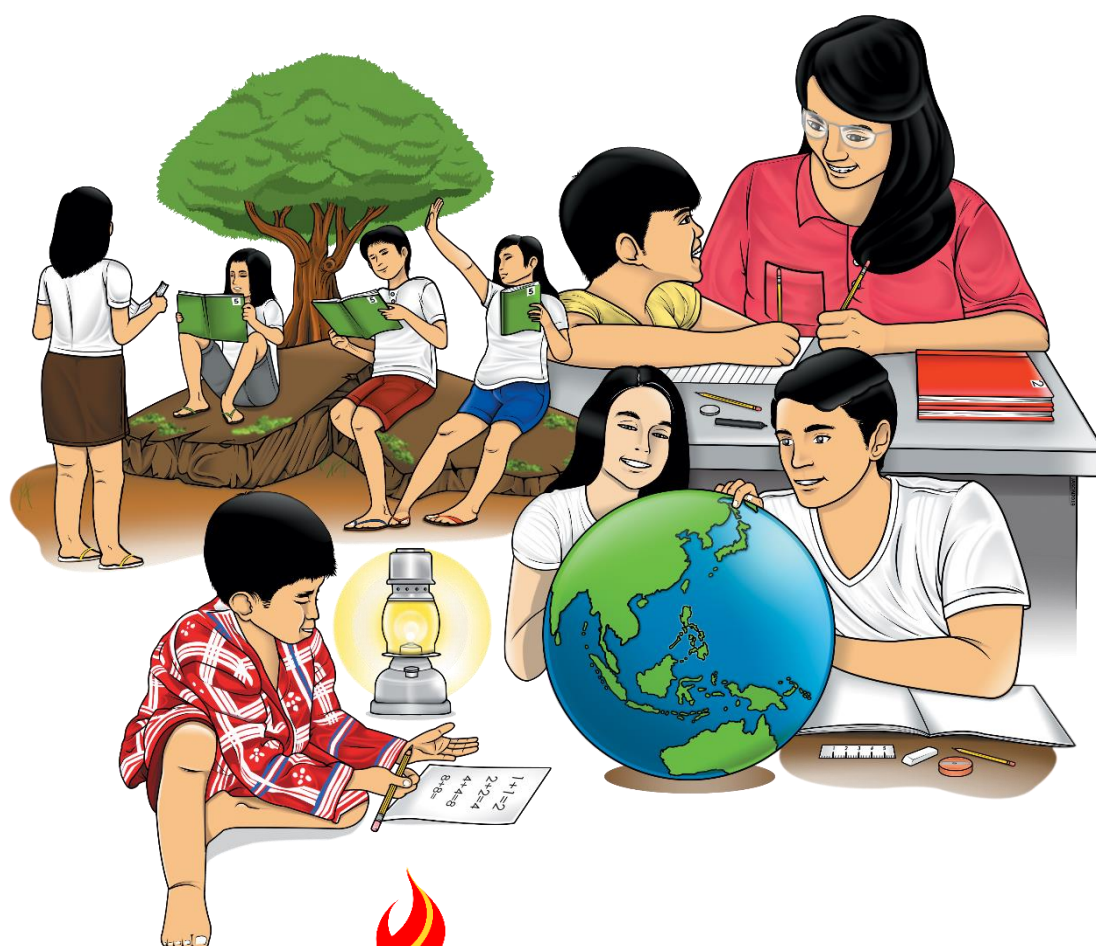


21st Century Literature from the Philippines and the World

Quarter 1 – Module 2: Historical Overview of Philippine Literature: Pre-colonial Period



21st Century Literature from the Philippines and the World– Grade 12

Alternative Delivery Mode

Quarter 1 – Module 2: Historical Overview of Philippine Literature: Pre-colonial Period
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21st Century Literature from the Philippines and the World

**Quarter 1 – Module 2:
Historical Overview of Philippine
Literature: Pre-colonial Period**

Introductory Message

This Self-Learning Module (SLM) is prepared so that you, our dear learners, can continue your studies and learn while at home. Activities, questions, directions, exercises, and discussions are carefully stated for you to understand each lesson.

Each SLM is composed of different parts. Each part shall guide you step-by-step as you discover and understand the lesson prepared for you.

