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**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH**

**ENGLISH LITERATURE**

**B.A (HONS) ENGLISH -PART II**

**QUESTION BANK**

**PAPER VII: TWENTIETH CENTURY POETRY AND DRAMA**

**SHORT QUESTIONS**

1. What is the central theme of Rupert Brooke's sonnet 'The Soldier'?
2. To which age did W H Auden belong?
3. What is the subject matter of the Second 'Prelude'?
4. What is the connection of the poet to the place Fern Hill?
5. What is the prayer that the poet makes in the poem 'A prayer for my Daughter'?
6. What is the background of W B Yeats' poem 'Easter 1916'?
7. How old was Rupert Brooke at the time of his death?
8. Who is the author of the play 'Pygmalion'?
9. When was the play 'Pygmalion' published?
10. Draw a short character sketch of Sarah in the play 'Chicken Soup with Barley'?
11. What was the year when W B Yeats was born and when did he die?
12. What is the main theme of 'Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock'?
13. What is the central theme of the poem 'preludes'?
14. What is the relevance of the title 'The Second Coming'?
15. How does Auden address the lovers in the poem 'Lay Your Sleeping Head My Love'?
16. How does 'In Memory of W B Yeats' fulfill the traditions of an elegy?
17. Draw a character sketch of the main character of Pygmalion in brief?
18. To whom does Eliot dedicate the poem 'Love Song of J Alfred Prufrock'?
19. What is the theme of Rupert Brooke's poem 'The Dead'?
20. What is the purpose of the rain showers in 'Pygmalion'?
21. How can you say that 'Chicken Soup and Barley' is a Matriarchal Play?
22. What was the background of the poem 'The Soldier'?
23. Is the poem 'The Soldier' a pro-war or anti-war poem? Give reasons to support your answer?

24. How does the poem 'The Dead' compare to other poems you've read about death and war?
25. What is your interpretation of what is going on in the last 6 lines of the poem Fern Hill?

### LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS

1. Brooke published the poems 'The Soldier' and 'The Dead'. How do these poems tell a collective story of war?
2. Critically appreciate Eliot's poem 'Preludes'?
3. Describe in detail the poem 'Easter 1916'?
4. How does nature play an important part in the poem 'A Prayer for My Daughter'?
5. Describe the character of Eliza Doolittle?
6. Make a character estimation of W B Yeats after reading the poem 'In Memory of W B Yeats'?
7. Do you think Brooke really believed the things he said in the poem 'The Soldier'? Is it possible that he was being ironic or sarcastic?
8. What does the street represent in 'Preludes'?
9. How can you say that 'time' plays an important role in the poem 'Preludes'? Support your answer with references from the poem.
10. What are the different symbols and motifs used in 'Preludes'?
11. What character in Hamlet is like Prufrock?
12. Explain the cultural significance of the poem 'The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock' by T. S. Eliot during the time it was written?
13. How can you say that 'The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock' is a Modernistic Poem?
14. What are some specific examples of spirituality in T.S. Eliot's 'The Love Song of Prufrock'?
15. Give a critical analysis of T.S. Eliot's 'Portrait of a Lady'?
16. What were the main trends of Modernistic Writing in Literature? Support your answer with the books that you have read?
17. Discuss the theme of childhood in "Fern Hill".
18. In "Fern Hill," which of the following sensory details does Thomas use most often to characterize the innocent child who is unaware of the effects of time?

19. "Now I was young and easy under the apple boughs about the lilting house and happy as the grass was green". (Fern Hill). Who said these words and what is the relevance of these words?
20. How would you explain the lines "poetry makes nothing happen"? Do you agree? Why or why not?
21. How does 'In Memory of W B Yeats' reflect Modernism? Please quote to support your arguments.
22. Is it true that the poem 'In memory of W B Yeats' represents Yeats as a man as well as an absolutely unique and irreplaceable poet?
23. It has been said that Pygmalion is not a play about turning a flower girl into a duchess, but one about turning a woman into a human being? Do you agree?
24. What is the Pygmalion Myth? In what significant ways, and with what effect, has Shaw transformed that myth in his play?
25. Give a critical summary of Wesker's play 'Chicken Soup with Barley'?