PGDNLEG

POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN NEW LITERATURES IN ENGLISH
(PGDNLEG)

ASSIGNMENT BOOKLET
(For July, 2024 and January, 2025 sessions)

MEG 05: Literary Criticism & Theory

and

any **three** of the following:

MEG08: New Literatures in English

MEG 09: Australian Literature

MEG 12: A Survey Course in 20th Century Canadian Literature

MEG 19: Australian Novel

School of Humanities

Indira Gandhi National Open University

Maidan Garhi, New Delhi – 110 068

ASSIGNMENTS
FOR
POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN NEW LITERATURES IN ENGLISH (PGNLEG)

Programme: PGDNLEG
Course Code: MEG – 05, 08, 09, 12 & 19

Dear learner,

You are required to do one assignment for each of the following courses of the 'PG Diploma in New Literatures in English' Programme. This is a Tutor Marked Assignment (TMA) and carries 100 marks each. Each assignment covers the entire course of MEG 05, MEG 08, MEG 09, MEG 12 & MEG 19. **Please note, MEG 05 is compulsory and you need to choose any three from amongst MEG 08, MEG 09, MEG 12 and MEG 19, as per your admission details.**

Aims: These TMAs are concerned mainly with assessing your application and understanding of the course materials. You are not required to reproduce chunks of information from the course materials but to use the skills of critical appreciation that you may have acquired during the course of study. These assignment aim to teach as well as to assess your performance. Please ensure that you read all the texts prescribed in the courses. **Let me repeat: you must read all the texts/ critical essays prescribed.** Do make points as you go along. If there is anything you do not understand, please ask your Counsellor at the Study Centre for clarification. Once you are able to do the assignments satisfactorily, you will be ready to take the exam with confidence.

Instructions: Before attempting the assignments, please read the following instructions carefully.

1. Write your enrolment number, name, full address and date on the top right corner of the first page of your response sheet(s).

2. Write the course title, assignment number and the name of the study centre you are attached to in the centre of the first page of your response sheet(s).

The top of the first page of your response sheet should look like this:

ENROLMENT NO: ……
NAME: ……..
ADDRESS: ……

COURSE TITLE: ……..
COURSE CODE: ……
DATE: ……

STUDY CENTRE: ……..

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3. Use A 4 size paper for your response and tag all the pages carefully.

4. Write the relevant question number with each answer.

5. You should write in your own handwriting.

6. **Submission:** The completed assignment should be sent to the Coordinator of the Study Centre allotted to you by **31st March** for June exam and **30th September** for December exam.

Now read the following guidelines carefully before answering questions.

GUIDELINES FOR TMAs

You will find it useful to keep the following points in mind:

1. **Planning:** Read the questions carefully. Go through the units on which they are based. Make some points regarding each question and then rearrange these in a logical order. And please write the answers in your own words. Do not reproduce passages from the study materials.

2. **Organisation:** Be a little more selective and analytic before drawing up a rough outline of your answer. In an essay-type question, give adequate attention to your introduction and conclusion. The introduction must offer your brief interpretation of the question and how you propose to develop it. The conclusion must summarise your response to the question. In the course of your answer, you may like to make references to other texts or critics as this will add some depth to your analysis.

Make sure that your answer:

(a) is logical and coherent;
(b) has clear connections between sentences and paragraphs;
(c) is written correctly giving adequate consideration to your expression, style and presentation;
(e) does not exceed the number of words indicated in your question.

3. **Presentation:** Once you are satisfied with your answers, you can write down the final version for submission, writing each answer neatly and underlining the points you wish to emphasise.

You may be aware that **you need to submit your assignments before you can appear for the Term End Exams. Please remember to keep a copy of your completed assignment, just in case the one you submitted is lost in transit.**

Good luck with your work!

MEG – 05 Literary Criticism & Theory

ASSIGNMENT 2024 - 2025

Based on Blocks (1 – 8)

Max. Marks: 100

Answer all questions.