Pre-tests are provided to measure your prior knowledge on lessons in each SLM. This will tell you if you need to proceed on completing this module or if you need to ask your facilitator or your teacher's assistance for better understanding of the lesson. At the end of each module, you need to answer the post-test to self-check your learning. Answer keys are provided for each activity and test. We trust that you will be honest in using these.

In addition to the material in the main text, Notes to the Teacher are also provided to our facilitators and parents for strategies and reminders on how they can best help you on your home-based learning.

Please use this module with care. Do not put unnecessary marks on any part of this SLM. Use a separate sheet of paper in answering the exercises and tests. And read the instructions carefully before performing each task.

If you have any questions in using this SLM or any difficulty in answering the tasks in this module, do not hesitate to consult your teacher or facilitator.

Thank you.



What I Need to Know

In general, this module aims to encourage the learners to appreciate and critically study the various dimensions, genres, elements, structures, contexts, and traditions of the 21st Century Literature from the Philippines. Moreover, the learners are expected to show understanding and appreciation of 21st Century Philippine literature from the regions by writing a close analysis and critical interpretation of literary texts and by doing an adaptation using various multimedia platforms. Specifically, Module 2 focuses on literature during pre-colonial period.

The module covers only one topic, that is:

- Lesson 1 – Philippine Literature during Pre-colonial Period

After going through this module, you are expected to:

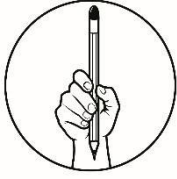
MELC:

Write a close analysis and critical interpretation of literary texts and doing an adaptation of these require from the learner the ability to identify:
(EN12Lit-Ib)

the geographic, linguistic, and ethnic dimensions of Philippine literary history from pre-colonial to the contemporary
representative texts and authors from each region (e.g. engage in oral history research with focus on key personalities from the students' region/province/town)

Compare and contrast the various 21st century literary genres and the ones from the earlier genres/periods citing their elements, structures and traditions (EN12Lit-Id-25)

1. identify the geographic, linguistic, and ethnic dimensions of Philippine literary history in the pre-colonial era;
2. differentiate/compare and contrast the various 21st century literary genres and the ones from the earlier genres/periods citing their elements, structures and traditions;
3. determine representative texts and authors during this period through oral history research; and
4. situate selected texts in the current context to enrich understanding.



What I Know

Choose the letter of the best answer. Write your answer on a separate sheet of paper.

1. What does refer to the old system of writing that existed during the pre-colonial period?
 - A. Alibata
 - B. Ancient Transcript
 - C. Baybayin
 - D. Orik
2. What spiritual tradition is dominant among early Filipinos?
 - A. Animism
 - B. Buddhism
 - C. Christianity
 - D. Islam
3. Which form of literature does **NOT** exist during the pre-colonial period?
 - A. Drama
 - B. Myth
 - C. Riddle
 - D. Song
4. What type of pre-colonial literature is this: "*Ang taong hindi marunong lumingon sa pinanggalingan, kailanma'y hindi makararating sa paroroonan*"?
 - A. Kasabihan
 - B. Kawikaan
 - C. Salawikain
 - D. Sawikain
5. Which among the ancient literary titles is an example of myth?
 - A. Biag ni Lam-ang
 - B. Ibalon
 - C. The Cycle of the Sun and the Moon
 - D. The Prowess of Aliguyon
6. Which religion does **NOT** exist during the pre-colonial period?
 - A. Buddhism
 - B. Catholicism
 - C. Hinduism
 - D. Protestantism

7. Which type of pre-colonial literature is still prevalent today?
 - A. Chant
 - B. Essay
 - C. Kundiman
 - D. Proverbs
8. Which literary theme is often present in pre-colonial literature?
 - A. Christian faith
 - B. Nature
 - C. Oppression
 - D. Revolution
9. What discusses occurrence on the earth and how things on earth were created?
 - A. Epic
 - B. Fable
 - C. Legend
 - D. Myth
10. Which is true about pre-colonial literature?
 - A. Pre-colonial literature is of low quality.
 - B. Pre-colonial literature is mostly about daily experiences.
 - C. Pre-colonial literature no longer exists in the 21st century.
 - D. Pre-colonial literature consists of both oral and written forms.

