

Advertisement No. 177/2026

Note: Please go through the instructions given on the website www.ncert.nic.in (Announcement-Vacancy- Academic) carefully, before filling up the application form online.

National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), an apex organization for Educational Research, Teacher Training and Development of Curriculum and Instructional material in school education, invites **online** applications for filling up **117** various academic positions under direct recruitment in NCERT, New Delhi and at its constituent units located at Ajmer, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, Mysuru and Shillong.

Posts and Vacancies

Sl. No.	Department	Post	Total posts	Category					Post earmarked for PwD Category
				UR	SC	ST	OBC	EWS	
1	Mathematics	Associate Professor	2	1	-	1	-	-	
		Assistant Professor	1	1	-	-	-	-	
2	Art Education	Professor	1	1	-	-	-	-	
		Assistant Professor	1	-	-	-	1	-	
3	Bio-Science/ Bio-Technology/ Health Science/ Pharmacy	Professor	1	1	-	-	-	-	
		Assistant Professor	1	1	-	-	-	-	
4	Economics	Associate Professor	2	-	-	-	2	-	
		Assistant Professor	1	-	-	-	1	-	
5	Zoology	Professor	1	-	1	-	-	-	
		Associate Professor	2	2	-	-	-	-	
		Assistant Professor	4	2	-	-	1	1	
6	Education (Educational Technology-Multimedia)	Associate Professor	1	-	1	-	-	-	
7	Hindi	Associate Professor	2	1	1	-	-	-	
		Professor	4	1	1	1	1	-	
		Associate Professor	2	-	-	-	1	1	
8	Education (Science Education)	Assistant Professor	2	1	-	-	-	1	
		Professor	1	-	1	-	-	-	
		Associate Professor	3	2	-	1*	-	-	*ST-VH
9	Education (Teacher Education)	Assistant Professor	5	4	-	-	1*	-	*OBC-HH

Sl. No.	Department	Post	Total Posts	Category					Post earmarked for PwD Category
				UR	SC	ST	OBC	EWS	
10	Education (Elementary Education)	Professor	1	-	1	-	-	-	
		Associate Professor	2	-	-	1	1	-	
11	Psychology (Educational Psychology)	Professor	1	1	-	-	-	-	
		Associate Professor	1	-	1	-	-	-	
12	History	Professor	1	-	-	-	1	-	
		Associate Professor	1	1	-	-	-	-	
		Assistant Professor	2	1	1	-	-	-	
13	Geography	Professor	1	-	-	-	1	-	
14	Population Studies	Associate Professor	1	-	1	-		-	
15	Political Science	Professor	1	-	-	-	1	-	
		Associate Professor	1	1	-	-		-	
16	Education (Educational Technology-Graphics, Multimedia)	Associate Professor	1	-	-	-	1	-	
17	Education (Special Education)	Professor	1	-	-	-	1	-	
		Associate Professor	2	1	-	1	-	-	
		Assistant Professor	1	-	-	-	1*	-	*OBC-HH
18	Electronics/ Electrical/ IT/ Renewable Energy	Associate Professor	1	1	-	-	-	-	
19	English	Professor	1	1	-	-	-	-	
		Associate Professor	3	3	-	-	-	-	
		Assistant Professor	2	-	-	-	2*	-	*1 post of OBC earmarked for PwD-HH
20	Urdu	Assistant Professor	1	1*	-	-	-	-	*UR-MD
21	Hospitality, Travel and Tourism	Associate Professor	1	-	-	-	1	-	
22	Vocational Education (Commerce Accountancy)	Associate Professor	1	1	-	-	-	-	
23	Education (Vocational Education)	Professor	1	-	1	-	-	-	
		Associate Professor	1	-	-	-	1	-	
24	Education (Curriculum Development/ Research/ Policy)	Associate Professor	1	1	-	-	-	-	
25	Psychology/Education (Measurement & Evaluation)	Associate Professor	1	-	-	-	1	-	

