# МІНІСТЕРСТВО ОСВІТИ І НАУКИ УКРАЇНИ СХІДНОУКРАЇНСЬКИЙ НАЦІОНАЛЬНИЙ УНІВЕРСИТЕТ імені ВОЛОДИМИРА ДАЛЯ

# МЕТОДИЧНІ ВКАЗІВКИ

до практичних занять з дисципліни «ЛІТЕРАТУРА КРАЇН, МОВА ЯКИХ ВИВЧАЄТЬСЯ» для здобувачів вищої освіти спеціальності 035 «Філологія» (Електронне видання)

ЗАТВЕРДЖЕНО

на засіданні кафедри германо-романської філології та перекладу Протокол №12 від 24.06.2021 р.

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Методичні вказівки до практичних занять з дисципліни «Література країн,

мова яких вивчається» (для здобувачів вищої освіти спеціальності 035

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Запропоновані методичні вказівки спрямовані на надання допомоги

здобувачам вищої освіти у підготовці до практичних занять з дисципліни

«Література країн, мова яких вивчається». В методичних вказівках надано теми та

плани практичних занять, а також рекомендації щодо підготовки доповідей з

окремих питань.

Методичні матеріали розраховані на здобувачів вищої освіти філологічних

спеціальностей.

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## Вступ

Запропоновані методичні вказівки розроблено відповідно до освітньої програми спеціальності 035 «Філологія» та навчальної програми з дисципліни «Література країн, мова яких вивчається» для І курсу спеціалізації 035.041 «Германські мови та літератури (переклад включно), перша — англійська».

В дане методичне видання входять плани практичних занять за темами курсу «Література країн, мова яких вивчається».

Мета викладання даної навчальної дисципліни — дати здобувачам вищої освіти якомога повне уявлення про те, як складалася англійська та американська література протягом свого історичного розвитку, як жанри формувалися у цей період і які жанри набули популярності у теперишній час, і як вони впливали й впливають на формування моралі та культури. Здобувачі мають можливість ознайомитися з особливостями історико-літературного процесу Великої Британії і США, з творами і творчістью англійських та американських письменників згідно з вимогами програми для здобувачів першого курсу спеціальності «Філологія» спеціалізації «Германські мови та літератури (переклад включно), перша — англійська».

Мета проведення практичних занять — закріпити у здобувачів теоретичні знання; виробити у них стійкі й усвідомлені практичні навички літературно-критичного аналізу, реферування науково-критичної літератури, а також навички літературно-критичного мислення в рамках програмних проблем та питань.

Мета виконання самостійної роботи — формувати навички самостійного здобуття знань, уміння працювати з довідковою літературою, самостійно аналізувати творчість письменників, коротко, логічно подавати свої думки в письмовому вигляді.

# Завдання дисципліни:

– ознайомити здобувачів з особливостями історико-літературного процесу Великої Британії і США, а також з творами і творчістю сучасних англійських та американських письменників і поетів;

- розвивати гнучкі стратегії читання як мовленнєвого уміння за рахунок формування усіх його видів;
- усвідомлювати природу різних жанрів літературної творчості, спільне і своєрідне в змінах культурних традицій та літературних стилів;
  - розвивати перекладацьку компетенцію;
  - навчити майбутніх філологів аналізувати явища художньої літератури,
- розвивати когнітивні здібності, здатність до самостійного пошуку і засвоєння нового матеріалу;
- формувати позитивне відношення до вивчення сучасної літератури, а відповідно культури Англії і США.

Мета методичних матеріалів — зорієнтувати здобувачів на самостійне поглиблене вивчення окремих питань курсу та підготовки доповідей. Видання призначене для студентів І курсу, що навчаються за спеціалізацією 035.041 «Германські мови та літератури (переклад включно), перша — англійська». Збірка містить вісім планів практичних занять згідно з темами курсу «Література країн, мова яких вивчається» для даної спеціалізації. Щодо кожного питання подано невеликий коментар з рекомендаціями щодо підготовки доповіді по ньому.