Lesson 2

Philippine Literature during Pre-colonial Period

The beginning period of Philippine literary history can be considered as the longest as evidenced by the artifacts of different periods recovered ranging from 50,000 years ago to 14th century A.D. in the Tabon Cave of Palawan. The said exploration was headed by a team from the National Museum where they found the oldest known human skeletal and fossil in the Philippines. The discovery later on led to the realization of our very own indigenous cultures before the presence of the Spanish colonizers through the analysis of collected oral literature preserved by our Filipino ancestors.

Literature during this period may be classified into three groups: folk speech, folk songs, and folk narratives such as riddles, proverbs, myths, legends, fables, and hero tales. Epics are of great proportions among oral literature in all regions.



What's In

Recall a fearful creature that you have heard from any *Pinoy* urban legends. Draw its physical description and tell how you feel about it. Use a separate sheet for this activity.

Notes to the Teacher

Explain to the learners that stories about *aswang*, *kapre*, *engkanto*, and the like are all parts of rich Filipino cultures that have been handed down to us by our ancestors through oral tradition. This tradition is one key feature of pre-colonial period.



ReCREATEion: In this 21st century era where gadgets and internet have invaded the people's daily lives, it is quite unimaginable to stay at home especially during this pandemic to keep oneself entertained without the use of mobile phones (or other gadgets) and internet. Think of life during the pre-colonial period and complete this diagram to show the list of activities you imagine doing at home from 6am to 9pm without technology.

[illegible]



What is It

PRE-COLONIAL PERIOD (before the arrival of Spaniards)

Certain events in the Philippines during pre-colonial period started to be recorded in the year 1521. Our rich past was reflected in "folk speeches, folk songs, folk narratives and indigenous rituals and mimetic dances that affirm our ties with our Southeast Asian neighbors" (Godinez-Ortega, n.d.).

In terms of government, Filipinos were ruled by chieftains of different *barangay*. The Malacañang Palace considered this as more on "alliance networking rather than territorial" (malacanang.gov.ph). There was no formal education. Learning was merely through imitation and practice. In general, the following were commonly practiced:

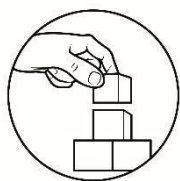
- ✓ Early Filipinos heavily believed on spirits and supernatural entities (animism).
- ✓ Social ranking and classes were practiced.
- ✓ Economic and political dimensions involved trading, marriage, feasting, and alliance.

Dimensions of Pre-colonial Literature

- ✓ Philippine literature during the pre-colonial era is mostly based on oral traditions passed down from generation to generation.
- ✓ The language used pertains to daily life.
- ✓ Common forms of oral literature are riddles, proverbs, and songs to express a thought or emotion.
- ✓ Epic was considered as the most exciting poetic and narrative form of literature in which the ASEAN-sponsored study of Filipino asserted that there are more than 100 epics discovered where majority came from Palawan (as cited by Quindoza-Santiago, n.d.).
- ✓ Majority of proverbs, epigrams, and proverbs collected by researchers come from Tagalog, Cebuano, and Ilocano dialects.
- ✓ The ancient pre-Spanish form of writing called *Baybayin* which was often cited in the work of Pedro Chirino during the 1500s, was later on approved as the National Writing System of the Philippines through House Bill No. 1022.
- ✓ The experiences of the people during pre-colonial period such as food hunting, work at home, caring for the children, and creatures or objects of nature served as the common subject in oral literature.
- ✓ Anyone who knew the language and the convention and forms could be a poet, singer, or storyteller.
- ✓ All important events such as rites and ceremonies reflect religious observance where people commonly recite, sing, or utter a chant.

Types of Pre-colonial Literature

- ✓ **Folk Tales.** These are stories which can be characterized as anonymous, timeless, and placeless tales circulated orally among a group of people.
- ✓ **Legends.** These are a form of prose which deal with the origin of a thing, location or name.
- ✓ **Myths.** Unlike legends where the characters have realistic human qualities, the characters here usually have supernatural powers where the main purpose is to provide explanation about the existence of something or someone.
- ✓ **Epics.** These pertain to a type of a long narrative poem mainly focusing on the heroic achievements and deeds of the main character.
- ✓ **Folk Songs.** These can be considered as the oldest forms of Philippine literature that mirror the culture which expresses hopes, aspirations, lifestyles, and emotions of early Filipinos. Some examples are *kundiman*, *kumintang*, *oyayi* or *hele* and some drinking songs.
- ✓ **Other Forms.** Some examples are proverbs (*salawikain*), riddles (*bugtong*), chant (*bulong*), maxims or those with rhyming couplets of 5, 6, or 8 syllables, sayings (*kasabihan*), and idiom (*sawikain*). *Tanaga* is another favorite poem consisting of four rhyming lines of 7 syllables each.



