

Pytania na egzaminy dyplomowe (dla egzaminów w roku 2023/2024)

POZIOM BA

JĘZYKOZNAWSTWO

GENERAL LINGUISTICS

1. What is language and its design features?
2. Present the functions of language.
3. Present five different branches of linguistics.
4. What does neurolinguistics deal with? Present the language centres in the brain with their functions. What is aphasia?
5. Discuss the basic terms in sociolinguistics (dialect, sociolect, slang, standard and non-standard variety, etc.)
6. Discuss the basic terms in pragmatics (speech acts, presupposition, Grice's conversational maxims, etc.)
7. What are language families and structural classes of languages? Present the Indo-European language family. What non-Indo-European languages are spoken in Europe?

PHONETICS AND PHONOLOGY

8. Present the classification of English consonants and their IPA symbols.
9. Present the classification of English vowels and their IPA symbols.
10. Discuss the difference between a phoneme and an allophone and present selected allophones of English with their symbols.
11. Discuss the differences between Polish and English vowels and consonants.
12. Present the structure of the English syllable.
13. Present connected speech processes in English and provide examples.
14. Discuss the main differences between British and American pronunciation standards.
15. How does stress placement work in English?
16. What are the weak forms in the pronunciation of English?

SYNTAX

17. List ten parts of speech, define them and provide English examples.
18. Present and define the grammatical functions of the basic sentence parts (clause elements), identify them in a sentence and discuss their semantic roles.
19. Define the sentence and the clause as syntactic units. Present the basic sentence and clause types and subtypes.
20. Define the syntactic process of substitution, ellipsis, clefting, extraposition, and postponement and provide English examples.

MORPHOLOGY AND SEMANTICS

21. What is a morpheme? Present the typology of morphemes and provide English examples.
22. Present the basic word-formation processes and the classification of compounds in English.
23. What are the basic sense relations between lexemes? Provide English examples.
24. How can we account for lexical meaning? Discuss a chosen approach.
25. Discuss the notions of sense and reference.
26. Discuss the main tenets of cognitive approach to semantic analysis.

CONTRASTIVE GRAMMAR

27. Present the grammatical contrast between English and Polish in terms of the category of number.
28. Discuss the grammatical category of tense in English and Polish.
29. Present a comparative perspective on subject-verb agreement in English and Polish.
30. Discuss the grammatical contrast between English and Polish in the domain of passive voice.
31. Present the lexical contrast between English and Polish.

HISTORY OF ENGLISH

32. Present the main stages in the development of English: name of the period, its borderlines and most characteristic features.
33. Why do languages change? Discuss reasons and mechanisms of language change, using examples from history of English.
34. Discuss the phenomenon of grammaticalization and present examples of the process from history of English.
35. Why does the spelling of Present Day English bear little correspondence to contemporary pronunciation? Present examples.
36. Discuss the change of English from an inflectional to an analytical system.
37. Present 3 foreign languages which influenced English (historical circumstances, examples of influence).

LANGUAGE ACQUISITION

38. Describe two major theories of first language acquisition.
39. Compare L1 and L2 language learners.
40. Present Krashen's input hypothesis and describe the role of input in L2 instruction.
41. How does age affect first and second language acquisition? What does the critical period hypothesis argue about age and acquisition?
42. Describe the concept of ZPD and how it works in a language classroom.

POZIOM BA LITERATURA I KULTURA

BRITISH LITERATURE

1. Discuss any work of English literature written before the 18th century that can be classified as an epic poem. What are the characteristics of the genre?
2. Discuss any Canterbury Tale, paying special attention to its genre.
3. Discuss any example of medieval or Renaissance English literature showing how it is rooted in the Christian religion.
4. Discuss any play by Shakespeare paying special attention to its being representative of a particular dramatic genre.
5. Discuss instances of transgression/ aberration/ unconventionality in literature of the 18th and 19th centuries (on the level of character presentation: madness, rebellion; formal experimentation; unconventional intensity of emotions, etc.)
6. Discuss the characteristics of Gothic fiction and Gothic elements in a literary work of your choice.
7. How did the Romantic poets understand poetry/the role of a poet?

