

COVENANT UNIVERSITY
NIGERIA

TUTORIAL KIT
OMEGA SEMESTER

PROGRAMME: LANGUAGES

COURSE: ENG 123

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ENG123: PRACTICAL CRITICISM1

LITERATURE TUTORIAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. Introduce Practical criticism through the eyes of I.A. Richard.
2. Why is practical criticism also referred to as text-bound or “reader-response criticism”
3. What are literary history, literary theory and literary criticism?
4. The last Act in *The Mask* is a dramatic confirmation of Ifamo’s prophetic interpretation of King Afagu’s two dreams. Discuss.
5. Compare and contrast the characters in Alex La Guma’s *Nocturne*.
6. “Like a Siamese cat caught in a sewer” is a statement that aptly describes conflicts, characters and settings in Alex La Guma’s *Nocturne*. Discuss.
7. Examine conflicts and symbols in Kalejaye’s *The Creator and the Disrupter*.
8. Discuss the main theme, the surface and the deep levels in Rui De Matos’s “Geology Lesson”.
9. Examine the prison experiences and escapes of inmates in Dennis Brutus’ *Letters to Martha*.
10. The last Act in *The Mask* is a dramatic confirmation of Ifamo’s prophetic interpretation of King Afagu’s two dreams. Discuss.
11. Examine the social comments in ‘He became a gorilla’ and ‘The rich old man’.
12. Examine the characters of the three sisters in *King Lear*.
13. Explore socio-economic stratification in *Blind Cyclos*.
14. Make a comparative study of the settings in Dennis Brutus’ *Letters to Martha* and Oswald Mitcheli’s “Just a Passer-bye”.
15. What is practical criticism? Write short notes on the critical views on aesthetic of Longinus, Emmanuel Kant, Edmund Burk and T.M. Know.
16. Consider the prosaic element of secrecy, deceit and audience participation in ‘He became a gorilla’?
17. Consider the use of literary devices like personification, imagery, allusion and symbols in ‘The nut and the campanile’
18. In the story: ‘The Old Man’, what steps would you take to help the old man, his home and community at large?
19. Do you agree that this old man had no great plans for his life?
20. What lesson have you learnt from this story?