

Essay Questions | Short Stories of Modernism

1. “Everything is the proper stuff of fiction.” Is there a new kind of subject matter for the Modernists? Discuss.
2. It’s all wrong what we are doing here. Discuss the end of literature with the help of E. M. Forster’s “The Celestial Omnibus”.
3. What place does imagination hold in modern life? Discuss Virginia Woolf’s “An Unwritten Novel”.
4. One of the main focuses of Modernist authors is the unconscious. Discuss one of the set texts under this perspective.
5. Are they our kind? How is the working class and its surroundings dealt with in one of the set texts?
6. Trace D. H. Lawrence deconstruction of the symbol of the chrysanthemum in his story.
7. Is James Joyce’s story “Dead” an Irish story?
8. Discuss the issue of weather in one or more of the set texts.
9. *L’art pour l’art*: Discuss beauty and exile in Oscar Wilde’s story “The Sphinx without a Secret”.
10. Can Katherine Mansfield’s story “The Garden Party” be understood as autobiographical writing?