8. What English poems which deal with works of art do you know? How do poets react to visual arts? What makes the two arts - verbal and visual - different? (e.g. Keats's Ode on a Grecian Urn, Shelley's Ozymandias, Browning's My Last Duchess, [or later examples such as Auden's Musee des Beaux Arts])
9. Discuss some of the main ideas of Modernism in literature based on example(s) of your choice.
10. Discuss the poetics of postmodernism based on example(s) of your choice.
11. Give an example of a modern work of literature that uses references to myths and discuss the effects.
12. Discuss any work that represents the Theatre of the Absurd.
13. Images of love in English-language poetry: compare and contrast two or more poems by different authors.
14. Think of a literary work in which the setting (i.e. where the action takes place) is as significant as the characters or events and explain why the place of action is so important in the work of your choice.
15. Give an example of a literary work that draws the reader's attention to the distinction between the reality and its representation through language or art. Discuss what the work of your choice tells us about the nature of language or of artistic representation.

AMERICAN LITERATURE

16. Choose any example of American literature written before the 19th century and discuss its major ideas.
17. The beginnings of American national literature (the moment when American authors begin to gain independence from European patterns) – give examples of writers, provide one or two titles for a selected author, discuss one work in more detail.
18. American Romantic prose and poetry: mention major representatives, discuss one of those writers in more detail (give specific examples of one or two titles)
19. American 19th century literature beyond Romanticism: give examples of American non-Romantic writers of the 2nd half of the 19th century, characterize their convention. Choose one author and discuss him or her in more detail.
20. Modernism in American literature – name a number of American modernists. Choose one author, mention his or her main titles, briefly discuss their problems and ideas.
21. Black American writers and women writers of the 20th century: name a few American authors of the 20th century. Choose one author and discuss his or her writing in more detail.
22. American poetry in mid-20th century (1950's – 1970's): major names, tendencies, tensions OR discuss how American theater employs political and/or societal issues as a centerpiece for its theme on the example of at least one work by a 20th c. North American playwright.
23. Choose one author of American Realism OR late-modernist/post-modernist prose and discuss his or her writing in more detail.
24. Religious faith as one of the major recurring motifs in American literature: choose at least two writers from various epochs and discuss their treatment of religion
25. Nature and experience in American literature: discuss the meaning of these terms and the relations between them in the context of a selected work in American literature.

INTRODUCTION TO LITERARY STUDIES

26. Define the artistic technique of defamiliarization. Give an example of a literary text where this technique is at work and briefly discuss how it operates there.
27. Explain how irony functions in a literary text based on example(s) of your own choice.
28. Based on the literary text of your choice, discuss how the text uses metaphors and how these metaphors contribute to its meaning.
29. Discuss the use of symbols and/or allegory in a literary text of your choice. Explain the difference between symbols and allegories.

30. Compare and contrast a flat character with a round character based on one or more literary texts.

BRITISH AND AMERICAN CULTURE

31. Discuss the political/ cultural role of monarchy
32. Discuss the notion of Britishness / British national identity. How has its meaning changed? Can modern Britain be regarded as a multicultural (intercultural) society?
33. The UK is considered to be a parliamentary democracy. Discuss.
34. Select one or more British painter or architect of your choice and discuss their contribution to the development of British art or architecture.
35. Discuss an American/British art of your choosing, jazz or a movement in 20th-century painting such as abstract expressionism, Young British Artists or pop art, linking it to the historical and sociocultural factors which shaped it.
36. Discuss the changing position of the UK in the world (British Empire & Commonwealth, EU & Brexit) or the changing position of the US in the world (from colony to superpower).
37. Discuss the genesis of American independence and the birth of American democratic institutions. Discuss the process of presidential elections in the USA (explain the role of the electoral college) and the political party system in the USA.
38. Discuss the way key American values, such as individualism, freedom and equality, manifest themselves in American life, as well as the interconnections between them. (including the myth of individual opportunity / "from rags to riches"- the American Dream).
39. Explain why the US is often referred to as the cradle of feminism and outline the history of American feminism.
40. Discuss the racial and ethnic diversity of US society, focusing on the notions of ethnicity, immigration, Americanization, the melting pot and its evolution as well as race and ethnic relations (including the current or historical situation of blacks and/or other ethnic minorities in the US)

POZIOM MA

JĘZYKOZNAWSTWO

GENERAL LINGUISTICS

1. What is language? Explain the following design features of language: productivity, interchangeability, semanticity, displacement.
2. Name the basic differences between human and animal communication.
3. Name the major writing systems and explain the evolution of logographic writing into phonetic writing.

HISTORY OF LINGUISTICS

4. Discuss the historical stages in the development of the study of language.
5. Name the main schools of linguistics in the 20th c. Discuss in more detail one of them.
6. What are the main differences between structuralism and generativism?
7. Discuss the concepts of *langage* and *parole* in Saussurean linguistics.
8. Discuss the main claims made by Chomskyan generative linguistics.
9. Compare three different definitions of language.

