

MA State Exam in Didactics.

The exam will include:

1. **Discussion** of a theoretical issue in ELT methodology (see the list below).
2. **Practical task** to be designed impromptu.

A student will be given teaching materials (a text for reading or listening, a picture/pictures, song lyrics, etc.) and will have to suggest a set of activities that achieve a certain objective. For example: Consider the following picture and suggest some activities using it as a stimulus for oral work at A1 level.

3. **Discussion** of entries (dossier section) from the European Portfolio for Student Teachers of Languages (EPOSTL), linking the entries to particular 'can-do' descriptors.

Theoretical issues for discussion:

1. **The latest trends in EFL teaching** - Post-method era and basic principles of language learning and teaching.
2. **Common European Framework of References for Languages** - Curriculum for foreign language teaching in the Czech Republic.
3. **The course book** - Criteria for course book selection, evaluating course books and materials for classroom use, analyses of the textbooks adopted for teaching in the Czech Republic.
4. **Motivation in language learning** - Characteristics, types and sources and the components of motivational teaching practice.
5. **Portfolio as an instrument of assessment** - ELP: its functions and content and types of portfolios.
6. **Cross-curricular content in EFL** - Project work: characteristics and stages.
7. **Teaching listening** - Processes involved in listening comprehension, information sources in comprehension and characteristics of the spoken text.
8. **Teaching listening** - Taxonomy of listening skills, difficulties encountered in listening, pre/while/post-listening stages and their rationale.
9. **Oral communication skills in language teaching** - Teaching language as communication and views on micro- and macroskills of oral communication.
10. **Maximising speaking opportunities and facilitating autonomous language use** - Pictures as stimuli for speaking.
11. **Teaching reading in EFL classes** - Oral and silent reading - advantages and disadvantages, pre/while/after-reading stages and their rationale.
12. **Approaches to reading** - Intensive and extensive reading, skimming and scanning.

13. **Teaching writing** - Difference between written and spoken language, writing micro-skills, types of classroom writing performance.
14. **Assessing productive language skills** - Formative function of testing, evaluating various types of speaking performance, feedback on written performance and the importance of drafting.
15. **Assessing receptive language skills** - Techniques of checking the comprehension of oral and written discourse.
16. **Approaches and basic principles of grammar teaching** - A Cognitive + Communicative approach to grammar, principles and criteria for assessing grammar activities.
17. **Teaching lexis** - Ways of presenting new vocabulary (explanation and illustration of meaning) and types of activities.
18. **Goals, principles, and techniques of using music and poetry in the EFL classroom.**
19. **Technologies in EFL teaching** - classroom techniques in using multimedia, principles of creating e-learning materials and the importance of feedback.
20. **Authentic materials in EFL classes** - selection criteria, adjustment and use.

MA State Exam in Literature

1) The Renaissance in Poetry and Drama

- Shakespeare, Center of the Canon
- Shakespeare's Predecessors and Followers
- Studying and Playing Shakespeare Today
- Pastoral Poetry of E. Spencer
- Metaphysical Poetry and Its Most Influential Representatives

2) Romanticism in British and American Literature

- Recurrent Themes in Romantic Poetry and Fiction
- Main Differences between English and American Romanticism
- Lighter and Darker Tones in British. and American Romantic Poetry and Fiction
- American Transcendentalism

3) Realism in British and American Literature

- The Birth of Realism
- Realism and Naturalism in British and American Fiction
- Local Color and Regionalism in American Fiction

4) Modernism in the Works of British and American Literature

- Contribution of Early Modernists to Anglo-American Literature
- James Joyce and the Birth of Modern Myth
- Characteristic Features of V. Woolf's Style

- 5) The Dividing Lines in British and American Modern Poetry**
 - Dividing Lines in Modern British Poetry
 - From E.A. Poe to Walt Whitman
 - The Beat Generation Poets
 - The 20th Century American Poetry

- 6) The Theme of War in British and American literature**
 - The Great War Poets
 - World War I and II in British and American Literature
 - Metamorphoses of the War Hero

- 7) Multiculturalism and Post Colonialism in British and American literature**
 - Post Colonial Themes in British Literature
 - The Empire Writes Back
 - The Emergence of African American Fiction

- 8) American Jewish Literature and Reflections of Holocaust in Literature**
 - A Journey through the Main Themes of American Jewish Literature
 - Best Achievements of American Jewish Novelists
 - Holocaust trauma and literature

- 9) The Development of British and American Women's Writing**
 - Main Representatives of British Female Fiction
 - Feminist criticism and its representatives
 - American Female Fiction and its development

- 10) The 20th Century British and American Drama**
 - Roots of Modern Drama
 - From G.B. Shaw's Plays of Ideas to J. Osborne's "Look Back in Anger"
 - Theatre of the Absurd and its Representatives
 - Trends in Contemporary British and American Drama

MA State Exam in Linguistics

- 1) Theories of reference**
 - a) Folk semantics and the referential theory of meaning
 - b) Word meaning and categorization

- 2) Semantic categorization**
 - a) Object reference and Semantic features
 - b) Prototypes revisited

3) Features of verb semantics

- a) Lexical aspect and verb meaning
- b) Manner, motion and path

4) Linguistic paradigms: Shifts and challenges

- a) The Philosophy of language
- b) Morphological processing

5) Language and culture

- a) The neo-Whorfian model of semantics
- b) Anthropological linguistics

6) Language change

- a) Sound change: types and motivations
- b) Lexical change: borrowing and lexical loss

7) The linguistic study of texts

- a) Collocation studies in texts
- b) Coherence and cohesion

8) Linguistic stylistics

- a) Cognitive stylistic
- b) Conceptual Metaphor

9) Language in society

- a) Language and gender
- b) English world-wide
- c) Pidgin and Creole languages

10) Research methods in linguistics

- a) Questionnaire design & field research methods
- b) Quantitative data evaluation