

# Topics for the final state examination

## Bachelor's degree studies

(Anglický jazyk se zaměřením na vzdělávání)

To pass the state examination successfully, students are expected to demonstrate a sufficient knowledge of each of the disciplines, i.e. linguistics and literature and background studies.

### Linguistics

- **General requirements:**

Students are supposed to prove that they have mastered the following linguistic disciplines: **phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax** and **lexicology**. Their knowledge will be examined in the discussion based on a short extract of an English text. One topic of each linguistic discipline will be discussed in detail.

- **Topics for the analysis of an English text:**

- 1) English phonological system in comparison with Czech, namely the system of English phonemes, stress (word and sentence stress), rhythm (strong and weak forms of grammar words).
- 2) Features of connected speech (rhythm, assimilation, elision, and linking (liaison)).
- 3) Intonation (definition, intonation functions, tone unit, and tones).
- 4) Types of morphemes, allomorphs, words, word classes (open and closed), suffixes typical for different word classes. Conversion. Affixes and their impact on word stress. Pronunciation and spelling of inflectional suffixes (-ed, -s/-es, -ing, 's).
- 5) The usage of articles with common and proper nouns (rules and exceptions).
- 6) The grammatical categories of number and countability in English nouns. Pronunciation and spelling of plural suffix and irregularities in forming plural (suppletives).
- 7) The grammatical categories of gender and case in English (in comparison with Czech). Pronunciation and spelling of the possessive genitive.
- 8) Pronouns, their types and function. Pronunciation of pronouns in different syntactic functions.
- 9) Adjectives, adverbs, numerals.
- 10) The grammatical category of voice in English and Czech, reflexive verbs.
- 11) Auxiliary verbs and their functions in the verb phrase, especially in connection with the grammatical category of aspect. Pronunciation of auxiliary verbs.
- 12) Mood and modality.
- 13) Non-finite verb forms, their structure, syntactic functions and grammatical categories.
- 14) Sentence elements, their relations, differences between simple and composite sentence, main and subordinate clause. Sentence stress.
- 15) Syntactic classification of English verbs and their complementation.
- 16) Complex noun phrase and its components.
- 17) Lexico-grammatical category of negation in English and Czech. Negation in relation to pronunciation. Pronunciation and spelling of contracted verb forms.
- 18) Simple sentence types, inversion, ellipsis. Intonation patterns in relation to intonation functions.
- 19) Compound and complex sentence, relations between clauses, the function of coordinators and subordinators.
- 20) Subordinate clauses (types and structure).

- 21) English equivalents of Czech one-element verbal and verbo-nominal sentences.
- 22) Sentence condensation in English (in comparison with Czech), rules and usage.
- 23) Functional sentence perspective and its influence on sentence structure in English and Czech. Sentence stress and functions of English intonation.
- 24) Constructions for highlighting sentence elements and the function of sentence stress.
- 25) Grammatical and lexical meaning, denotation and connotation. Lexical relations – collocations, synonyms, antonyms, polysemy, hyponymy, hyperonymy, meronymy. Homonyms, minimal pairs.
- 26) Layers in the lexicon - territorial, social and stylistic differences. Register.
- 27) Word formation processes. Word stress of newly created words (mainly in compounds and derived words). Pronunciation of vowels in stressed and unstressed syllables.
- 28) The origin of words - historical overview, lexical borrowings, their spelling and pronunciation. Modern development - political correctness, language and gender.

### Recommended study materials:

- BERK, L. M. *English Syntax*. Oxford: OUP, 1999.
- BIBER, D., CONRAD, S. and G. LEECH. *Student Grammar of Spoken and Written English*. Harlow: Longman, 2006.
- BIBER, D. et al. *Longman Grammar of Spoken and Written English*. London: Pearson Education Ltd., 2000.
- BROWN, K. and J. MILLER. *Syntax*. London: Routledge 1991.
- CARTER, R. and M. McCARTHY. *Cambridge Grammar of English*. Cambridge: CUP, 2006.
- CHALKER, S. *A Student's English Grammar Workbook*. Harlow: Longman, 2005.
- CRUSE, D. A. *Lexical Semantics*. Cambridge: CUP, 1986.
- DUŠKOVÁ, L. a kol. *Mluvnice současné angličtiny na pozadí češtiny*. Praha: Academia, 1994.
- GREENBAUM, S. *An Introduction to English Grammar*. Harlow: Longman, 1991.
- GREENBAUM, S. and R. QUIRK. *A Student's Grammar of the English Language*. Harlow: Longman, 1990.
- HALLIDAY, M.A.K. and C. YALLOP. *Lexicology. A Short Introduction*. London and New York, Continuum, 2007.
- HORNOVÁ, L. *Referenční slovník gramatických termínů*. Olomouc: Univerzita Palackého, 2003.
- HUDDLESTON, R. and G. K. PULLUM. *A Student's Introduction to English Grammar*. Cambridge: CUP, 2005.
- JACKSON, H. and E. Z. AMVELA. *Words, Meaning and Vocabulary. An Introduction to Modern English Lexicology*. London and New York: Continuum, 2007.
- MACLIN, A. *Reference Guide to English*. USIA edition 1994.
- PEPRNÍK, J. *English Lexicology*. Olomouc: Univerzita Palackého, 1992.
- ROACH, P. *English Phonetics and Phonology*. Cambridge: CUP, 2000.
- ŠTEKAUER, P. (ed.) *Rudiments of English Linguistics*. Prešov: Slovacontact, 2000.
- THOMSON, A.J. and A. V. MARTINET. *A Practical English Grammar*. Oxford: OUP, 1986.
- VOLÍN, J. *IPA-based Transcription for Czech Students of English*. Praha: Karolinum, 2003.
- WELLS, J. C. *Longman Pronunciation Dictionary*. Harlow: Pearson Education Ltd., 2008.