Sl. No.	Department	Post	Total Posts	Category					Post earmarked for PwD Category
				UR	SC	ST	OBC	EWS	
26	Child Development (Child Development/ECCE)	Professor	1	1	-	-	-	-	
		Associate Professor	1	-	1	-	-	-	
27	Education (Mathematics Education)	Assistant Professor	2	1	-	-	1	-	
28	Education (Education)	Professor	3	2*	-	-	1	-	*1 post of UR earmarked for PwD-OH
		Associate Professor	6	4	1	1	-	-	
		Assistant Professor	2	1	-	1	-	-	
29	Sociology	Associate Professor	2	1*	1*	-	-	-	*1 Post earmarked for PwD-VH against the post in UR & SC category.
		Assistant Professor	1	-	-	-	1*	-	*OBC-OH
30	Botany	Associate Professor	2	2	-	-	-	-	
		Assistant Professor	2	-	-	-	2	-	
31	Agriculture (Animal Husbandry/Fisheries/ Sericulture)	Professor	1	1	-	-	-	-	
32	Education (Philosophy of Education)	Assistant Professor	1	-	-	-	1*	-	*OBC-HH
33	Security/Defence Science/Military Science	Associate Professor	1	-	1	-	-	-	
34	Food Technology and Processing	Associate Professor	1	-	-	1	-	-	
35	Psychology/Education (Guidance and Counselling)	Assistant Professor	1	1*	-	-	-	-	*UR-HH
36	Language Education (Hindi/English/Urdu/Sans krit/ Linguistics)	Assistant Professor	1	-	-	-	1*	-	*OBC-HH
37	Home Science (Food & Nutrition)	Associate Professor	1	1	-	-	-	-	
38	Statistics	Associate Professor	1	1	-	-	-	-	
39	Computer Education	Assistant Professor	1	1*	-	-	-	-	*UR-MD
40	Food & Nutrition, Biochemistry, Biotechnology	Professor	1	1	-	-	-	-	
41	Philosophical & Sociology Foundation of Education	Assistant Professor	1	-	-	-	1	-	

Sl. No.	Department	Post	Total Posts	Category					Post earmarked for PwD Category
				UR	SC	ST	OBC	EWS	
42	Agriculture (Agriculture)	Associate Professor	1	1	-	-	-	-	
		Assistant Professor	1	-	-	1	-	-	
43	Physics	Associate Professor	1	1	-	-	-	-	
		Assistant Professor	1	-	1	-	-	-	
44	Deputy Librarian	Deputy Librarian	1	1	-	-	-	-	
45	Assistant Librarian	Assistant Librarian	2	2	-	-	-	-	
46	Rural Technology	Associate Professor	1	1	-	-	-	-	
47	Telugu	Assistant Professor	1	1	-	-	-	-	
48	Life Science & Primary Education	Associate Professor	1	1	-	-	-	-	
49	Art and Aesthetics	Associate Professor	1	1	-	-	-	-	
50	Education (Extension Education)	Assistant Professor	1	1	-	-	-	-	
51	Extension Education (Teacher Education)	Assistant Professor	1	1	-	-	-	-	
52	Physical Education	Assistant Professor	1	-	1	-	-	-	
53	Chemistry	Professor	1	1	-	-	-	-	

Note :-

Abbreviation:-

- (i) PwD-VH = Persons with Disability - Visually Handicapped
- (ii) PwD-HH = Persons with Disability - Hearing Handicapped
- (iii) PwD- MD = Persons with Disability - Multiple Disabilities
- (iv) PwD-OH = Persons with Disability - Orthopaedically Handicapped

ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS AND PAY SCALES

ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS:

Educational qualification, experience, age of retirement on superannuation and pay scales of Professor, Associate Professor, Assistant Professor, Deputy Librarian and Assistant Librarian will be as per the UGC/ NCERT, Govt. of India norms as amended from time to time and in force at the time of closing date of filling-up online application.

PROFESSOR

Eligibility (A or B) :

A.

- i) An eminent scholar having a Ph.D. degree in the concerned/allied/relevant discipline, and published work of high quality, actively engaged in research with evidence of published work with, a minimum of 10 research publications in the peer-reviewed or UGC-listed journals and a total research score of 120 as per the criteria given in Appendix II, Table 2. **(Refer UGC Regulations-2018 and as amended from time to time)**
- ii) A minimum of ten years of teaching experience in university/college as Assistant Professor/Associate Professor/Professor, and / or research experience at equivalent level at the University/National Level Institutions with evidence of having successfully guided doctoral candidate.

