

KSET English 2026: 100 Practice Questions

Practice resource aligned broadly to the official KSET English syllabus (Subject Code 04). These are original practice questions, not official KSET questions and not predictions of the 2026 paper.

Instructions: Choose the best answer. The answer key is provided at the end.

1. Who wrote *Doctor Faustus*?

- A. Ben Jonson
- B. Christopher Marlowe
- C. John Webster
- D. Thomas Kyd

2. Which Shakespeare play features the character Cordelia?

- A. Macbeth
- B. Othello
- C. King Lear
- D. The Tempest

3. The term 'comedy of humours' is most closely associated with:

- A. Ben Jonson
- B. John Dryden
- C. Richard Sheridan
- D. Oscar Wilde

4. *The Duchess of Malfi* was written by:

- A. John Webster
- B. Thomas Middleton
- C. John Ford
- D. George Chapman

5. Which play is generally classified as a Restoration comedy?

- A. Volpone
- B. The Way of the World
- C. Everyman
- D. The Spanish Tragedy

6. Who wrote *The School for Scandal*?

- A. Oliver Goldsmith
- B. Richard Brinsley Sheridan
- C. William Congreve
- D. John Gay

7. *Waiting for Godot* is associated with:

- A. Epic Theatre
- B. Theatre of the Absurd
- C. Kitchen-sink drama
- D. Comedy of manners

8. Who wrote *Look Back in Anger*?

- A. John Osborne
- B. Harold Pinter
- C. Tom Stoppard
- D. Samuel Beckett

9. *A Doll's House* was written by:

- A. August Strindberg
- B. Henrik Ibsen
- C. Anton Chekhov
- D. Bertolt Brecht

10. Bertolt Brecht is especially associated with:

- A. Epic Theatre
- B. Closet drama
- C. Masque
- D. Comedy of humours

11. Who wrote *Paradise Lost*?

- A. John Donne
- B. John Milton
- C. Alexander Pope
- D. Edmund Spenser

12. *The Rape of the Lock* is a:

- A. Pastoral elegy
- B. Mock epic
- C. Sonnet sequence
- D. Dramatic monologue

13. Who wrote *The Waste Land*?

- A. W. B. Yeats
- B. T. S. Eliot
- C. Ezra Pound
- D. W. H. Auden

14. *Ode to a Nightingale* was written by:

- A. William Wordsworth
- B. P. B. Shelley
- C. John Keats
- D. Lord Byron

15. The phrase 'negative capability' is associated with:

- A. John Keats
- B. S. T. Coleridge
- C. William Blake
- D. Matthew Arnold

16. *The Prelude* is primarily associated with:

- A. William Wordsworth
- B. John Keats
- C. Robert Browning
- D. Tennyson

17. Who wrote *In Memoriam A.H.H.*?

- A. Robert Browning
- B. Alfred Tennyson
- C. Matthew Arnold
- D. D. G. Rossetti

18. *Sailing to Byzantium* was written by:

- A. T. S. Eliot
- B. W. B. Yeats
- C. Dylan Thomas
- D. Philip Larkin

19. Who is known for the dramatic monologue *My Last Duchess*?

- A. Robert Browning
- B. Tennyson
- C. Arnold
- D. Hopkins

20. *The Second Coming* is a poem by:

- A. W. B. Yeats
- B. T. S. Eliot
- C. W. H. Auden
- D. Ted Hughes

21. Who wrote *Pride and Prejudice*?

- A. Jane Austen
- B. George Eliot
- C. Charlotte Brontë
- D. Elizabeth Gaskell

22. *Wuthering Heights* was written by:

- A. Charlotte Brontë
- B. Emily Brontë
- C. Anne Brontë
- D. George Eliot

23. Who wrote *Middlemarch*?

- A. George Eliot
- B. Thomas Hardy
- C. Charles Dickens
- D. Anthony Trollope

24. *A Passage to India* is by:

