University of Mostafa Benboulaid Batna2 ***Level****:* 1st Year LMD Department of English

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***Module:*** Literature ***Lesson 02***: Benefits of Literature.

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# First Term:

1. **Introduction:**

Literature bridges the gap between the inner human feelings and external life surroundings when a writer illustrates his inward sensations through symbolism, reflection, stylistic aestheticism, creativity, and nature simulation and transforms the abstract into concrete. This competency of intellectual’s mind eluminates all social classes and established a distinguished cultural heritage of a certain community. However there are numerous outcomes come from reading and producing literature, here are they:

1. **Benefits of Literature**

One question have been raised for all the time especially among students who still ignore the fruit of reading literature in general: why do we read literature?

**1. *Identifier Benefit*:** simply it is a reflection represents the culture, ideas, customs, tradition, and religion…of its writer or certain group so that the reader from Africa can discover life and culture in America through American writers or subject. For example, *Emily Dickinson Poetry* represents American female thinking, social restrictions upon intellectual life at 19th c, political instability and Civil War in 1860. *Charles Dickens* Great Expectation summarizes the terrible working conditions in Britain between the 19th and 20th c with the evolution of the Industrial Revolution. Algerian novels like *le Fils de Pauvre’* is a historicalnarrative tells the new generation about poverty, illiteracy, persecution and torture by the French colonizers in Algeria at certain times. Thus, literature is distinguished as American, African, French, British…etc.

***2.*  Interpreter:** this field of knowledge explores the human nature and life mysteries. In short, it explain the human character, mood, temper, life troubles, circumstances, for example, George Orwell’s *Animal Farm* symbolically personifies human characters and personalities and tells the reader about several details about life. Earnest Hemingway’s *The Old man and the sea* is another novel tells a lesson of persistence and insistence until one reaches his goal.

3. **Skillful Tutor**: most literary works teach good deal of life lessons and experiences because they narrate stories of different people from different times, ages, places, characters, and circumstances. So, the reader learns various lessons and even understands himself better. This paves the way for the human to better tolerant the other human when he recognizes that people are different yet similar at the same time.

**4. The Philosopher:**reading as an activity or daily habit pushes one to be closer to philosophy and wisdom. In other words, he lifts up to higher order thinking that evokes meditation, silence and deep thinking.

**5. Joker:** comic roles of theatre actors and human charactersin novels attract a large category of audience who still enjoy and prefer fun scenes than the serious. It is also a well-established theory to express ideas through funny stories that make people laugh at a serious subject, understand, and benefit from.

**6**. **Recorder**: it functions as a history record yet through anecdote style that could even change history, events, opinions…etc. Biographies, autobiographies, and novels changed history when a true story of slaves escaped persecution in America by Harriet Stowe: Uncle’s *Tom’s Cabine* sooner made the best seller and people started to support them emotionally and by materials.

**Conclusion:**

To end up, literature exceeds a poem or a novel; it is the reflection of beauty, feelings, thinking, culture, and beliefs. It represents the whole cultural heritage that includes science, architecture, medicine, history, politics, and religion. Its role is set to improve the mental skills of both of the reader and the writer and enlarged to cover all human experiences and knowledge.

**Assignment**

Write a small paragraph about the differences between oral and written literature?