OR

- B. An outstanding professional, having a Ph.D. degree in the relevant/allied/applied disciplines, from any academic institutions (not included in A above) / industry, who has made significant contribution to the knowledge in the concerned/allied/relevant discipline, supported by documentary evidence provided he/she has ten years' experience.

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

Eligibility:

- i) A good academic record, with a Ph.D. Degree in the concerned/allied/relevant disciplines.
- ii) A Master's Degree with at least 55% marks (or an equivalent grade in a point-scale, wherever the grading system is followed).
- iii) A minimum of eight years of experience of teaching and / or research in an academic/research position equivalent to that of Assistant Professor in a University, College or Accredited Research Institution/industry with a minimum of seven publications in the peer-reviewed or UGC-listed journals and a total research score of Seventy five (75) as per the criteria given in Appendix II, Table 2. **(Refer UGC Regulations-2018 and as amended from time to time)**

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

Eligibility (A or B) :

A.

- i) A Master's degree with 55% marks (or an equivalent grade in a point-scale wherever the grading system is followed) in a concerned/relevant/allied subject from an Indian University, or an equivalent degree from an accredited foreign university.
- ii) Besides fulfilling the above qualifications, the candidate must have cleared the National Eligibility Test (NET) conducted by the UGC or the CSIR, or a similar test accredited by the UGC, like SLET/SET or who are or have been awarded a Ph. D. Degree in accordance with the University Grants Commission (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of M.Phil./Ph.D. Degree) Regulations, 2009 or 2016 and their amendments from time to time as the case may be exempted from NET/SLET/SET:

Provided, the candidates registered for the Ph.D. programme prior to July 11, 2009, shall be governed by the provisions of the then existing Ordinances/Bye-laws/Regulations of the Institution awarding the degree and such Ph.D. candidates shall be exempted from the requirement of NET/SLET/SET for recruitment and appointment of Assistant Professor or equivalent positions in Universities/Colleges/Institutions subject to the fulfillment of the following conditions:-

- a) The Ph.D. degree of the candidate has been awarded in a regular mode;
- b) The Ph.D. thesis has been evaluated by at least two external examiners;
- c) An open Ph.D. viva voce of the candidate has been conducted;
- d) The Candidate has published two research papers from his/her Ph.D. work, out of which at least one is in a refereed journal;
- e) The candidate has presented at least two papers based on his/her Ph.D work in conferences/seminars sponsored/funded/supported by the UGC /ICSSR/ CSIR or any similar agency.

The fulfilment of these conditions is to be certified by the Registrar or the Dean (Academic Affairs) of the University concerned.

Note: NET/SLET/SET shall also not be required for such Masters Programmes in disciplines for which NET/SLET/SET is not conducted by the UGC, CSIR or similar test accredited by the UGC, like SLET/SET.

OR

- B. The Ph.D degree has been obtained from a foreign university/institution with a ranking among top 500 in the World University Ranking (at any time) by any one of the following: (i) Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) (ii) the Times Higher Education (THE) or (iii) the Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU) of the Shanghai Jiao Tong University (Shanghai).

Note: The Academic score as specified in Appendix II (Table 3A) for Universities, and Appendix II (Table 3B) for Colleges, shall be considered for short-listing of the candidates for interview only, and the selections shall be based only on the performance in the interview. . (Refer UGC Regulations-2018 and as amended from time to time)

DEPUTY LIBRARIAN

- i) A Master's Degree in library science/information science/documentation science, with at least 55% marks or an equivalent grade in a point –scale, wherever grading system is followed.
- ii) Eight years experience as an Assistant University Librarian/College Librarian.
- iii) Evidence of innovative library services including integration of ICT in library.
- iv) A Ph.D. Degree in library science/ Information science / Documentation Science/Archives and manuscript keeping/computerization of library.

ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN:

- i) A Master's Degree in Library Science, Information Science or Documentation Science or an equivalent professional degree, with at least 55% marks (or an equivalent grade in a point –scale, wherever the grading system is followed)
- ii) A consistently good academic record, with knowledge of computerization of a library.
- iii) Besides fulfilling the above qualifications, the candidate must have cleared the National Eligibility Test (NET) conducted by the UGC, CSIR or similar test accredited by the UGC like SLET/SET or who are or have been awarded a Ph.D. Degree in accordance with the University Grants Commission (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of M.Phil./Ph.D. Degree) Regulations, 2009 or 2016 and their amendments from time to time as the case may be:

Provided that the, candidates registered for the Ph.D. degree prior to July 11, 2009, shall be governed by the provisions of the then existing Ordinances / Bye-laws / Regulations of the Institution awarding the degree, and such Ph.D. candidates shall be exempted from the requirement of NET/SLET/SET for recruitment and appointment of Assistant Professor or equivalent positions in Universities/Colleges / Institutions subject to the fulfillment of the following conditions:-

- a) The Ph.D. degree of the candidate has been awarded in the regular mode
- b) The Ph.D. thesis has been evaluated by at least two external examiners;
- c) Open Ph.D. viva voce of the candidate has been conducted;
- d) The candidate has published two research papers from his/her Ph.D. work out of which at least one is in a refereed journal;
- e) The candidate has presented at least two papers based on his/her Ph.D work in conferences/seminars sponsored /funded/supported by the UGC/ICSSR/CSIR or any similar agency.

Note:

- (i) *The fulfilment of these conditions is to be certified by the Registrar or the Dean (Academic Affairs) of the University concerned.*
- (ii) NET/SLET/SET shall also not be required for candidates in such Master's Programmes for which NET/SLET/SET is not conducted by the UGC, CSIR or similar test accredited by the UGC like SLET/SET.

PAY SCALES

- a) **Professor:** Academic level 14 with rationalized entry pay of Rs. 1,44,200/- (Pre-revised scale of pay : Rs.37,400-67,000 with AGP-10,000)
- b) **Associate Professor / Deputy Librarian:** Academic level 13A with rationalized entry pay of Rs. 1,31,400/- (Pre-revised scale of pay : Rs.37,400-67,000 with AGP-9,000)
- c) **Assistant Professor/Assistant Librarian:** Academic level 10 with rationalized entry pay of Rs.57,700/- (Pre-revised scale of pay : Rs.15,600-39,100 with AGP-6,000)

	<u>GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS</u> Eligible and interested candidates are required to <u>apply online only through the NCERT website www.ncert.nic.in</u> at Announcement-Vacancy- Academic. No other means/mode of submission of applications will be accepted. The schedule of <u>ONLINE</u> registration is as follows:-	
1	Commencement of Online Registration on NCERT website www.ncert.nic.in	31.01.2026 (10:00 A.M)
2	Last Date of Online Registration and apply online	20.02.2026 (Up to 05:00 P.M)
3	The candidates must have a valid email id and mobile number through which he/she will get registered with the online application portal.	
4	Application fee:- Applicants belonging to UR/OBC/EWS are required to pay a fee of Rs.1000/- (Rupees One thousand only) through online payment mode. No other mode of payment will be accepted. Women applicants and applicants belonging to SC/ST/PWD are exempted from payment of fee. Fee once paid shall not be refunded under any circumstances	
5	Candidates should fill in the details to register and then fill the information in the online application form at the appropriate places very carefully.	
6	Fields with STAR (*) mark are mandatory and essential to be filled in by the candidate. After the required information have been provided, click submit button. However, before clicking "Submit" button, candidate must make sure that no changes are required and the information provided is correct and final. After application is submitted, no changes will be entertained.	
7	Candidates are required to upload their scanned <u>recent/colour passport size photograph, applicant's signature and all the relevant documents</u> . The candidates have to keep a copy of application with documents for record and the same to be produced at the time of verification of document/ interview, if shortlisted.	
8	In case a candidate wishes to apply for more than one post, he/she should submit separate application online along with the requisite fee for each post applied for. All the online applications should be completed in all respects. Only one application for individual post from one applicant will be accepted.	
9	The candidate should meet the eligibility criteria and provide the information which he/she possesses as on the last date of submission of the application. Candidates who do not possess the requisite educational qualification as on the closing date of receipt of application will not be eligible.	
10	The registration will be provisional as the eligibility of the shortlisted candidate will be verified at the time of Interview from the original documents. Candidature of a registered candidate is liable to be rejected at any stage of recruitment process or even after joining, if any information provided by the candidate is found to be false or not in conformity with the eligibility criteria.	
11	Persons with Disability (PWD) having disability <u>less than forty percent</u> will not be considered. The disability certificate shall be from a competent medical board constituted by the central or state Government Hospital. Therefore, such persons should meet the prescribed criteria of physical disability of the respective category as per the Govt. of India rules.	