Теми лекцій з даної дисципліни наступні:

- Лекція №1. Давня та середньовічна англійська література
- Лекція №2. Література Англії від доби Відродження до англійської революції
- Лекція №3. Література Англії від XVII до 30-х років XX століття
- Лекція №4. Література Англії XX століття
- Лекція №5. Американська пуританська та колоніальна література
- Лекція №6. Американська література XVIII-XIX століть
- Лекція №7. Література США XX століття
- Лекція №8. Сучасна література США

Згідно з вимогами освітньої програми, здобувачі вищої освіти спеціалізації 035.041 «Германські мови та літератури (переклад включно), перша — англійська» по закінченні курсу «Література країн, мова яких вивчається» повинні знати:

- особливості історико-літературного процесу Великої Британії і США;
   творів і творчості англійських та американських письменників і поетів;
- особливості лексичних засобів сучасної англійської мови, їх функціонування, стилістичних явищ, що використовуються в художньому стилі;

### вміти:

- робити аналіз, порівнювати та виділяти головні особливості художньої літератури;
- користуватися засвоєними знаннями про англійську мову для розуміння оригінальних текстів за тематикою, що вивчається;
- застосовувати знання про мову (українську та англійську) у практичній діяльності для виконання усного та письмового перекладів.

Дисципліна «Література країн, мова яких вивчається» пов'язана з наступними дисциплінами, що викладаються в першому семестрі І курсу навчання за даною спеціалізацією: «Практичний курс основної іноземної мови», «Вступ до перекладознавства» та «Вступ до мовознавства».

За повністю виконані завдання здобувач вищої освіти може отримати визначену кількість балів:

Інструменти і завдання	Кількість
	балів
Присутність на лекціях і праткичних заняттях	10
Участь в обговоренні	10
Доповіді на практичних заняттях	50
Залік	30
Разом	100

#### ПЛАН

1. The poem "Beowulf". A short overview

Here you are asked to provide a short summary of the plot of the Old English poem.

- 2. The characteristic features of Old English poetry. Kennings
- a) "The Wanderer"
- b) "The Seafarer"

Those two Old English poems are similar in their topic. Consider the possible causes of the hero's journey (they are hinted at in the verses themselves, just pay attention). Also pay attention to kennings (first of all, look up the meaning of those and how they are implemented, because they are not used in modern poetry). Kennings are very important for understanding of Old Norse and Old English poetry.

3. An Anglo-Norman Chivalric romance. General characteristics

Here you are asked to name the general characteristics of an Anglo-Norman chivalric (knightly) romance (romance – an "ancestor" of a later novel).

4. Literature of the XIVth century. G. Chaucer "Canterbury Tales"

Here you have to research the works of Geoffrey Chaucer and his main work "Canterbury Tales". Consider the language in which it was written and it's complex composition, the themes of the stories provided by the piligrims.

- 5. The early Renaissance Era:
- a) Ph. Sidney "Astrophel and Stella"

Phillip Sidney was one of the major early Renaissance English writers. Here you can provide a little of the poet's biography. Pay close attention to the plot and structure of the poem "Astrophel and Stella".

b) Ch. Marlowe "Doctor Faustus"

Christopher Marlowe – one of the contemporaries of W. Shakespeare. He is the author of numerous plays but one of his most famous is "Doctor Faustus". Consider the foundation of the plot of this play (earlier legends and works about Doctor Faustus).

c) Th. Moore "Utopia"

Thomas Moore's "Utopia" gave a name to a whole genre of like works – utopias. Consider the plot of the work. What are the most recognizable characteristics of the genre present in the original "Utopia". What kind of influence it had had on later literary life?

- 6. Renaissance Era. W. Shakespeare and his plays:
- a) "King Lear"
- b) "Romeo and Juliet"
- c) "Macbeth"
- d) "Othello"

Looking at these plays (preferably separately), consider the ideas and plots of each one.

e) Shakespeare's sonnets. Short thematic overview

Here you are asked to provide a short overview of major themes in Shakespeare's sonnets (there are several).

- 7. English Revolution period literature (XVIIth cen.). John Milton "Paradise Lost":
- a) Biblical symbolism of the poem

What biblical symbols and images are used in the poem and in what way they are similar or different to the original (Bible)?

b) Plot and composition of the poem

Consider the plot and composition of the poem (a short overview of both is in order).