- A. E. M. Forster
- B. Joseph Conrad
- C. D. H. Lawrence
- D. Virginia Woolf

25. Who wrote *Mrs Dalloway*?

- A. Virginia Woolf
- B. Katherine Mansfield
- C. Doris Lessing
- D. Jean Rhys

26. *Ulysses* is a novel by:

- A. James Joyce
- B. Samuel Beckett
- C. Joseph Conrad
- D. George Orwell

27. Who wrote *Things Fall Apart*?

- A. Chinua Achebe
- B. Wole Soyinka
- C. Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o
- D. Ben Okri

28. *The Old Man and the Sea* was written by:

- A. Ernest Hemingway
- B. William Faulkner
- C. F. Scott Fitzgerald
- D. John Steinbeck

29. Who wrote *The God of Small Things*?

- A. Arundhati Roy
- B. Kiran Desai
- C. Anita Desai
- D. Shashi Deshpande

30. *Midnight's Children* is by:

- A. Salman Rushdie
- B. V. S. Naipaul
- C. Amitav Ghosh
- D. Vikram Seth

31. Who wrote the essay *Tradition and the Individual Talent*?

- A. T. S. Eliot
- B. I. A. Richards
- C. F. R. Leavis
- D. Matthew Arnold

32. *A Room of One's Own* was written by:

- A. Virginia Woolf
- B. Simone de Beauvoir
- C. Mary Wollstonecraft
- D. Elaine Showalter

33. Who wrote *Of Studies*?

- A. Francis Bacon
- B. Charles Lamb
- C. Addison
- D. Samuel Johnson

34. *Dream Children: A Reverie* is associated with:

- A. Charles Lamb
- B. William Hazlitt
- C. Thomas De Quincey
- D. Leigh Hunt

35. Who wrote *The Defence of Poesy*?

- A. Philip Sidney
- B. Edmund Spenser
- C. John Dryden
- D. Samuel Johnson

36. *Preface to Lyrical Ballads* is associated with:

- A. Wordsworth
- B. Coleridge
- C. Shelley
- D. Keats

37. Who wrote *An Apology for Poetry*?

- A. Philip Sidney
- B. P. B. Shelley
- C. John Dryden
- D. Ben Jonson

38. *On the Sublime* is traditionally attributed to:

- A. Longinus
- B. Horace
- C. Aristotle
- D. Plato

39. Who wrote *Biographia Literaria*?

- A. S. T. Coleridge
- B. William Wordsworth
- C. Thomas De Quincey
- D. William Hazlitt

40. *The Function of Criticism at the Present Time* is by:

- A. Matthew Arnold
- B. T. S. Eliot
- C. F. R. Leavis
- D. I. A. Richards

41. The distinction between langue and parole is associated with:

- A. Ferdinand de Saussure
- B. Noam Chomsky
- C. Roman Jakobson
- D. M. A. K. Halliday

42. The concepts of competence and performance are associated with:

- A. Noam Chomsky
- B. Saussure
- C. Bloomfield
- D. Sapir

43. Which branch studies meaning in language?

- A. Semantics
- B. Phonetics
- C. Morphology
- D. Graphology

44. The smallest meaningful unit of language is the:

- A. Morpheme
- B. Phoneme
- C. Syllable
- D. Clause

45. Which field studies language in social context?

- A. Sociolinguistics
- B. Stylistics
- C. Lexicography
- D. Phonology

46. The International Phonetic Alphabet is primarily used to represent:

- A. Speech sounds
- B. Sentence structures
- C. Word origins
- D. Meaning relations

47. Which approach emphasizes communicative competence in language teaching?

- A. Communicative Language Teaching
- B. Grammar-Translation Method
- C. Direct Method
- D. Audio-Lingual Method

48. Code-switching refers to:

- A. Alternating between languages or varieties
- B. Changing spelling systems
- C. Translating only idioms
- D. Replacing nouns with pronouns