12	Candidate in their own interest are advised to remain updated with the selection / recruitment process by visiting our website www.ncert.nic.in regularly for any further instruction/information.
13	The list of shortlisted candidates will be displayed on the NCERT website. The shortlisted candidates will be allowed to appear for the interview only after verification of their eligibility.
14	The shortlisted non-local candidates will be entitled for reimbursement of Train fare restricted upto 3 rd AC (except for Special trains like Rajdhani, Shatabadi, etc.) or the actual fare, whichever is less, on submission of tickets.
15	Final result of the selected candidates will be displayed on NCERT website. The Council will not entertain any correspondence with the candidates about their non-selection in the recruitment.
16	Only Indian National need to apply.
17	The relaxation in percentage of marks to candidates belonging to SC/ST/OBC(NCL)/EWS/ PWD categories is provided in accordance with the UGC/GOI/NCERT rules.
18	Candidate must indicate his/her caste/category in the appropriate column of the application form (SC, ST, UR, OBC (NCL) & EWS etc). Leaving the caste column blank would not automatically be assumed as an application for un-reserved category and the application will be rejected as incomplete.
19	The OBC-Non Creamy Layer candidates will be required to submit a valid caste certificate for purpose of reservation in appointment to posts under Government of India/Central Government from a competent authority along with latest Non Creamy Layer certificate and self-declaration as per Annexure-I that he/she does not belong to the creamy layer as on the closing date of submission of applications.
20	The EWS candidates will be required to submit a valid certificate for purpose of reservation in appointment to posts under Government of India/Central Government from a competent authority and self declaration as per Annexure-II .
21	Number of vacancies may vary depending upon the actual requirement. NCERT reserves the right not to fill up any or all the posts or cancel the whole process of recruitment without assigning any reason.
22	Mere fulfilling the minimum eligibility requirements does not entitle a candidate to be called for interview. NCERT reserves the right to restrict the number of candidates to be called for interview.
23	The decision of the NCERT in all matters relating to selection and allotment of posts/organizations to selected candidates will be final and binding on the candidates.
24	Any litigation in the matter will be subject to the Delhi jurisdiction in only.
25	All Certificates, Degrees and other documents must be produced in original for verification at the time of interview (if shortlisted), failing which the candidate may not be allowed to appear for the interview
26	The certificates, which are neither in English nor in Hindi, need to be translated preferably to either in English or in Hindi and the same shall be submitted along with the copy of the certificate in local language.
27	The candidate who have received letter grades or grading points instead of marks, should provide conversion chart and percentage equivalent of their respective letter grades, issued by concerned board/university/institution.
28	Any subsequent change of address/Telephone No./Email address should be promptly communicated to the Section Officer, Recruitment -1 Section , Room No. 12, 5 th Floor, Zakir Hussain Block, NCERT, New Delhi- 110016.
29	Canvassing in any form will lead to disqualification and the candidature is liable to be summarily rejected.
30	In order to avoid last minute rush, the candidates are advised in their own interest to apply well in time.