## Literature and background studies

### General requirements:

- General knowledge of British and American literature

Students must submit a **reading list** of minimally **30 titles** (novels, **collections** of short stories and poetry - that is not just the obligatory reading for the seminars).

Students are expected to say a few words about the historical period in question, and then focus on main literary styles and key writers of the period. Students should be able to show deeper understanding of the topics covered in the literature and history courses through their interpretation of literary works of the period, mainly based on their reading. Each topic should be represented minimally by one title on students' reading list.

- **Topics:**

### *British literature and cultural studies*

- 1) Old English and Middle English literature in historical perspective
- 2) Elizabethan prose and poetry, life in the Elizabethan era
- 3) Elizabethan drama – its representatives and historical background
- 4) The Stuarts, the Republican Era and Restoration – metaphysical poetry, John Milton, restoration poetry and drama
- 5) 18th century Britain and her literature – the age of reason, poetry and the development of the novel
- 6) British romanticism, its representatives and historical background
- 7) Victorian era, its values, problems and literature
- 8) Literature at the turn of the 19th and 20th century in historical context
- 9) British modernism and Britain at the beginning of the 20th century
- 10) Irish literature and the Irish question
- 11) Britain between the Wars and her literature
- 12) Post-war Britain and the Angry Young Men, changes in Britain after WWII
- 13) Contemporary British fiction in historical context, postmodern literature
- 14) 20th and 21st century British drama

## ***American literature and cultural studies***

- 1) Puritanism and colonial America, political writings until 1789 and the first years of the Republic
- 2) American romanticism in historical context
- 3) Transcendentalism in historical context
- 4) 19<sup>th</sup> century American poetry
- 5) Regional and national voices after the Civil War, realism and naturalism. The reasons for the Civil War, the Reconstruction and its failure
- 6) Modernism and the Lost Generation in historical context
- 7) The development of American poetry in the 20th century, the Beat Generation in historical context
- 8) African-American identity and its roots, the development of African-American literature
- 9) Jewish-American writers and waves of immigration from Europe to the USA
- 10) Ethnic minorities and their literatures
- 11) Literature and war
- 12) Postmodernism in American fiction
- 13) American drama
- 14) Contemporary American writers in historical context

### **Recommended study materials:**

- AXELROD, A. *American History*. Indianapolis: Macmillan USA, Ltd., 2000.
- BARNARD, R. *Stručné dějiny anglické literatury*. Praha: Brána, 1997.
- BASSNETT, S. (ed.) *Studying British Cultures*. London: Routledge, 2003.
- BAYM, N. et al. (eds.) *The Norton Anthology of American Literature*. New York, London: W.W. Norton & Company, 2012.
- BIGSBY, C. *The Cambridge Companion to Modern American Culture*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006.
- BRADBURY, M. and R. RULAND. *Od puritanismu k postmodernismu*. Praha: Mladá fronta, 1997.
- BREIDLID, A. et al. (ed.) *American Culture: An Anthology*. 2nd. Ed. New York, London: Routledge, 2008.
- BRODEY, K. *History of England*. Milan: La Spiga languages, 1998.
- BRODEY, K. *History of the United States*. Milan: La Spiga languages, 1996.
- BURGESS, A. *English Literature*. Harlow: Longman, 1991.
- CAMPBELL, N. and A. KEAN. *American Cultural Studies: An Introduction to American Culture*. New York: Routledge, 2006.

- CROWTHER, J. *Oxford Guide to British and American Culture (New Edition)*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2005.
- GEYH, P., LEEBRON, G. and A. LEVY. (eds.) *Postmodern American Fiction. A Norton Anthology*. New York, London: W. W. Norton and Company, 1998.
- GUERIN, WILFRED L. et. al. *A Handbook of Critical Approaches to Literature*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2011.
- HIGGINS, M. et al. (ed.) *The Cambridge Companion to Modern British Culture*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010.
- HIGH, P.B. *An Outline of American Literature*. London a New York: Longman, 1993.
- HILSKÝ, M. and L. NAGY. *Proměny britské prózy*. Brno: Host, 2002.
- HILSKÝ, M. (ed.) *Od Poea k postmodernismu*. Praha: Odeon, 1994.
- HOOVER, P. (ed.) *Postmodern American Poetry: A Norton Anthology*. New York, London: W. W. Norton and Company, 1994.
- MAYS, K. J. (ed.) *The Norton Introduction to Literature*. New York, London: W. W. Norton and Company, 2013.
- McDOWALL, D. *An Illustrated History of Britain*. Harlow: Longman, 2007.
- MORGAN, K. O. *The Oxford Illustrated History of Britain*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2009.
- MORTIMER, I. *The Time Traveller's Guide to Medieval England: A Handbook for Visitors to the Fourteenth Century*. London: Vintage, 2009.
- MORTIMER, I. *The Time Traveller's Guide to Elizabethan England*. London: Vintage, 2013.
- O'CALLAGHAN, B. *An Illustrated History of the USA*. Harlow: Longman, 2007.
- O'DONNELL, P. *The American Novel Now: Reading Contemporary American Fiction Since 1980*. Chichester: Wiley-Blackwell, 2010.
- PECK, A. and E. PECK. *Americká literatura*. Dubicko: Infoa, 2002.
- PROCHÁZKA, M. a kol. *Lectures on American Literature*. Praha: Karolinum, 2002.
- THORNLEY, C. G. *An Outline of English Literature*. London: Longman, 1993.
- VANSPACKEREN, K. *Outline of American Literature*. New York: A. J. Cornell Publications, 2010.
- VODIČKOVÁ, M. *How to Read and Study Literature*. Olomouc: UP, 2006.