PHILOSOPHY OF LANGUAGE

10. What are the main aims of philosophy of language?
11. Discuss the subject matter of philosophy of linguistics.
12. What is the philosophical background of Chomskyan generative linguistics?
13. Discuss selected philosophical approaches to meaning.
14. Discuss the concept of paradigm (in science and in the humanities).
15. Discuss Frege's contribution to philosophy of language, especially semantics.
16. Discuss Wittgenstein's contribution to philosophy of language, especially pragmatics.
17. Discuss the main tenets of functional linguistics.

SOCIOLINGUISTICS

18. Characterise methods characteristic for sociolinguistic observation and analysis. What is ethnomethodology?
19. Discuss (briefly) how social correlates of language (age, social class, gender, ethnicity, etc.) may influence discourse and be shown in it.
20. What are the possible links between language and identity?
21. How are the following notions different: 'language', 'dialect' and 'variety'. What kind of varieties of English can you identify and (briefly) characterise?
22. What are contact languages, pidgins and creoles, how do they develop, what are their typical features?

SEMANTICS

23. What is the relation between meaning and levels of language analysis?
24. What are the basic dimensions of meaning? Discuss a chosen model of semantic analysis.
25. What are the main tenets of cognitive semantics?
26. What are idioms, metonymies and metaphors? How is the cognitive approach to metaphor different from the classical one?
27. Characterise reference as a theory of meaning. What is the relevance of the distinction between sense and reference in this context?

PRAGMATICS

28. Discuss Austin's and Searle's approaches to speech acts (what a speech act is, Speech Act Theory, speech act categorisation, etc.) and provide examples.
29. Discuss the concept of implicature according to Grice (the Cooperative Principle, Maxims, conventional and conversational implicatures, etc.) and provide examples.
30. Discuss the concepts of entailment and presupposition (ways to distinguish entailment from presupposition, presupposition types, the projection problem, etc.)
31. Discuss the concept of linguistic politeness and impoliteness. Provide examples.
32. Discuss the concept of deixis and reference and their types, as well as how they can be used in discourse. Provide examples.
33. Discuss the difference between discourse vs. discourses, Critical Discourse Analysis and CDA approaches.

METHODOLOGY OF LINGUISTIC RESEARCH AND CORPUS LINGUISTICS

34. What is the general contribution of corpus linguistics to language research?
35. Discuss the main characteristics of major types of language corpora, such as reference, parallel, spoken, monitor and learner corpora. Explain how they are important in various areas of linguistics.

36. According to corpus-based studies, how is conversational language different from written language? Explain the main technical and methodological challenges of compiling a speech corpus. Include an explanation of spoken data collection scenarios and their practical and theoretical implications.
37. Explain the difference between the following methodological stances: corpus-driven, corpus-based, corpus-informed and corpus-illustrated language research.
38. According to corpus language studies and recent advances in natural language processing (such as the success of generative pretrained transformers), at what levels is language novel and infinitely compositional and at what level is it stochastic, prefabricated and formulaic?
39. Describe the general structure of experimental research in linguistics. Include examples of dependent, independent and extraneous variables from studies of language and how they can be operationalized.
40. Discuss the main advantages and limitations of the following types of empirical data in linguistics research: 1. Surveys 2. Interviews 3. Judgment data. 4 Corpora of naturally occurring language.

POZIOM MA

LITERATURA I KULTURA

THEORY OF LITERATURE (sem. 1 class + sem. 2 lecture)

1. Who is telling the story in the novel: narration, narratorial points of view, types of narration and their reliability.
2. Discuss a theoretical perspective which discusses the meanings of the text by favoring the formal and linguistic aspects of the text.
3. Literary theory and politics: discuss any theoretical approach and explain its potential for foregrounding the political aspect of the literary text.
4. Literature and psychology: discuss a theoretical perspective which uses findings in psychology to interpret the meaning of literary texts.
5. Literature between modernism and postmodernism: discuss the major differences (or similarities) between these two terms and their respective understandings of works of literature. Use specific examples of the works of literature.
6. Intentionality has been one of the most intensely debated concepts in modern literary theory, as successive schools and authors proposed various answers to the question of whose intentions regulate the meaning of the literary text. Choose two of those approaches and compare them.
7. How is the word “ideology” sometimes used in the pejorative sense in relation to literature? In what sense could literature be accused of being a form of ideology? Provide specific historical examples of such criticism directed at literature.
8. How does the term “human subjectivity” or “human subject” function in literary studies? Mention at least two theoretical approaches that would be likely to use this term and briefly discuss how the models selected by you would use those terms?
9. Define the area of postcolonial studies and discuss one or two literary works that can be productively discussed within the postcolonial literary framework.
10. Which theoretical approach focuses on the impact of capitalism on social life? Give two examples of literary texts that can benefit from adopting this approach for their interpretation.