### ПЛАН

- 1. Edmund Spenser and his poem "The Faerie Queene":
- a) The notion of allegory. The allegoric nature of the poem

What is allegory? How is it implemented in the poem and what is its significance for the plot?

b) The notion of Spenserian stanza

What is Spenserian Stanza?

- 2. The poetry of John Donne:
- a) J. Donne as the father of the "metaphysical school" of poetry

What is metaphysical poetry? What are its characteristics? Who were the other poets of this school?

b) "A Valediction Forbidding Mourning" -the most outstanding example of metaphysical poetry

Analyze this J. Donne's verse.

3. "Euphues" by J. Lyly

What was so special about "Euphues" by J. Lyly? Why did it spawn so many replicas, follow-ups and variations?

4. Francis Bacon's Essays

Consider some of the essays by Francis Bacon.

5. Henry Fielding "The History of Tom Jones, a Foundling"

Henry Fielding – one of the first true masters of the novel in English literature. Consider the plot of "The History of Tom Jones, a Foundling" and tell what motives and plot twists became a cliche for later writers.

- 6. Romantic poetry of William Blake:
- a) "London"
- b) "The Sick Rose"
- c) "The Tyger"

Consider these verses (separately or together). What their analysis can tell you about Blake's style and sensibilities?

- 7. The characteristics of Bernard Shaw's writing:
- a) A satirical play "Augustus Does His Bit"

"Augustus Does His Bit" is often overlooked as a play, but it's quite important for the understanding of Shaw's writing. Consider the plot and characters of the poem, its satirical and humorous nature.

b) The play "Pygmalion", its tragic nature and social acuteness

The play "Pygmalion" is a well know play. It was put on a screenplay several times. Consider the ideas of the play and give a sort of a social commentary to it. Why is it unacceptable to experiment on fellow human beings?

8. Adventures and realism in Daniel Defoe's "Robinson Crusoe"

Consider the backstory and prototypes of Robinson Crusoe. Robinson Crusoe was a very popular character back in its day as a symbol of human will to survive and the power of faith (both religious and belief in yourself). Does the novel still appeal to the modern reader?

9. "Gulliver's Travels" – a satirical novel by Jonathan Swift

Gulliver's Travels as a form of an intellectual dispute about the nature of society and the best possible order of this society. Consider the critical and satirical moments of the novel.

### ПЛАН

- 1. Prince of Paradox Oscar Wilde:
- a) O. Wilde as one of the founders of a Decadent movement in literature. Main characteristics of decadent philosophy

What is decadence? Describe O. Wilde's views on literature and beauty.

- b) "The Picture of Dorian Gray" as a manifesto of decadent movement and aestheticism "The Picture of Dorian Gray" is the only novel by O. Wilde and is a form of popularization of his philosophical views. Consider the characters of Dorian Gray, Basil Hallward and Lord Henry. Who is closer to the author's image of himself? Does Lord Henry practices what he preaches?
- c) The play"An Ideal Husband"

Consider the relationship of expectation and reality in the play. Should we idealize a person we love and what consequences such idealization can result in case he/she doesn't conform to our expectations?

- 2. English sentimentalism:
- a) Samuel Richardson "Clarissa, or the History of a Young Lady"

What is sentimentalism? Explain it on the example of this novel by Richardson (plot, style composition).

b) Laurence Sterne "Tristram Shandy"

This book is full both of mock solemnity and genuine humour. Describe the techniques the author uses to create those.

- 3. Sentimental realism: Charles Dickens:
- a) The novel "Great Expectations"
- b) The novel "Dombey & Son"
- c) The novel "Oliver Twist"

Why are the novels by Charles Dickens considered sentimental realism? How sentimentalism is realized in his characters and plots?

- 4. English historical novel: Sir Walter Scott:
- a) Historical novels about Medieval times: "Ivanhoe"

Consider the historical background of the novel. Are all historical characters faithfully depicted by the writer according to their real prototypes?

b) Historical novels about Scots: "Rob Roy"

How is Rob Roy's image in the novel different from that of a real Rob? What is similar between the Rob Roy as described in the novel and Robin Hood?

