characterized by naturalism and romanticism.
18. **The Poetry of Du Fu:** Analyzing Du Fu's melancholic, deep, and socially critical poetry.
19. **The Landscape Poetry of Wang Wei:** Wang Wei's integration of nature and Zen philosophy in his poetry.
20. **Poetic Styles of Tang Poets:** Comparative analysis of the individual styles of Tang poets like Li Bai, Du Fu, Bai Juyi, and Wang Wei.
21. **The Art of Song Dynasty Ci Poetry:** The evolution of *ci* poetry, focusing on its rhythm and musicality, with an emphasis on poets like Su Shi and Xin Qiji.
22. **Analysis of Su Shi's Ci Poetry:** Su Shi's blend of boldness and philosophical depth in poems like *Shui Diao Ge Tou*.
23. **Analysis of Xin Qiji's Ci Poetry:** Xin Qiji's passionate and nationalistic approach to *ci* poetry, exemplified by works like *Qingyuanshi*.
24. **Yuan Dynasty Drama:** The rise of Yuan drama, including the development of *zaju* (a form of Chinese opera) and *qu* (songs).
25. **Major Yuan Playwrights:** Key figures such as Guan Hanqing and Zheng Guangzu, and their contributions to Chinese theater.

### **III. Classical Literary Theory**

26. **Literary Thoughts in the Pre-Qin Period:** The influence of Confucianism, Daoism, and Legalism on early Chinese literary creation.
27. **Confucian Literary Thought:** Confucian values like virtue, loyalty, and propriety in literary works, with a focus on social responsibility and moral guidance.
28. **Daoist Literary Thought:** The influence of Daoism's natural philosophy on literary works, advocating for spontaneity and simplicity.
29. **Legalist Literary Thought:** Emphasizing order and authority, with works focusing on practical governance and societal structure.
30. **Characteristics of Pre-Qin Prose:** The straightforward, philosophical, and reflective nature of early prose, as seen in texts like *Lunyu* (Analects) and *Zhuangzi*.
31. **Literary Value of Zuozhuan and Guoyu:** Examining the literary techniques in these historical texts, particularly in character portrayal and narrative structure.
32. **Rhetorical Techniques in Classical Poetry:** The use of *bi-xing* (metaphor and allusion), parallelism, and antithesis in shaping classical poetry.
33. **Literary Style in Lunyu (Analects):** The simplicity, conciseness, and moral insights that characterize Confucian literature.
34. **Rhetoric in Zhuangzi (Daoist Text):** The use of allegory, parable, and paradox in Daoist thought

as conveyed in *Zhuangzi*.

35. **Methods of Expression in Classical Poetry and Prose:** How classical Chinese writers employed sparse language to convey profound ideas and emotions.
36. **Fables and Symbolism in Classical Literature:** The use of fables and symbolic imagery in traditional works, conveying deeper meanings.
37. **Rhetorical Features of Classical Prose:** Techniques like parallelism and contrast that are used to enhance the aesthetic and intellectual appeal of classical prose.
38. **Literary Criticism in Ancient China:** The development of literary criticism in classical Chinese thought and key critical texts like *Shijing* and *Yuefu*.
39. **Social and Ideological Content in Classical Literature:** The multiple layers of meaning embedded in classical works, reflecting social, historical, and personal ideologies.
40. **Aesthetic Standards in Classical Literature:** Classical Chinese aesthetics focused on beauty, virtue, and moral harmony.

#### **IV. Modern Chinese Literature Overview**

41. **Modern Chinese Literature Post-May Fourth Movement:** The May Fourth Movement's influence on modern Chinese literature, including the rise of vernacular literature.
42. **Literary Movements in Modern China:** The New Culture Movement, Leftist Literature, and the rise of vernacular Chinese in literary creation.
43. **The Role of Lu Xun in Modern Chinese Literature:** Lu Xun's status as the founding figure of modern Chinese literature, particularly through works like *A Madman's Diary* and *The True Story of Ah Q*.
44. **Social Critique in Modern Literature:** The themes of social critique and personal struggle found in works by writers like Ba Jin and Lao She.
45. **Artistic Forms in Modern Literature:** The diversification of genres in modern literature, including novels, short stories, and essays.
46. **The Relationship Between Literature and Social Change:** How literature reflects social and political changes, particularly during periods of revolution and reform.
47. **The Rise of Female Writers in Modern Chinese Literature:** The emergence of female writers like Ding Ling and Xiao Hong, and their exploration of gender and social issues.
48. **Modern Poetry and Language Innovation:** The linguistic and formal innovations in modern Chinese poetry, particularly the shift to vernacular language.
49. **Modern Novel Narrative Techniques:** Innovations in structure, character development, and plot design in the modern Chinese novel.
50. **Modern Essays and Autobiographical Literature:** The development of essays and autobiographical writing in the modern period, with writers like Lu Xun, Guo Moruo, and Liang Shiqiu.