LITERATURE, HISTORY, MYTH

11. Discuss a selected text in which the author deals with current historical events. How does the text reflect and engage with what happens in the world?

12. Discuss a selected text which refers to the past. What vision of the past does it create? What is the purpose of writing about the past in the text you have chosen?
13. Discuss how literature can help in making sense of the world.
14. Discuss a selected text dealing with myth(s): critically, affirmatively, or in any other way.
15. Discuss a selected text dealing with minority issues / minority rights.

LITERATURE, SOCIETY, POLITICS

16. Discuss the way selected text(s) present(s) the condition of women in the context of second-wave feminism.
17. Analyze the tensions which mark relationships and/or family life as depicted in a late 20th- or early 21st-century prose work(s) of your choosing.
18. Discuss the presentation of postcolonial/migrant identity in a selected literary text.
19. Discuss the way violence, a military conflict, or acts of terrorism (e.g., 9/11), is/are depicted in a contemporary literary work of your choosing.
20. Explore the connection of ideology with control and/or terror in a selected literary work.

LITERATURE AND ADAPTATION

21. Explain the significance of intertextuality for the understanding of adaptation, and provide selected examples of works that illustrate that significance.
22. Explain what role genre plays in the process of adaptation, and provide selected examples of works that illustrate that role.
23. Discuss seriality, cycles, remakes and/or spin-offs as examples of adaptations. Provide examples of works that illustrate those cases.
24. Discuss the influence of such notions as remediation, interactivity, and/or participatory culture on approaching adaptation in the digital era. Illustrate those points with examples.
25. Discuss the influence of such notions as intermediality, transmediality, and/or convergence culture on approaching adaptation in the digital era. Illustrate those points with examples.

LITERATURE, PHILOSOPHY AND CRITICISM

26. What does it mean to say that the text has a critical potential? Discuss based on selected works of literature studied in your literature classes/seminars.
27. Given the popularity of narratives about illness or trauma, discuss two examples of such literary works and explain how each text frames these themes. What specific forms are used by contemporary authors to transform and critique such writings?
28. Discuss recent critiques of first-person narratives and the ways in which they problematize accounts of personal experience.
29. Can a literary text build effective resistance to the *status quo*? Can literature make a difference in a political sense? Can it change politics? Give examples of literary texts that thematize resistance, and/or examples of theoretical/philosophical texts that speak about different modes of resistance.
30. Give an example of a literary text that uses archival material (official documents or records, testimony, etc.) and discuss how such material is framed by the author. What role can the archives play in literary writing?

FILM, THEATRE, ART

31. Describe and analyse works (drama, theatre, film and visual arts) which represent the modern city. Interpret their historical and cultural references.
32. Present the basic theoretical framework for Posthuman studies and analyse examples of works in which human mutation or AI play a significant role.

or

Describe what new theoretical frameworks are introduced within Animal studies to read contemporary culture. Present examples of works which use animal, non-human subjects as narrative voice or central perspective of presentation.

33. Summarise the historical development of Gender studies and refer to works (by female as well as male authors) which best exemplify feminist perspective of reading and interpreting theatre, film and visual arts.
34. Briefly present the importance of the colonial legacy in contemporary European culture and analyse works which either reflect on the colonial domination of the West or undertake its critical reassessment.
35. Show how minority studies (migration studies/ ethnic studies / disability studies) redefine standard forms of literary and artistic representation. Analyse examples of works in which minority themes and topics are crucial for composing narratives of Western democracies.

HISTORY OF ANGLOPHONE LITERATURE

36. Discuss any play by Shakespeare paying special attention to its being representative of a particular dramatic genre.
37. Discuss the poetics of postmodernism based on example(s) of your choice.
38. Choose one English/British writer/poet from before the 19th century and discuss the main themes in their works.
39. Choose one British writer/poet of the 19th or 20th century and discuss the main themes in their works.
40. Choose one American writer/poet of the 19th or 20th century and discuss the main themes in their works.