- 5. The Gothic novel:
- a) Ann Radcliffe's "The Mysteries of Udolpho"

What is a Gothic novel? What traits of a Gothic novel are present in Ann Radcliffe's "The Mysteries of Udolpho"? Is there really a supernatural cause behind the events described in the novel?

b) Emily Brontë "Wuthering Heights"

What are the topics of the novel? What is the relationship between the Thrushcross Grange and the Wuthering Heights?

c) Bram Stoker's "Dracula"

What is Stoker's most noteworthy achievement made by publishing this novel? Why Dracula became so popular?

- 6. English Romanticism: Robert Louis Stevenson:
- a) Historical novel"The Master of Ballantrae"

Consider the historical background of the novel. With whom of the two brothers you sympathize more? Why?

b) Adventure novel "Treasure Island"

Consider the plot of the novel, describe the main characters: Jim Hawkins, Long John Silver, Dr. David Livesey, Billy Bones, Ben Gunn etc. How does the novel reflect real pirates and piracy?

7. English short story. Saki (Hector Hugh Monroe) "The Open Window"

Describe the composition of the story. What is the plot's premise? What kind of effect is achieved throughout and at the end of the story?

- 8. James Joyce's writings:
- a) The "stream of consciousness" technique

What is the "stream of consciousness" technique? What are its characteristic features?

b) "Ulysses" by J. Joyce as one of the first examples of stream of consciousness technique usage

Explain, how the "stream of consciousness" technique is implemented in the novel.

### ПЛАН

- 1. Life and works of T. S. Eliot:
- a) T. Eliot's life

Give a short overview of the author's biography.

b) The Theory of Tradition by T. S. Eliot

Describe T. S. Elliot's ideas about the concept of literary tradition (for that, you may want to look up the "Tradition and Individual Talent", an article written by Elliot).

c) Dramatic works by T. Eliot

Mention and describe some of Elliot's dramatic works.

d) Main ideas and motives of "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock"

Describe main ideas and motives in the poem "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock". Is Alfred Prufrock a hero in a traditional sense? What is he afraid of? What is his biggest fear?

e) The search for resurrection in "The Waste Land"

What is the poem's relation to a Holy Grail legend of the Fisher King? What is the significance of its structure (five parts)?

f) The end of the world and death in the poem "The Hollow Men"

Who are the Hollow men? In what sense they are hollow?

- 2. Herbert Wells the founder of science fiction:
- a) The novel"Time Machine": the idea of time-travel

What worlds are described in the novel, which are reached by means of the Time Machine by the Time Traveller? What are the possible symbols in the novel?

b) The novel "The War of the Worlds": the contact of humanity with an alien civilization

How is the first contact described in the novel? Are the aliens benevolent or hostile towards humanity?

c) The novel "The Invisible Man": the idea of invisibility

Give a plot summary of the novel. What is the novel's legacy?

3. William Golding and his novel "Lord of the Flies":

a) Parodic character of the novel

What features can suggest that "Lord of the Flies" is a parody?

b) The struggle of civilization (intellect, humanism) vs barbarism in the novel

The struggle between civilization/culture and barbarity not only in the novel, but in the human nature as a whole is real. What characters symbolize both sides of this struggle?

4. Graham Greene "The Quiet American"

Describe the plot of the novel. What was teh novel's initial reception by the American public and how did it change throughout the years?

5. "Angry Young Men". J. Wain, J. Braine, J. Osborne:

Who were the "Angry Young Men"? What were their creative principles?

a) John Osborne's "Look Back in Anger"

What social issues are tackled in the play? Is it current for a modern reader?

- 6. Dystopian novels:
- a) Aldous Huxley "Brave New World"

Is the "Brave New World" a utopia or dystopia? Support your opinion by evidence from the text.

b) George Orwell "1984"

What is the genre of the novel? Is such a struggle, as described in the novel, necessary?

- 7. Works by J. R. R. Tolkien:
- a) Life and works of J. R. R. Tolkien

Give a short overview of Tolkien's life and works.

b) "The Lord of the Rings" trilogy by J. R. R. Tolkien

Describe the plot and motives of the trilogy. What is his stance on Christianity in the books?

c) A story "The Hobbit or There and Back Again"

What is the difference between "The Lord of the Rings" and "The Hobbit"? Can the latter be considered a prequel to the former?

d) Legendarium (A compendium of legends) "The Silmarillion"

Describe some of the most notable legends/moments from "The Silmarillion".