What's More

Activity 1: Appreciating Words of Wisdom

One timeless piece of literature that has been part of Filipino culture and tradition is a proverb or *salawikain* in our own language. Proverbs are brief expressions that serve as a norm which are commonly uttered by elders based on their everyday experiences to encourage positive behaviors among young people. One of the widely recognized collectors of comprehensive proverbs in our country is Damiana L. Eugenio who is considered as the "Mother of Philippine Folklore". She classified proverbs into six categories: (1) proverbs expressing a general attitude towards life and the laws that govern life; (2) ethical proverbs recommending certain virtues and condemning certain vices; (3) proverbs expressing a system of values; (4) proverbs expressing general truths and observations about life and human nature; (5) humorous proverbs and (6) miscellaneous proverbs. Answer the activities below to explore more about Filipino proverbs (as cited by Quindoza-Santiago, n.d.).

ASSESSMENT 1a: Determine whether each statement is true (T) or false (F).

- _____ 1. The Spaniards were the first to introduce proverbs among early Filipinos.
- _____ 2. Proverbs serve as a guide for a righteous living.
- _____ 3. Proverbs are culturally specific but their meaning is universal in nature.
- _____ 4. Proverbs are numerous that it is impossible to classify them.
- _____ 5. There are proverbs for almost any situation.

ASSESSMENT 1b: Explain briefly the meaning of each classic Filipino proverb and relate it to your personal experiences.

1. Tagalog proverb: *Nasa Diyos ang awa, nasa tao ang gawa.*
English translation: God helps those who help themselves.

2. Tagalog proverb: *Habang maikli ang kumot, matutong mamaluktot.*
English translation: When the blanket is short, learn to curl up under it.

ASSESSMENT 1c: List down a compilation of your most valued words of wisdom that you often hear from your parents, grandparents, other elders in the family, or any most influential people in your life. Explain how these words of wisdom helped or guided you in many ways. Use a separate sheet for this activity.

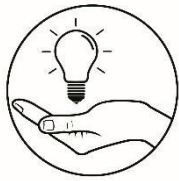
Activity 2: Becoming Real Heroes

A bigger bulk of oral literature in most regions of the Philippines during the pre-colonial period existed in the form of epics. Evidently, early Filipinos appreciated supernatural powers and heroic deeds. These are attributed to their beliefs on animism.

ASSESSMENT 2a: Choose a **local** hero (mythical and real) whom you wish to study more. Complete the grid below:

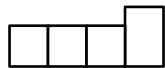
The Hero	His/ Her Great Acts	His/ Her Motives
My superhero (mythical)		
My day-to-day hero (real)		

ASSESSMENT 2b: How can you be a real hero in your own simple way? Write a simple paragraph to explain your answer. Have a separate sheet for this activity.



What I Have Learned

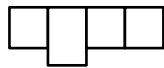
FIGURE IT OUT: Fill in the missing letters to complete the word being described in each clue.



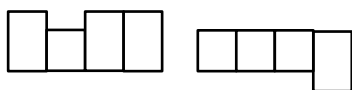
Pre-colonial is mostly of (?) tradition.



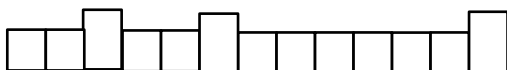
The characters in this folk narrative type of literature are animals that behave and act like human beings.



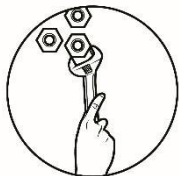
These lengthy narrative poems tell a story of a distress hero with extraordinary strength.



This is considered as an oldest form of pre-colonial literature.



This is one purpose of pre-colonial literature.



What I Can Do

LIT AND ART: If you had a superpower and you were given the chance to make your ideal Philippines, what would it be? Draw your creation on a short bond paper and color it. Write a simple paragraph to explain your drawing at the back portion.



