

## Appendix 1

BISKRA UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

### STUDENTS QUESTIONNAIRE

#### **THE OVERALL OBJECTIVE OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE:**

This questionnaire is administered to 4<sup>th</sup> Year English department students at Biskra University. It is designed specifically to students who have accomplished four (4) full English literature semesters. It aims at giving us insights about the reading skills and strategies used by the students, if any are used, to serve a practical part for MA inquires in literature didactics at Biskra University. The study will centre on promoting students reading abilities in general and fostering their literary reading in particular.

#### **Section one: General information**

1. Age:

2. Sex: male  female

**3- In the secondary school, what was your stream?**

- a- Letters
- b- Sciences
- c- Mathematics
- d- Others...

**4- Studying English at university was:**

- a- A personal choice
- b- An imposed choice

**SECTION TWO: READING COMPREHENSION SKILLS AND STRATEGIES**

**5. Which of the following activities do you often do in your free time?**

- **Please grade them in terms of frequency from 1 to 4**

- 1- Listen to English songs, debates, conversations, conferences...
- 2- Speak English with your friends as much as possible.
- 3- Read articles, textbooks, magazines, stories...
- 4- Write letters, essays, poems ...

**6. Is reading to you?**

- a- An enjoyable inclination
- b- A task done just when necessary
- c- A hard and boring task

**7. Do you have any idea about the following terms: scanning, skimming, intensive reading and extensive reading?**

- a- yes
- b- very superficial idea
- c- no idea at all
- d- Or underline only the items that you know and define them.

- Define each one you know:

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**8. Have you ever used any of the techniques below when reading a text?**

**Survey/ recite/ review**

- a- yes
- b- not very often
- c- never

**9. To get a specific information from a text, do you usually?**

- a- read the whole text continuously
- b- go quickly through the text to get the information required
- c- use previous information in mind and hints.

### **SECTION THREE: LITERARY READING**

**10. When you read texts which kind of text do you find challenging and harsh?**

- a- a technical text
- b- a scientific text
- c- a literary text

- **Could you say why?**

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**11. What skill(s) do you think has to be reinforced to help you better assimilate literary texts?**

- a- listening
- b- speaking
- c- reading
- d- writing

**12. What difficulties do you face when reading a literary text?**

- a- vocabulary and new words
- b- figurative language: simile, metaphor ...
- c- colloquial English: informal English

**13. Do you think that reading literary texts help you:**

- a- improve your language capacities
- b- enlarge your knowledge about English culture
- c- appreciate and enjoy the beauty of language and literature

**14. Which of the following genres do you think require more reading texts?**

- a- prose
- b- poetry
- c- drama

**15. Do you agree if a session reserved for reading is recommended in English literature course?**

- a- strongly agree
- b- agree
- c- disagree

#### **SECTION FOUR: LITERARY READING SKILLS AND STRATEGIES**

**16. Do you prefer literary texts (extracts) assigned with tasks and activities?**

- a- yes
- b- no

**17. Do you prefer full novels, short stories and plays assigned with tasks and activities?**

a- yes

b- no

**18. When your teachers assign some literary texts (passages and extracts) to be read and prepared. Do you?**

a- often understand them

c- hardly understand them

d- never understand them

**19. When you read a literary text do you usually look for?**

a- new words and expressions

b- new information and facts.

c- facts and evaluate the author's  
views regarding the general context

**20. When you read a literary text do you try to**

a- understand each word?

b- understand general ideas

c- interact with the author's world

**21. When you do not understand a word in a literary text, do you?**

- a- look it up in the dictionary
- b- try to guess its meaning from the context
- c- translate it into Arabic or French

**22. Do you read literary texts in languages other than English?**

- a- yes
- b- I have tried
- c- never

**SECTION FIVE: READING AND COURSE PROGRESS**

**23. After four (4) semesters of studying literature at university, are you?**

- a- Satisfied with the progress of the module
- b- Dissatisfied //
- c- Very dissatisfied //

**24. Do you think that the weekly time allotted to literature course (3 hours in the second year and 4 hours and half in the 3<sup>rd</sup> year) is enough to cope with the great reading material of literature?**

- a- yes
- b- no



**25. Do you prefer to take literature course in:**

a- sections

b- groups

**26. Most of you will be destined to teaching English at schools. Do you think that English literature material (texts and whole works) is?**

a- very important

b- important

c- not important

**27. Do you have any suggestions to improve the rate of reading in English literature course?**

a.....

b.....

c.....

**NB:** Throughout the questionnaire more than one choice for each item is possible

**Thanking you for help and cooperation in advance**