

TEST 1

- 1) When did Russian literature arise and what was its language?
- 2) Which genres did in Old Russian literature in the 11th- 13th centuries prevail?
- 3) What did the „assembling of Russian Lands“ means?
- 4) When did in Kiev Ruś christianization take place?
- 5) When did Kiev Ruś definitely fall under the impact of Mongol-Tatar invasion?
- 6) Name the most significant political and cultural centres of Kiev Ruś.
- 7) Name the most significant rulers of Kiev Ruś.
- 8) What is the origin of the words „Rus“/Rossiya“ ?
- 9) What was the development of standard (literary) Russian?
- 10) What is the Moscow Russian/Muscovy and the Russian Empire?
- 11) When did the Battle of Kulikovo Field take place and what did it mean?
- 12) What was „smuta“?
- 13) What was the name of Ivan the Terrible‘ general who defected to Lithuania and led a polemic correspondence with him?
- 14) Name some of the Old Russian travel descriptions.
- 14) What is The Life of Archpriest Avvakum?
- 18) What were the first Russian secular/picaresque tales going back to the 17th century about?
- 19) When did the first Russian Theatre arise?
- 20) When did the Romanov period on the Russian throne begin?

TEST 2

- 1) Name some significant Russian Tzars of the House of Romanovs.
- 2) What did the Peter the Great's reforms concern?
- 3) Who was Catherine II?
- 4) Where did Lomonosov study?
- 5) What is the theory of three styles (теория трех стилей)?
- 6) Who did Russia in the 18th century wage wars with?
- 7) How was the influence of West-European literature on Russian literature demonstrated?
- 8) Give some examples of the politicization of Russian literature?
- 9) Which literary currents appeared in 18th-century Russian literature?
- 10) What was the Pugachov's uprising and how was it reflected in Russian literature?
- 11) Who was Nikolaj Novikov?
- 12) What were the influences of Western ideas in Russian environment (Enlightenment, rationalism, utilitarianism etc.)?
- 13) Which countries and cities did N. M. Karamzin visit in the course of his European journey?
- 14) What was the Russian policy towards France after 1789?
- 15) What is The Third Rome Conception?
- 16) What territory formed the Russian Empire towards the end of the 18th century?
- 17) What was the Russian Patriotic War?
- 18) What education did Alexander Pushkin reach?
- 19) In which work (works) did Pushkin deal with St. Petersburg history?
- 20) What was the name of a young poet killed in the duel by Eugene Onegin?

TEST 3

- 1) Who were the decembrists?
- 2) What was the programme of secret societies the activity of which led to their uprising in December 1825?
- 3) What was Pushki's attitude towards the Decembrists?
- 4) Who was Faddey Bulgarin?
- 5) Name at least 2 works by Mikhail Lermontov?
- 6) Why is the only novel by Gogol called *Dead Souls* and why does its author call it „a poema“ (a longer poetic narrative)?
- 7) What was the so-called Pushkin Pleiad?
- 8) What was „natural school“?
- 9) What features did the reign of Nicholas the First have?
- 10) What was the Crimean War?
- 11) Name 4 works by Dostoevsky.
- 12) What is the name of the leading character (the author's "alter ego") of *War and Peace*?
- 13) What is the title of Ivan Goncharov's work depicting his journey round the world?
- 14) Who were the most significant authors of the so-called Golden Age of Russian literature?
- 15) Name 5 Russian 19th-century poets.
- 16) Name 3 dramas by Anton Chekhov.
- 17) Which literary and artistic currents form the so-called Silver Age of Russian literature?
- 18) Which literary groups existed in the Soviet Union in the 1920s and what was their aesthetic programme?
- 19) What is socialist realism and how was it manifested in the U.S.S.R.?
- 20) Name the most important authors of the 1920s-1930s Russian Soviet literature.

TEST 4

- 1) Who belonged to the 19th-20th-century Russian literary emigration and what were the reasons of their emigration?
- 2) What are „samizdat“ and „tamizdat“?
- 3) What is the „inner emigration“? Give some examples from the 20th and 21st-century Russia and the U.S.S.R..
- 4) Name the Russian Nobel Prize winners for literature.
- 5) Who were the most significant 19th and 20th-century Russian poets/poetesses?
- 6) Name the most important Russian 18th-, 19th-, 20th- and 21st-century Russian dramatists and their most popular works.
- 7) Which literary works of a more constant aesthetic value were written in Russian literature in the course of the Great Patriotic War?
- 8) How would you characterize the fractional struggles in the communist party in Soviet Russia in the 1920s and their participants; what do you know about Stalin's régime of personal power and about political trials?
- 9) What were „gulags“?
- 10) Give the names of several Russian writers who were persecuted, imprisoned or executed in 1917-1991?
- 11) Which were the revolutions in 19th- and 20th-century Russia?
- 12) Which political parties arose in Russia in the course of the first Russian revolution 1905-1907?
- 13) What was „the period of thaw“ (Russian „оттепель“) and how did it affect Russian culture?
- 14) Put the most popular works by Alexander Solzhenitsyn.
- 15) Which authors described the life in Soviet gulags?
- 16) What was the Russian Formalist School?
- 17) Name some 19th- and 20th-century Russian philosophers and state which concepts they represented.
- 18) What was „perestroika“ and „glasnost“? Give the name of a Soviet politician who was connected with these terms?
- 19) What was „returned literature“ (in Russian „возвращенная литература“)?
- 20) What do you know about the Soviet underground literature?

TEST 5

- 1) What was „war communism“?
- 2) What was „NEP“?
- 3) What were the main goals of industrialization and collectivization in the course of Stalin’s dictatorship?
- 4) Describe the course of the Great Patriotic War as part of the Second World War.
- 5) What was the Soviet production/construction novel? Name some of its authors and their works.
- 6) Which of Mikhail Bulgakov’ works do you know or did you read?
- 7) Who was Vladimir Nabokov?
- 8) Which works by Andrey Platonov could not be published in the U.S.S.R. during his life?
- 9) Which most significant works did Ivan Bunin write in French emigration?
- 10) What was „the ship of philosophers“?
- 11) What ideological orientation did the volume „Vekhi“ have?
- 12) What is postmodernism and how did it function in the Russian literature of the 1960s-1990s?
- 13) Name the most popular Russian literary postmodernists.
- 14) Which Russian postmodernist works (either in original or in translations) did you read?
- 15) Which works by contemporary Russian prose writers concern the history of Russia?
- 16) What is antiutopia/dystopia? Name some of such works and their authors in the 20th- and 21st-century Russian literature.
- 17) Which Russian authors of all times are – due to your opinion - widely read in the world?
- 18) How many works of Russian writers did you read (either in original or in translations)?
- 19) Name some of the 19th-, 20th- and 21st-century Russian „thick journals“.
- 20) Which translators of Russian literature in your countries do you know?