49. Who proposed the distinction between acquisition and learning in second-language theory?

- A. Stephen Krashen
- B. Noam Chomsky
- C. Dell Hymes
- D. Michael Halliday

50. English belongs to which language family?

- A. Indo-European
- B. Sino-Tibetan
- C. Dravidian
- D. Afro-Asiatic

51. The introduction of English education in colonial India is strongly associated with whose 1835 Minute?

- A. T. B. Macaulay
- B. William Jones
- C. Charles Wood
- D. Warren Hastings

52. Who wrote *Kanthapura*?

- A. Raja Rao
- B. R. K. Narayan
- C. Mulk Raj Anand
- D. Khushwant Singh

53. *Untouchable* was written by:

- A. Mulk Raj Anand
- B. Raja Rao
- C. R. K. Narayan
- D. Bhabani Bhattacharya

54. Who wrote *The Guide*?

- A. R. K. Narayan
- B. Raja Rao
- C. Anita Desai
- D. Amitav Ghosh

55. *Clear Light of Day* is by:

- A. Anita Desai
- B. Kamala Markandaya
- C. Shashi Deshpande
- D. Nayantara Sahgal

56. Who wrote the poem *An Introduction*?

- A. Kamala Das
- B. Sarojini Naidu
- C. Toru Dutt
- D. Eunice de Souza

57. *The Shadow Lines* was written by:

- A. Amitav Ghosh
- B. Vikram Seth
- C. Upamanyu Chatterjee
- D. Rohinton Mistry

58. Who wrote *The White Tiger*?

- A. Aravind Adiga
- B. Amit Chaudhuri
- C. Jeet Thayil
- D. Vikram Chandra

59. Indian English is best understood as:

- A. A recognized variety of English shaped by Indian contexts
- B. An incorrect form of British English
- C. A translation-only register
- D. A language unrelated to English

60. Which scholar is closely associated with the concept of World Englishes and the three-circle model?

- A. Braj B. Kachru
- B. Edward Said
- C. Homi Bhabha
- D. Gayatri Spivak

61. Cultural Studies is strongly associated with the work of:

- A. Stuart Hall
- B. Cleanth Brooks
- C. Northrop Frye
- D. William Empson

62. The Birmingham Centre for Contemporary Cultural Studies was important to the development of:

- A. Cultural Studies
- B. New Criticism
- C. Russian Formalism
- D. Deconstruction

63. The concept of hegemony is strongly associated with:

- A. Antonio Gramsci
- B. Louis Althusser
- C. Jacques Derrida
- D. Roland Barthes

64. In Cultural Studies, representation broadly concerns:

- A. How meaning is produced through signs and cultural practices
- B. Only statistical representation
- C. Only literary metre
- D. Only manuscript editing

65. Who wrote *Orientalism*?

- A. Edward Said
- B. Homi Bhabha
- C. Frantz Fanon
- D. Raymond Williams

66. The term 'culture industry' is associated with:

- A. Adorno and Horkheimer
- B. Saussure and Jakobson
- C. Richards and Leavis
- D. Wimsatt and Beardsley

67. Who wrote *Culture and Society*?

- A. Raymond Williams
- B. Stuart Hall
- C. Richard Hoggart
- D. Terry Eagleton

68. The study of popular media, everyday practices and identity is central to:

- A. Cultural Studies
- B. Textual bibliography
- C. Prosody
- D. Historical linguistics

69. The term 'subculture' in Cultural Studies commonly refers to:

- A. A group with distinctive cultural practices within a wider culture
- B. A grammatical subordinate clause
- C. A minor language family
- D. A type of poetic stanza

70. Who wrote *The Location of Culture*?

- A. Homi K. Bhabha
- B. Edward Said
- C. Gayatri Spivak
- D. Frantz Fanon

71. Aristotle's *Poetics* chiefly discusses:

- A. Tragedy and poetic representation
- B. Modern linguistics
- C. Postcolonial identity
- D. Research methodology