## V. Classical and Modern Literary Works

51. **Analysis of *Nahan* (Call to Arms):** Lu Xun's influence on modern Chinese literature, especially his short story *Diary of a Madman*.
52. **Analysis of *Wandering* (彷徨):** The exploration of the inner conflicts and dilemmas of modern individuals, as seen in works by Lu Xun.
53. **Analysis of *Midnight* (子夜):** Ba Jin's depiction of the social and political turbulence in modern China.
54. **Analysis of *Family* (家):** Ba Jin's *Family* as an exploration of the traditional family system's decline.
55. **Analysis of *White Deer Plain* (白鹿原):** Chen Zhongshi's portrayal of rural China's transformation over several generations.
56. **Analysis of *Fortress Besieged* (围城):** Qian Zhongshu's satirical examination of intellectuals and modern Chinese society.
57. **Development of Modern Poetry:** The progression of poetry from the May Fourth movement's free verse to contemporary Chinese poetry.
58. **New Moon Poetry and Symbolism:** The influence of Western Symbolism on the New Moon Poetry group, including poets like Xu Zhimo and Li Jinfan.
59. **Modern Prose Style:** The development of modern prose in China, particularly from writers like Lu Xun and Liang Qichao.
60. **Modern Drama and Theatre:** The emergence of modern Chinese drama, influenced by Western theatre traditions.

61. **Literature in the Cultural Revolution:** The impact of political movements like the Cultural Revolution on literature, particularly through the promotion of revolutionary literature.

## VI. Foreign Literature and Its Influence

62. **Shakespeare's Works:** Analyzing Shakespeare's plays and poems, and their profound influence on world literature.
63. **The Golden Age of Russian Literature:** Contributions of Russian authors like Pushkin, Tolstoy, and Dostoevsky to global literature.
64. **French Romantic Literature:** The works of Hugo, Balzac, Flaubert, and others in the context of French Romanticism.
65. **German Literary Philosophy:** The literary contributions of German writers like Goethe and Nietzsche, particularly their philosophical exploration of the human condition.
66. **The Development of American Literature:** The formation of American literature and contributions by authors like Faulkner and Hemingway.

67. **Modernist Literature Features:** The rise of literary modernism, particularly through techniques like stream of consciousness and symbolism, as seen in Joyce's *Ulysses*.
68. **Translation and Spread of Foreign Literature:** How foreign literature entered China through translation and its influence on Chinese writers and literary practices.
69. **Foreign Literature's Influence on Chinese Modern Literature:** The role of Western literary theories and techniques in shaping Chinese modernist literature.

## VII. Literary Analysis and Creative Techniques

70. **Thematic Analysis of Literary Works:** Exploring the themes of various literary works and how they convey deep intellectual insights.
71. **Character Development:** Analyzing how authors shape characters through personality traits, actions, and internal motivations.
72. **Symbolism and Metaphor:** How symbols and metaphors convey deeper meanings in literature.
73. **Structural Analysis of Literary Works:** Examining narrative structure, plot development, and the arrangement of events in literary works.
74. **Language Techniques in Literary Creation:** How authors use language techniques such as metaphors, contrasts, and exaggerations to enhance literary expression.
75. **Emotional and Psychological Depiction:** How literature portrays characters' emotional states and psychological processes.
76. **Literary Criticism:** Theoretical foundations of literary criticism, including methods to analyze and evaluate literary works.
77. **Poetry Creation Techniques:** Understanding the language, form, and emotional expression in modern poetry.
78. **Fiction Writing Techniques:** The use of plot, character, and conflict in creating compelling novels.
79. **Essay Writing Techniques:** The art of self-expression and social critique in essay writing.
80. **Drama Creation Techniques:** Analyzing how dialogue, stage setting, and character conflict are used in drama to convey themes.
81. **Historical Context of Literary Works:** How understanding historical background can enhance the interpretation of literary works.
82. **Comparative Literary Analysis:** Comparing different literary works to deepen understanding of narrative techniques, styles, and themes.
83. **Narrative Perspectives and the Role of the Narrator:** How different narrative perspectives influence the interpretation of literary works.
84. **Philosophical and Social Themes in Literature:** Exploring the intersection of literature and philosophy, particularly how literature conveys philosophical thought.
85. **Literature as Social Criticism:** How literature serves as a tool for social critique, revealing societal

issues and injustices.

### **VIII. Literature and Culture**

86. **Literature's Interaction with Culture:** The role of literature in reflecting cultural values, social norms, and national identity.
87. **Cross-Cultural Literature:** The impact of cultural exchange on literature and how different cultural traditions shape literary works.
88. **Literature and Social Change:** How literature acts as a driver for social change, reflecting and recording historical transformations.
89. **Literature and National Identity:** Literature's role in forming national consciousness and preserving cultural heritage.
90. **Literature's Educational Function:** The role of literature in education, personal growth, and intellectual development.
91. **Political Aspects of Literature:** How literature reflects political ideologies, movements, and governmental power.
92. **Entertainment Value of Literature:** Literature's role in providing entertainment while also offering intellectual and emotional engagement.
93. **Rise of Internet Literature:** The impact of digital technology and the internet on literary creation and consumption.
94. **Globalization of Literature:** How literature transcends cultural and linguistic boundaries in a globalized world.
95. **Integration of Literature and the Arts:** The intersection of literature with other art forms like painting, music, and cinema.
96. **Literary Innovation in Form:** How modern and contemporary literature experiments with form, structure, and language.
97. **Literature and Religion:** The exploration of religious themes and cultural beliefs through literary works.
98. **Gender Perspectives in Literature:** Analyzing gender roles and the influence of feminist thought in literary works.
99. **Literature and Psychology:** How psychological theories and human behavior are represented in literature.
100. **Ethical Functions of Literature:** The moral lessons conveyed by literature through character behavior and narrative outcomes.