

**J.M.S. COLLEGE, MUNGER**  
(A Constituent Unit under Munger University, Munger)  
*Department of English*  
**B.A. Part-III, English (Hons.)- Paper-V**

**Multiple Choice Questions (with Answers in Italicized Text) on T. S. Eliot's 'Tradition and the Individual Talent'**

1. Which essay/ article/ book by T S Eliot is considered the “unofficial manifesto” of his criticism?

- a) *“Tradition and the Individual Talent”*
- b) The Use of Poetry and the Use of Criticism
- c) “The Metaphysical Poets”
- d) “The Function of Criticism”

2. By referring to the term ‘Historical Sense’ Eliot wants to convey a perception of \_\_\_\_\_

- a) *pastness of the past and presence*
- b) reading of Homer and Virgil,
- c) Idea of inheritance,
- d) None of the above

3. Eliot believes that in our appreciation of authors, we miss the connection with \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) great artist of his time
- b) Greek authors
- c) *dead poets*
- d) Elizabethan Poets

4. “Honest Criticism and sensitive appreciation are directed not upon the poet but upon the poetry”. This means:

- a) Only a poet can make honest criticism and sensitive appreciation of his own poetry.
- b) Sincere criticism has to focus on the poet’s personality which would in turn lead him to neglect his poetic contribution.
- c) *The focus of literary criticism has to shift from author to the text. The poet is not supposed to compose poetry which is full of his personal emotions.*
- d) None of the above

5. Eliot’s attention shifts in the second section from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) *Tradition, individual talent*
- b) The author, the text

- c) Individual talent, tradition
- d) The text, author

**6. According to Eliot the emotion of art is \_\_\_\_\_.**

- a) *Impersonal*
- b) Personal
- c) Inaccurate
- d) Spontaneous

**7. T. S. Eliot defines poetry as .....**

- a) "The spontaneous overflow of powerful feeling: it takes its origins from emotion recollected in tranquility.
- b) "*Not a turning loose of emotion, but an escape from emotion; it is not the expression of personality, but an escape from personality.*"
- c) "A metrical composition which is a blissful blend of emotions and intellect.
- d) None of the above

**8. In the essay "Tradition and the Individual Talent", Eliot compares the mind of a poet to \_\_\_\_\_**

- a) A receptacle
- b) A fountain
- c) *A catalyst*
- d) Sulphurous acid

**9. In this essay, Eliot argues that the progress of an artist consists of \_\_\_\_\_**

- a) "continual expansion of the personality and its diverse elements"
- b) "*continual self-sacrifice, a continual extinction of personality*"
- c) "continual transformation of the personality"
- d) "continual identification with the past"

**10. Eliot's contemporaries criticize his concept of 'Tradition and Individual Talent' as \_\_\_\_\_.**

- a) irrelevant, conservative and backward
- b) *in connection with Wordsworthian Romanticism*
- c) comprehensive and epitomic
- d) none of the above

**Compiled by:**  
*Atanu Kr Paul*  
*Asst. Professor,*  
*Dept. of English,*  
*J.M.S. College, Munger*