72. The concept of catharsis is central to Aristotle's discussion of:

- A. Tragedy
- B. Epic theatre
- C. Romantic lyric
- D. New Criticism

73. Who wrote *An Essay of Dramatic Poesy*?

- A. John Dryden
- B. Samuel Johnson
- C. Alexander Pope
- D. John Dennis

74. Samuel Johnson's *Preface to Shakespeare* is an example of:

- A. Literary criticism
- B. Poststructuralism
- C. Ethnography
- D. Corpus linguistics

75. Who wrote *The Study of Poetry*?

- A. Matthew Arnold
- B. Walter Pater
- C. T. S. Eliot
- D. I. A. Richards

76. I. A. Richards is associated with:

- A. Practical Criticism
- B. Deconstruction
- C. Marxist criticism
- D. Postcolonialism

77. The 'intentional fallacy' was formulated by:

- A. Wimsatt and Beardsley
- B. Brooks and Warren
- C. Richards and Empson
- D. Leavis and Eliot

78. Who wrote *The Well Wrought Urn*?

- A. Cleanth Brooks
- B. William Empson
- C. F. R. Leavis
- D. Northrop Frye

79. The term 'objective correlative' is associated with:

- A. T. S. Eliot
- B. Matthew Arnold
- C. Samuel Johnson
- D. Longinus

80. Who wrote *Anatomy of Criticism*?

- A. Northrop Frye
- B. Wayne Booth
- C. René Wellek
- D. Terry Eagleton

81. Structuralism in literary theory draws significantly on the linguistics of:

- A. Ferdinand de Saussure
- B. Noam Chomsky
- C. J. L. Austin
- D. H. P. Grice

82. Who is most closely associated with deconstruction?

- A. Jacques Derrida
- B. Michel Foucault
- C. Jacques Lacan
- D. Louis Althusser

83. The concept of the 'death of the author' is associated with:

- A. Roland Barthes
- B. Terry Eagleton
- C. Wolfgang Iser
- D. Mikhail Bakhtin

84. Who wrote *The Archaeology of Knowledge*?

- A. Michel Foucault
- B. Jacques Derrida
- C. Jean Baudrillard
- D. Fredric Jameson

85. The concept of interpellation is associated with:

- A. Louis Althusser
- B. Jacques Lacan
- C. Julia Kristeva
- D. Judith Butler

86. Who wrote *The Second Sex*?

- A. Simone de Beauvoir
- B. Judith Butler
- C. Elaine Showalter
- D. Hélène Cixous

87. The term 'gynocriticism' is associated with:

- A. Elaine Showalter
- B. Toril Moi
- C. Julia Kristeva
- D. Kate Millett

88. Who asked 'Can the Subaltern Speak?'?

- A. Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak
- B. Edward Said
- C. Homi Bhabha
- D. Frantz Fanon

89. The concept of hybridity in postcolonial theory is particularly associated with:

- A. Homi K. Bhabha
- B. Edward Said
- C. Aijaz Ahmad
- D. Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o

90. Reader-response criticism emphasizes:

- A. The reader's role in producing meaning
- B. Only the author's biography
- C. Only historical dates
- D. Only grammatical correctness

91. Which theorist is closely associated with gender performativity?

- A. Judith Butler
- B. Elaine Showalter
- C. Simone de Beauvoir
- D. Kate Millett

92. Ecocriticism primarily examines:

- A. Relations between literature, culture and the environment
- B. Only textual punctuation
- C. Only authorial intention
- D. Only sound patterns

93. A primary source in literary research is:

- A. An original literary text or archival document
- B. A textbook summary
- C. A review article only
- D. An encyclopedia entry

94. MLA style is widely used in:

- A. Language and literary studies
- B. Laboratory chemistry only
- C. Civil engineering design only
- D. Clinical pharmacology only

95. A bibliography primarily records:

- A. Sources consulted or cited
- B. Only chapter titles
- C. Only research questions
- D. Only page margins

96. Plagiarism involves:

- A. Presenting another's words or ideas without proper acknowledgment
- B. Using a library catalogue
- C. Quoting with accurate citation
- D. Paraphrasing with attribution