8. J. K. Rowling and the Harry Potter novels:

- a) A characteristic of main characters of this novel seriesProvide a characteristic for each major character of the novel series.
- b) Themes and motives of the novels about Harry Potter

  Describe themes and motives of the novels about Harry Potter.

## ПЛАН

- 1. The American puritan literature of XVII-XVIII centuries:
- a) the way of life and philosophy of American puritans (the Pilgrims)

Describe the way of life and Puritan beliefs of the era.

b) the view on America as the "New Jerusalem" ("A City upon a Hill", "New Eden")

Explain the prevailing view on America as the "New Jerusalem", held by Puritans.

- c) The Great Salem Witch Trials. The causes and course of the process
- Describe the causes and process of the Great Salem Witch Trials. Who was on trial and on what grounds?
- d) Cotton Mather "The Tryal of George Burrowghs at a court of Oyer and Terminer, Held in Salem, 1692"

Who was Cotton Mather? What was his role in the trial of George Burrowsghs and other Salem witch trials? **You can look up additional materials:** the original text of "The Tryal of George Burrowghs at a court of Oyer and Terminer, Held in Salem, 1692" via the

https://web.archive.org/web/20011211143823/http://www.ogram.org:80/17thc/mather\_g b.shtml

- 2. Ben Franklin a politician and an innovator:
- a) Franklin's autobiography

Why made Franklin write an autobiography? What major life milestones for Franklin can you name from this work?

b) "Poor Richard's Almanack"

What is the "Poor Richard's Almanack"? What relationship it had to Franklin? Provide some quotes from the Almanack.

3. Thomas Jefferson "Declaration of Independence"

Explain the importance of "Declaration of Independence" for the early America.

- 4. Washington Irving the very first American writer:
- a) A short story "Rip Van Winkle"

What "Rip van Winkle" can tell us about the life in Washington Irving's time? What is

the deeper meaning of Rip's dreaming?

b) A story "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow"

Describe the story's plot. What are the themes of the story?

- 5. American Romanticism:
- a) James Fenimore Cooper "The Last of the Mohicans"

Describe the plot of the novel. What is Natty Bumppo a symbol of? Why is his image so outstanding in the American literary tradition?

b) Harriet Beecher Stowe "Uncle Tom's Cabin"

Consider the plot of the novel. What are the major themes of the novel?

6. Native America and the Americans in the poems by Philip Freneau

How were the Native Americans and America itself reflected in Freneau's poetry? What is the main idea behind "The Wild Honeysuckle" by Ph. Freneau?

- 7. Mark Twain's satirical novels:
- a) "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer"

The novel is characterized by humour, satire and social criticism. How they are realized in the novel? What controversies are noted in the book by modern literary critics? Is such criticism fair?

b) "A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court"

In what way is "A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court" a satire on chivalry and romantic ideas about the life during the Middle Ages? Is Hank Morgan really so much better than the people of Medieval England?

- 8. Edgar Allan Poe The Master of Gothic tale:
- a) Short stories by E. A. Poe. Themes and the atmosphere

Describe themes and atmosphere of E. A. Poe's stories. What are the characteristics of Gothic prose by E. A. Poe?

b) Poems by E. A. Poe. "The Raven" and other poems

Analyze the imagery of the poem "The Raven" by E. A. Poe.

c) "Ligeia" – a novella by E. A. Poe

Describe the plot of the novella. What are its major themes?

9. Herman Melville "Moby-Dick or, The Whale"

Describe the plot and topics of the novel. What is the symbolism of Captain Ahab's life and death?

- 10. Henry David Thoreau a philosopher, a writer and a poet:
- a) H. D. Thoreau's philosophical ideas

What was H. D. Thoreau's philosophy? Describe his major philosophical ideas. What is "self-reliance"?

b) "Walden, or Life in the Woods"

Describe the premise and the plot of "Walden". How does the work reflect H. D. Thoreau's ideas on philosophy and self-reliance?

