

## English ECAT Pre Engineering Chapter 8 Comprehension Online Test

Sr	Questions	Answers Choice
1	<p>At the time Jane Austen's novels were published – between 1811 and 1818 – English literature was not part of any academic curriculum. In addition, fiction was under strenuous attack. Certain religious and political groups felt novels had the power to make so-called immoral characters so interesting that young readers would identify with them; these groups also considered novels to be of little practical use. Even Coleridge, certainly no literary reactionary, spoke for many when he asserted that “novel-reading occasions the destruction of the mind's powers.”</p> <p>These attitudes towards novels help explain why Austen received little attention from early nineteenth-century literary critics. (In any case a novelist published anonymously, as Austen was, would not be likely to receive much critical attention.) The literary response that was accorded to her, however, was often as incisive as twentieth-century criticism. In his attack in 1816 on novelistic portrayals “outside of ordinary experience,” for example. Scott made an insightful remark about the merits of Austen's fiction.</p> <p>Her novels, wrote Scott, “present to the reader an accurate and exact picture of ordinary everyday people and places, reminiscent of seventeenth-century Flemish painting.” Scott did not use the word ‘realism’, but he undoubtedly used a standard of realistic probability in judging novels. The critic Whately did not use the word ‘realism’, either, but he expressed agreement with Scott's evaluation, and went on to suggest the possibilities for moral instruction in what we have called Austen's ‘realistic method’ her characters, wrote Whately, are persuasive agents for moral truth since they are ordinary persons “so clearly evoked that we feel an interest in their fate as if it were our own.” Moral instruction, explained Whately, is more likely to be effective when conveyed through recognizably human and interesting characters than when imparted by a sermonizing narrator. Whitely especially praised Austen's ability to create character who “mingle goodness and villainy, weakness and virtue, as in life they are always mingled.” Whitely concluded his remarks by comparing Austen's art of characterization to Dickens', starting his preference for Austen's.</p> <p>Yet, the response of nineteenth-century literary critics to Austen was not always so laudatory, and often anticipated the reservations of twentieth-century literary critics. An example of such a response was Lewes complaint in 1859 that Austen's range of subject and characters was too narrow. Praising her verisimilitude, Lewes added that, nonetheless her focus was too often only upon the unlofty and the commonplace. (Twentieth-century Marxists, on the other hand, were to complain about what they saw as her exclusive emphasis on a lofty upper middle class.) In any case having being rescued by literary critics from neglect and indeed gradually lionized by them, Austen steadily reached, by the mid-nineteenth century, the enviable pinnacle of being considered controversial.</p> <p>The primary purpose of the passage is to</p>	<p>A. Demonstrate the nineteenth-century preference for realistic novels rather than romantic ones</p> <p>B. Explain why Jane Austen's novel were not included in any academic curriculum in the early nineteenth century?</p> <p>C. Urge a reassessment of Jane Austen's novels by twentieth-century literary critics</p> <p>D. Describe some of the responses of nineteenth-century critics to Jane Austen's novels as well as fiction in general</p>
2	<p>The history of the modern world is a record of highly varied activity, of incessant change, and of astonishing achievement. The lives of men have, during the last few centuries, increasingly diversified, their powers have greatly multiplied, their powers have greatly multiplied, their horizon been enormously enlarged. New interests have arisen in rich profusion to absorb attention and to provoke exertion. New aspirations and new emotions have come to move the soul of men. Amid all the bewildering phenomena, interest, in particular, has stood out in clear and growing pre-eminence, has expressed itself in a multitude of ways and with an emphasis more and more pronounced, namely, the determination of the race to gain a larger measure of freedom than it has ever known before, freedom in the life of the intellect and spirit, freedom in the realm of government and law, freedom in the sphere of economic and social relationship. A passion that has prevailed so widely, that has transformed the world so greatly, and is still transforming it, is one that surely merits study and abundantly rewards it, its operations constitute the very pith and marrow of modern history.</p> <p>Not that this passion was unknown to the long ages that proceeded the modern periods. The ancient Hebrews, the ancient Greeks and Roman blazed the way</p>	<p>A. In ancient times</p> <p>B. In early middle ages</p> <p>C. In later middle ages</p> <p>D. In modern times</p>

leaving behind them a precious heritage of accomplishments and suggestions and the men who were responsible for the Renaissance of the fifteenth century and the Reformation of the sixteen century contributed their imperishable part to this slow and difficult emancipation of the human race. But it is in modern times the pace and vigour, the scope and sweep of this liberal movement have so increased unquestionably as to dominate the age, particularly the last three centuries that have registered great triumphs of spirit.

At what time history did the liberal movement enjoys its heyday?

3

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- A. The modern age
- B. The time of the French Revolution
- C. The Renaissance and the Reformation
- D. None of these

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In what epochs of modern history have men especially contributed to the emancipation of human race?

4

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- A. The Indians and the Arabs
- B. The Chinese and the Russians
- C. Ancient Hebrews, ancient Greeks and Romans
- D. The Egyptians

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What races, according to the author, have blazed the way of the spirit of freedom?

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- A. On the spirit of revenge
- B. Of the spirit of forgiveness
- C. Of larger scale wars
- D. Of the spirit of freedom

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The operation of which factor constitutes the pith and marrow of modern history?

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- A. Social and political freedom
- B. Moral freedom
- C. Freedom to think and act
- D. Freedom of the intellect and spirit, freedom in the realm of government and law, freedom in the sphere of economic and social relation

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What kinds of freedom have been mentioned in the passage?

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- A. Men have developed a broad outlook on life
- B. Their intellectual powers have greatly expanded
- C. They have a wider area for the operation of their intellectual powers
- D. The facilities for travel have been multiplied

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difficult emancipation of the human race. But it is in modern times the pace and vigour, the scope and sweep of this liberal movement have so increased unquestionably as to dominate the age, particularly the last three centuries that have registered great triumphs of spirit.

The horizon of the lives of men has been greatly enlarged. What does it mean?

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In what areas do you think have the powers of men greatly multiplied during the last few centuries?

- A. In the economic sphere
- B. In larger control of the forces of nature
- C. Increasing accumulation of knowledge in different fields of human activity
- D. All of these

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In what period of the history of the world have the lives of men become increasingly diversified?

- A. In the ancient ages
- B. In the middle ages
- C. In the age of renaissance and reformations
- D. During the last few centuries

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What according to the author, is the history of the modern world a record of?

- A. Of incessant conflict among nations
- B. Of clash of economic interests
- C. Of the achievements of the human race in science and technology
- D. Multifarious efforts and accomplishments of the human race in various fields of life, that are indeed astonishing and of constant change