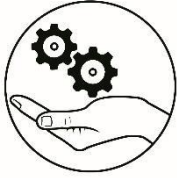
Assessment

Multiple Choices. Choose the letter of the best answer. Write your answer on a separate sheet of paper.

1. What is the period before colonization of a region or territory?
 - A. Colonial
 - B. Post-colonial
 - C. Pre-colonial
 - D. Pre-history

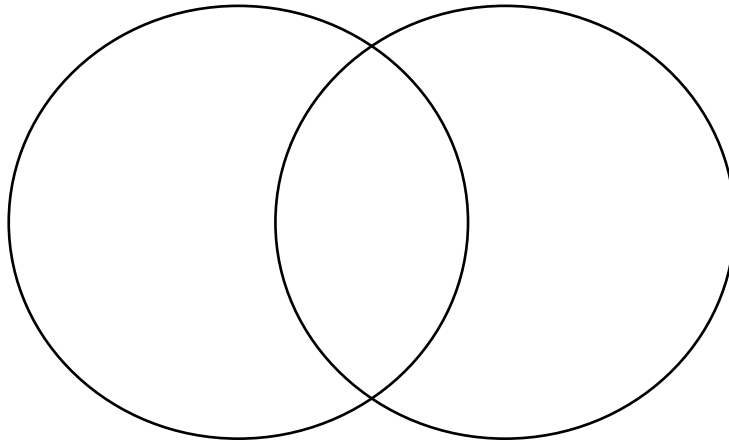
2. What is the official system of writing in the Philippines which already existing even during pre-Spanish period?
 - A) Alibata
 - B) Baybayin
 - C) Cuneiform
 - D) Hieroglyphics
3. Which best describes the type of education during pre-colonial period?
 - A. Bias
 - B. Formal
 - C. Harsh and strict
 - D. Imitative and informal
4. Which does **NOT** belong to the form of pre-colonial literature?
 - A. Epics
 - B. Idioms
 - C. Proverbs
 - D. Riddles
5. Which folk narrative deals with the story of a mortal with supernatural power?
 - A. Epic
 - B. Fable
 - C. Legend
 - D. Myth
6. Which is true about the pre-colonial period?
 - A. Our limited access to pre-colonial literature is because of the absence of a system of writing during this period.
 - B. Trading with foreign neighboring countries resulted in the diversity of our cultures.
 - C. Ancient Filipinos were not influenced by foreign countries.
 - D. Many literary forms were written during this period.
7. Which subject or theme was prevalent in pre-colonial literature?
 - A) Daily encounters and activities in life
 - B) Sense of nationalism
 - C) Poverty
 - D) Religion
8. What is common about legends and myths?
 - A. They both provide explanations as to the origin of something or someone.
 - B. They both tell the heroic deeds of a certain character.
 - C. Characters both have supernatural powers.
 - D. These are both inspired by true experiences.
9. In which tradition do fables, myths, and legends originally belong?
 - A. Classical
 - B. Historical
 - C. Oral
 - D. World

10. Which is true about pre-colonial literature?
- A. Literature does not exist in this period.
 - B. Literature during this period was mostly written.
 - C. Modern people still enjoy primitive literature.
 - D. Modern people do not enjoy primitive literature.

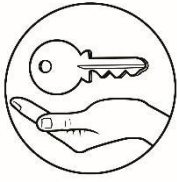


Additional Activities

During the pre-colonial period, our ancestors attempted to provide an explanation of anything that they encountered through myths and legends. What story or stories do you know about how the world began? Read at least two retold versions from different regions. Compare and contrast the two versions using Venn diagram.



What is it that you found puzzling, interesting, intriguing, or strange in the story? Is it similar to your belief of how the world began? Why or why not? Have a separate sheet for this activity.



Answer Key

<p>Assessment</p> <p>1. C 2. B 3. D 4. A 5. D 6. B 7. A 8. A 9. C 10. C</p>	<p>What's More</p> <p>Assessment 1a</p> <p>1. F 2. T 3. T 4. F 5. T</p> <p>What I Have Learned</p> <p>1. oral 2. fable 3. epic 4. folk song 5. entertainment</p>	<p>What I know</p> <p>1. C 2. A 3. A 4. C 5. C 6. B 7. D 8. B 9. C 10. B</p>
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