97. A research hypothesis is best described as:

- A. A testable proposition or tentative explanation
- B. A final bibliography
- C. A table of contents
- D. A printing convention

98. Which is a standard component of a scholarly research proposal?

- A. Research objectives
- B. Fictional dialogue
- C. Dramatic stage directions
- D. Poetic metre only

99. Peer review refers to:

- A. Evaluation of scholarly work by experts in the field
- B. Automatic spell-checking
- C. Student attendance marking
- D. Library shelving

100. An abstract in a research paper provides:

- A. A concise summary of the study
- B. A complete bibliography
- C. Only acknowledgements
- D. Only raw data

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Answer Key

1. B - Christopher Marlowe
2. C - King Lear
3. A - Ben Jonson
4. A - John Webster
5. B - The Way of the World
6. B - Richard Brinsley Sheridan
7. B - Theatre of the Absurd
8. A - John Osborne
9. B - Henrik Ibsen
10. A - Epic Theatre
11. B - John Milton
12. B - Mock epic
13. B - T. S. Eliot
14. C - John Keats
15. A - John Keats
16. A - William Wordsworth
17. B - Alfred Tennyson
18. B - W. B. Yeats
19. A - Robert Browning
20. A - W. B. Yeats
21. A - Jane Austen
22. B - Emily Brontë
23. A - George Eliot
24. A - E. M. Forster
25. A - Virginia Woolf
26. A - James Joyce
27. A - Chinua Achebe
28. A - Ernest Hemingway
29. A - Arundhati Roy
30. A - Salman Rushdie
31. A - T. S. Eliot
32. A - Virginia Woolf
33. A - Francis Bacon
34. A - Charles Lamb
35. A - Philip Sidney
36. A - Wordsworth
37. A - Philip Sidney
38. A - Longinus
39. A - S. T. Coleridge

40. A - Matthew Arnold
41. A - Ferdinand de Saussure
42. A - Noam Chomsky
43. A - Semantics
44. A - Morpheme
45. A - Sociolinguistics
46. A - Speech sounds
47. A - Communicative Language Teaching
48. A - Alternating between languages or varieties
49. A - Stephen Krashen
50. A - Indo-European
51. A - T. B. Macaulay
52. A - Raja Rao
53. A - Mulk Raj Anand
54. A - R. K. Narayan
55. A - Anita Desai
56. A - Kamala Das
57. A - Amitav Ghosh
58. A - Aravind Adiga
59. A - A recognized variety of English shaped by Indian contexts
60. A - Braj B. Kachru
61. A - Stuart Hall
62. A - Cultural Studies
63. A - Antonio Gramsci
64. A - How meaning is produced through signs and cultural practices
65. A - Edward Said
66. A - Adorno and Horkheimer
67. A - Raymond Williams
68. A - Cultural Studies
69. A - A group with distinctive cultural practices within a wider culture
70. A - Homi K. Bhabha
71. A - Tragedy and poetic representation
72. A - Tragedy
73. A - John Dryden
74. A - Literary criticism
75. A - Matthew Arnold
76. A - Practical Criticism
77. A - Wimsatt and Beardsley
78. A - Cleanth Brooks
79. A - T. S. Eliot
80. A - Northrop Frye

81. A - Ferdinand de Saussure
82. A - Jacques Derrida
83. A - Roland Barthes
84. A - Michel Foucault
85. A - Louis Althusser
86. A - Simone de Beauvoir
87. A - Elaine Showalter
88. A - Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak
89. A - Homi K. Bhabha
90. A - The reader's role in producing meaning
91. A - Judith Butler
92. A - Relations between literature, culture and the environment
93. A - An original literary text or archival document
94. A - Language and literary studies
95. A - Sources consulted or cited
96. A - Presenting another's words or ideas without proper acknowledgment
97. A - A testable proposition or tentative explanation
98. A - Research objectives
99. A - Evaluation of scholarly work by experts in the field
100. A - A concise summary of the study