11. Henry W. Longfellow "The Song of Hiawatha"

Who was Hiawatha (in the poem and in reality)? Consider the historical and cultural background and veracity of the poem in general.

12. O. Henry's short stories."The Gift of the Magi"

Consider the plot of the short story. What is the moral behind "The Gift of the Magi"?

## ПЛАН

- 1. Jack London the first successful American writer
- a) "Martin Eden" and J. London's life

In what way this novel can be considered autobiographical? Provide evidence from the text.

b) A short story "The Law of Life"

Describe the plot and meaning of the short story. What is the Law of Life according to the story? Is it universal?

c) A short story "To Build a Fire"

Describe the plot and meaning of the short story. What is the symbolic meaning of fire in the story?

2. John Steinbeck "Of Mice and Men"

Describe the plot and the meaning of the novel. What are the themes explored here? Are there limitations to what a human can achieve?

- 3. The "Lost Generation" writers: E. Hemingway, J. D. Salinger, F. Scott Fitzgerald: What is the "Lost Generation"? What writers were included in it? What was different about their writing and life experience?
- a) E. Hemingway "A Farewell to Arms"

Describe the plot and the meaning of the novel. How is the novel connected with the biography of Hemingway himself? What is the significance of the novel's title?

- b) J. D. Salinger "The Catcher in the Rye"
- Is "The Catcher in the Rye" a coming-of-age novel? Can you personally relate to Holden?
- c) F. Scott Fitzgerald "The Great Gatsby" and "Tender is the Night"

Consider the historical background and the plot of the novels. In your opinion is Jay Gatsby a tragic character? If so, what is his tragedy?

4. Thomas Wolfe's "Look Homeward, Angel"

Consider the themes of the novel: alcoholism, domestic violence, bullying – and how they influence the plot. Can Eugene Gant be a literary impersonation of Thomas Wolfe himself? What details hint at this?

5. James Jones "From Here to Eternity"

Consider the historical background of the novel. What is the author's view on war?

6. Truman Capote's "Breakfast at Tiffany's"

Consider the novella's themes. What is Holly Golightly's idea of happiness?

- 7. American drama. A. Miller, T. Williams, Eu. O'Neill:
- a) Arthur Miller "Death of a Salesman"

Consider the play's themes. How does reality and illusion coexist in the play?

b) Tennessee Williams "A Streetcar Named Desire"

Why can the fate of Blanche DuBois be considered tragic? What is her relationship with Stanley Kowalski?

c) Eugene O'Neill "Desire Under the Elms"

What are the themes of the play? How desire led to tragedy in the play?

8. Howard Ph. Lovecraft. Characteristics of Lovecraftian horror:

Why Lovecraft and the number of other similar authors are traditionally called "weird"?

a) The cycle of short stories about Cthulhu and the other Old Ones

Who are the Old Ones? Are they good or evil? What is their relationship with humans? What is Lovecraftian horror?

b) Mystical poems by H. P. Lovecraft

Read and analyze one of H. P. Lovecraft's poems.

- 9. Robert I. Howard. Sword and Sorcery fantasy:
- a) Conan the Barbarian

Who is Conan? What are the reasons for Conan's success as a popular literary character?

b) Solomon Kaine

Who is Solomon Kaine? What are his adventures? How is he different from Conan and other Howard's characters?

10. American science fiction:

a) Ray Bradbury and "The Martian Chronicles"

Give a summary of the plot of "The Martian Chronicles". Consider its composition. What is a fix-up novel?

b) Isaac Asimov's "Foundation" series

Give an overview of Asimov's Foundation series plot. What is so special about these books?

c) Frank Herbert's "Dune"

Provide a summary of the plot for Herbert's "Dune". The "Dune" is considered to be one of the best science-fiction novels of all time. Do you support this opinion?

#### ПЛАН

- 1. The Beat Generation:
- a) Six Gallery reading (1955). "Howl" by A. Ginsberg

What is the Beat Generation? Why this verse has such a title?

b) J. Kerouac "On the Road"

What is the novel about? How does it correlate with the Beat philosophy?

2. W. Burroughs "Naked Lunch"

Describe the plot and meaning of the novel. What controversies surround the book to this day?