31	All applicants should submit Self Declaration as per Annexure-III .
32	1 (i) It is stated that for the post of Assistant Professor, upto 50 candidates (category-wise) for the first vacancy and 05 candidates for every additional vacancy will be called for the interview in order of their rank/merit in the list as prepared by the Shortlisting Committee [on the basis of marks scored by the candidates, which should not be less than academic score of 60 (Sixty) in any case]. (ii) In case of tie of marks at the 50th place for 01 vacancy and tie of marks at 5th place for every additional vacancy, all candidates whose marks tie will be called for interview. 2 (i) For the posts of Professor and Associate Professor, the existing criterion of minimum academic score as per UGC guidelines may continue to be followed subject to the condition upto 10 candidates (category-wise) for the first vacancy and 05 candidates for every additional vacancy will be called for interview in order of their rank/merit in the list as prepared by the Shortlisting Committee (on the basis of marks scored by the candidates). (ii) In case of tie of marks at the 10th place for 01 vacancy and tie of marks at 5th place for every additional vacancy, all candidates whose marks tie will be called for interview.
33	Applicants serving under Government, Quasi-Government, Public Sector Undertaking and Autonomous Organizations should apply through proper channel and submit at the time of online application the permission letter from their present employer as per following format :- Mr./Mrs./Ms. _____ is working in this organization in the capacity as _____ from _____ to _____ and the institution/organization has no objection to his/her candidature being considered for the post of _____ applied by him/her in NCERT. Place: _____ Signature of Head of the Institution Date: _____ Name: _____ Fax: _____ Designation: _____ E-mail: _____ Address: _____ (Office Seal)
34	In case of any query related to Advt. No. 177/2026, e-mail i.d of the section is adv177ncert@gmail.com
35	Hindi version of this advertisement is also being published separately. In case of any discrepancies are found in Hindi version, English version will be followed.

Under Secretary,
Recruitment Section-I

Annexure-I

Form of declaration to be submitted by the OBC candidate

(in addition to the community certificate)

ISon/daughter of Shri.....resident of village/ town/ city
.....district.....State.....hereby declare that I belong to the
.....community which is recognized as a backward class by the Government of India for the
purpose of reservation in services as per orders contained in Department of Personnel and Training Office
Memorandum No 36012/22/93-Estt. (SCT) dated 8-9-1993. It is also declared that as on closing date , I do not belong
to persons/ sections (Creamy Layer) mentioned in column 3 of the Schedule to the above referred Office
Memorandum dated 8-9-1993, O.M. No. 36033/3/2004-Estt. (Res.) dated 9th March, 2004, O.M. No. 36033/3/2004-
Estt. (Res.) dated 14th October, 2008, OM No. 36033/1/2013-Estt. (Res.), dated: 27th May, 2013 and OM No.
36033/1/2013-Estt. (Res.), dated: 13th Septmber2017.

Signature: _____
Full Name: _____
Address: _____

Form of declaration to be submitted by the EWS candidate

(in addition to the community certificate)

ISon/daughter of Shri.....resident of village/ town/ city
.....district.....State.....hereby declare that I fulfilled all the
conditions to be recognized as EWS Category as per the Government of India ----- amended from time to time.

Signature:_____

Full Name:_____

Address: _____

UNDERTAKING TO BE SUBMITTED BY THE CANDIDATE

Post Applied For: _____

Subject Area: _____

I herewith submit the self-attested photocopies of the following documents and which have been duly verified with original certificates at the time of interview:-

1. Post Graduate Degrees and Marksheets in the relevant subject (Yes/No):
2. M.Phil Degree in the relevant subject (Yes/No):
3. Ph.D Degree in the relevant subject (Yes/No):
4. NET Certificate in the relevant subject (Yes/No):
5. NET exemption certificate from the University concerned {(to be certified by Registrar or the Dean (Academic Affairs))} in Original (Yes/No):

6. Experience Certificate:

- (i) For the post of Professor:- A minimum of **ten years** of teaching experience in University/College as Assistant Professor/ Associate Professor, and/or research experience at equivalent level at the University/National Level Institutions with evidence of having successfully guided doctoral candidate duly issued by Registrar/ Authorized Signatory along with basic pay, grade pay, scale of pay (Yes/No):
- (ii) For the post of Associate Professor:- A minimum of **eight years** of experience of teaching and / or research in an academic / research position equivalent to that of Assistant Professor in a University, College or Accredited Research institution/ industry issued by Registrar/ Authorized Signatory along with basic pay, grade pay, scale of pay (Yes/No):

7. Research Papers:

- (i) For the post of Professor:- A minimum of **ten** publications in the peer-reviewed or UGC-listed journals (Yes/No):
- (ii) For the post of Associate Professor:- A minimum of **seven** publications in the peer-reviewed or UGC-listed journals (Yes/No):

8. NOC certificate from Competent Authority (Yes/No):
9. Salary Slip of last month issued by the competent authority (Yes/No):
10. Caste Certificate (wherever applicable) (Yes/NO):
11. PWD Certificate (wherever applicable) (Yes/No):

Place:

Signature:

Date:

Name (in capital letters):
