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the history of literature is the historical development of writings in prose or poetry that attempt to provide entertainment or education to the reader as well as the development of the literary techniques used in the communication of these pieces not all writings constitute literature the first author of literature in the world known by name was the high priestess of ur enheduanna 2285 2250 bce who wrote hymns in praise of the sumerian goddess inanna while shuruppak s fatherly wisdom is one of the most ancient examples of written literature history s oldest known fictional story is probably the epic of gilgamesh a mythic poem that the term english literature refers to the body of written works produced in the english language by inhabitants of the british isles from the 7th century to the present ranging from drama poetry and fiction to autobiography and historical writing the earliest surviving written literature is from ancient mesopotamia the epic of gilgamesh is often cited as the first great composition although some shorter compositions have survived that are even earlier notably the kesh temple hymn and the instructions of shuruppak deriving from the latin littera a letter of the alphabet literature is first and foremost humankind s entire body of writing after that it is the body of writing belonging to a given language or people then it is individual pieces of writing literature in the west originated in the southern mesopotamia region of sumer c 3200 in the city of uruk and flourished in egypt later in greece the written word having been imported there from the phoenicians and from there to rome literature is any collection of written work but it is also used more narrowly for writings specifically considered to be an art form especially novels plays and poems and including both print and digital writing in recent centuries the definition has expanded to include oral literature much of which has been transcribed chapter 1 old english literature the old english language or anglo saxon is the earliest form of english the period is a long one and it is generally considered that old english was spoken from about a d 600 to about 1100 many of the poems of the period are pagan in particular widsith and belowulf taken to mean only written works literature was first produced by some of the world's earliest civilizations those of ancient egypt and sumeria as early as the 4th millennium bc taken to include spoken or sung texts it originated even earlier and some of the first written works may have been based on a pre existing oral tradition english literature is literature written in the english language from the english speaking world the english language has developed over the course of more than 1 400 years the earliest forms of english a set of anglo frisian dialects brought to great britain by anglo saxon invaders in the fifth century are called old english welcome to the oxford research encyclopedia of literature learn about our editorial board browse the growing collection of articles overviews and key subject works learn more what is literature for one of the primary goals of this course is to develop an understanding of the importance of literature as a vital source of cultural knowledge in everyday life literature is often viewed as a collection of made up stories designed to entertain us to amuse us or to simply provide us with an escape from the real for the past decade literary hub has brought you the best of the book world for free no paywall but our future relies on you in return for a donation you ll get an ad free reading experience exclusive editors picks book giveaways and our coveted joan didion lit hub tote bag 2007 topics literature study and teaching publisher austin tex holt rinehart and winston collection internetarchivebooks inlibrary printdisabled contributor internet archive literature reading writing appreciation in preliterate societies or al literature was widely shared it saturated the society and was as much a part of living as food clothing shelter or religion many tribal societies remained primarily oral cultures until the 19th century for these first year students writings from the past shed light on issues around today s ai revolution statement of undersigned faculty in ucla s department of comparative literature on the university s response to campus protests new publication fixers agency translation and the early global history of literature by zrinka a number of works of literature have been claimed to be the first novel in english share this love and respect anchor the words written by associate professor of literature brandon som in his latest work tripas poems which garnered the 2024 pulitzer prize in poetry the two dozen works in the collection reflect on the transnational paths of his family including the intersecting languages and wisdoms they have my primary area of specialization is english stylistics which examines the usage of english with particular regard to literary texts this area of study established as a unifying force to link the various research areas in the diversified and segmented fields of language and literature is interdisciplinary in nature

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the first author of literature in the world known by name was the high priestess of ur enheduanna 2285 2250 bce who wrote hymns in praise of the sumerian goddess inanna

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while shuruppak s fatherly wisdom is one of the most ancient examples of written literature history s oldest known fictional story is probably the epic of gilgamesh a mythic poem that

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the term english literature refers to the body of written works produced in the english language by inhabitants of the british isles from the 7th century to the present ranging from drama poetry and fiction to autobiography and historical writing

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the earliest surviving written literature is from ancient mesopotamia the epic of gilgamesh is often cited as the first great composition although some shorter compositions have survived that are even earlier notably the kesh temple hymn and the instructions of shuruppak

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deriving from the latin littera a letter of the alphabet literature is first and foremost humankind s entire body of writing after that it is the body of writing belonging to a given language or people then it is individual pieces of writing

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literature in the west originated in the southern mesopotamia region of sumer c 3200 in the city of uruk and flourished in egypt later in greece the written word having been imported there from the phoenicians and from there to rome

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literature is any collection of written work but it is also used more narrowly for writings specifically considered to be an art form especially novels plays and poems and including both print and digital writing in recent centuries the definition has expanded to include oral literature much of which has been transcribed

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chapter 1 old english literature the old english language or anglo saxon is the earliest form of english the period is a long one and it is generally considered that old english was spoken from about a d 600 to about 1100 many of the poems of the period are pagan in particular widsith and belowulf

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taken to mean only written works literature was first produced by some of the world's earliest civilizations those of ancient egypt and sumeria as early as the 4th millennium bc taken to include spoken or sung texts it originated even earlier and some of the first written works may have been based on a pre existing oral tradition

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english literature is literature written in the english language from the english speaking world the english language has developed over the course of more than 1 400 years the earliest forms of english a set of anglo frisian dialects brought to great britain by anglo saxon invaders in the fifth century are called old english

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what is literature for one of the primary goals of this course is to develop an understanding of the importance of literature as a vital source of cultural knowledge in everyday life literature is often viewed as a collection of made up stories designed to entertain us to amuse us or to simply provide us with an escape from the real

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literature reading writing appreciation in preliterate societies oral literature was widely shared it saturated the society and was as much a part of living as food clothing shelter or religion many tribal societies remained primarily oral cultures until the 19th century

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a number of works of literature have been claimed to be the first novel in english

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share this love and respect anchor the words written by associate professor of literature brandon som in his latest work tripas poems which garnered the 2024 pulitzer prize in poetry the two dozen works in the collection reflect on the transnational paths of his family including the intersecting languages and wisdoms they have

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my primary area of specialization is english stylistics which examines the usage of english with particular regard to literary texts this area of study established as a unifying force to link the various research areas in the diversified and segmented fields of language and literature is interdisciplinary in nature

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