- 3. Ken Kesey the founder of a hippie movement in literature
- a) "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" a dystopian, satirical novel

What is the meaning of the Combine as a symbol in "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest"? Why do the characters fight it?

4. Philosophical novels by I. Murdoch. "Under the Net"

Describe the plot of the novel. Explain the meaning of the title.

5. Vladimir Nabokov's "Lolita"

Describe the plot of the novel. Dwell on the controversy caused by the book: is "Lolita" an erotic novel or a satire of the contemporary society?

6. Saul Bellow "Humboldt's Gift"

Describe the plot of the novel. Why Bellow named it "Humboldt's Gift"? What "gift" did Humboldt gave to Charlie Citrine? What is so special about Saul Bellow's variant of realism?

7. Mythical motives in American novels. J. Updike "The Centaur"

Describe the plot of the novel. What is the reason for J. Updike comparison of his characters to the ancient Greek gods?

8. Harper Lee "To Kill a Mockingbird"

Describe the plot of the novel. Racial injustice and class in the novel – how they are tackled?

8. Short stories by Raymond Carver:

a) "Dirty realism" as a literary trend

What is "dirty realism"? How are the "short shorts" by R. Carver different from the "traditional" short stories? Who are R. Carver's characters and what kind of life do they lead? Provide arguments.

b) A short story "A Small, Good Thing"

Describe the plot and meaning of the short story. What exactly is "a small, good thing" in the context of the short story?

c) A short story "Fat"

Describe the plot and meaning of the short story. What is the significance of the title?

9. Kurt Vonnegut "Slapstick"

Describe the plot and meaning of the novel. What are the views on religion, afterlife and social planning expressed in this book?

- 10. Horror and mystery novels. Stephen King's works:
- a) "The Shining"

Describe the plot and meaning of the novel. What are the symbols in the novel? In what ways does Jack fail?

b) "The Green Mile"

Describe the plot and meaning of the novel. What is the significance of the title? What is so special about one of the prisoners, John Coffey?

c) "Under the Dome"

Describe the plot and meaning of the novel. What does the town and the dome symbolize? Who is Big Jim? Is his type typical for America?

#### ПЛАН

1. "American Psycho" by Bret Easton Ellis

What is B. E. Ellis criticizing in his "American Psycho"? What do you think was the reason behind the threads sent to him?

2. "The Notebook" by Nicholas Sparks

Describe the plot and meaning of the novel. Why is it that Noah Calhoun can not be with Allie right from the start? Do you think Allie really loves Lon?

3. Chuck Palahniuk's "Fight Club"

What is the story behind the writing of the "Fight Club"? Why, do you think, this book is so loved by the readers?

- 4. Fables by Richard Bach:
- a) "Jonathan Livingston Seagull"

Why the author chose seagulls as characters for this novel? What's the moral of this fable (if any)? What do the different "levels of ascension" represent?

b) "Illusions. The Adventures of a Reluctant Messiah"

Consider the plot of the novel. How the Messiah is born? Is being a Messiah easy?

- 5. Alternative history in novels:
- a) Dan Brown "The Da Vinci Code"
- b) Dan Brown "Angels & Demons"

Consider the historical background and veracity of both novels. How are alternative history and alternative reality in those novels different from those of ours?

6. Determinism and Morality in Cormac McCarthy's "No Country for Old Men"

What is a western? What are its characteristic features? What are the principles of a modern cowboy in a western? Is "No Country For Old Men" a western in your opinion? What relationship is maintained between determinism and morality by different characters of the novel?

- 7. Contemporary American fantasy:
- a) Roger Zelazny's "The Chronicles of Amber"

Corwin, King Arthur and Wasteland Myths.

b) Andre Norton. The "Witch World" series

War, apocalyptic disasters, survival and hope in the "Witch World" series.

- c) Neil Gaiman's "Stardust" and "Coraline"
- d) George R. R. Martin "A Song of Ice and Fire"

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#### Навчальне видання

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## до практичних занять з дисципліни

## «ЛІТЕРАТУРА КРАЇН, МОВА ЯКИХ ВИВЧАЄТЬСЯ»

для здобувачів вищої освіти спеціальності 035 «Філологія»

(Електронне видання)

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