1. Explain and discuss Aristotle's view of literature as imitation. 20

2. Do you think that Wordsworth establishes a new poetic theory? What are the main features of his theory? 20

3. Write short notes on the following: 4 x 5 = 20
   a) Rasa
   (b) Catharsis
   (c) Postmodernism
   (d) "Woman as other"

4. Show how literary criticism and theory have developed a materialistic dimension based on Marxism. 20

5. Draw out the ideologies set forth by Mary Wollstonecraft and Virginia Woolf as pioneer feminists. 20

CHOOSE ANY THREE OF THE FOLLOWING AS PER YOUR ADMISSION DETAILS

NEW LITERATURES IN ENGLISH

ASSIGNMENT FOR MEG –08

July 2024 and January 2025 Session

Programme: MEG/MEGOL
Assignment Code: MEG-08/TMA/2024-25
Max Marks : 100

Attempt all the ten questions and answer each question in approximately 500 words.

1. The changing dimensions of the history of a country always leave an impact on its literature. Do you agree? Base your answer on the course that Australian literary studies has taken.

10

2. Write a detailed note on the role that literature and the language in which it is written, has played in Kenya and Nigeria.

10

3. *A Grain of Wheat* is based on the Kenyan National movement. Keeping this statement in mind, attempt a critical analysis of the novel.

10

4. What are some of the major issues that have been explored in *A Dance of the Forests?* Give a detailed answer.

10

5. Why do you think that Bapsi Sidhwa employed a girl-child as the narrator of the novel *Ice-Candy Man?* Give a reasoned answer.

10

6. Why did Ms. Biswas want a house? Base your answer keeping the diasporic sensibility in mind.

10

7. Attempt a critical analysis of Walcott's poem "Crusoe's Journal," keeping the aspect of postcolonialism in mind.

10

8. Write a detailed note on Brathwaite's Rastafarianism, as seen in his poetry.

10

9. What are the major themes that can be traced in *The Solid Mandala?* Give a detailed answer.

10

10. Attempt a detailed character analysis of Hagar Shipley as it emerges in the novel, *The Stone Angel*. 10

ASSIGNMENT (MEG) AUSTRALIAN LIERATURE
MEG-09

Programme: MEG/2024/2025
Course Code: MEG 09
Max. Marks: 100

Answer all questions in this assignment:

1. Critically examine the major themes of nineteenth century Australian poetry. 20

2. "The ideas of the Australian nation and a sense of masculinity connected with the bush, are subverted very skilfully in Baynton's stories." Discuss this statement with reference to the treatment of the bush in Barbara Baynton's story "The Chosen Vessel". 20

3. "Voss's journey is a quest for determining the nature of individual identity in a strange land." Do you agree with this statement on Patrick White's novel *Voss*? 20

4. Explain how Kevin Gilbert's poem 'Mister Man' engages with the theme of Aboriginal ownership of the Australian land. 20

5. Explain the significance of the title *The Removalists.* 20

A SURVEY COURSE IN 20TH CENTURY CANADIAN LITERATURE – MEG-12
July 2024 and January 2025

Programme: MEG
Assignment Code: MEG-12/TMA/2024-2025
Max. Marks: 100

Attempt all TEN questions and answer each question in approximately 500 words.

1 What are some major concerns that dominate 20th century Canadian Literature? Discuss it critically. 10

2 Canadian Professional Theatre gave the Canadians an identity of their own. Do you agree with it? Discuss. 10

3 "The landscape of Canada evokes terror in the literary mindscape ". Do you agree? Give a reasoned answer. 10

4 Comment on the central spirit of Canadian poetry. 10

5 What are the major themes running in the novel ***Surfacing***? 10

6 Discuss the portrayal of ordinary people and their essential humanity in ***The Tin Flute.***10

7 Trace the character sketch of kip in ***The English patient***. 10

8 Rita is a victim of social injustice. Justify this statement with reference to the play ***The Ecstasy of Rita Joe***. 10

9 Describe the Indian immigrant's experience in Canada found in "Swimming Lessons" and "The Door I Shut Behind Me". 10

10 Assess the contribution of Robert Kroetsch towards post-modern criticism in Canada. 10

ASSIGNMENT
THE AUSTRALIAN NOVEL
(MEG 19)

Programme: MEG/2024/2025
Course Code: MEG 19
Max. Marks: 100

Answer all questions in this assignment.

1. Explain with suitable examples, how nineteenth century women novelists of Australia created a space for themselves within the patriarchal culture and society of their times. 20

2. Critically examine the significance of Joseph Furphy's novel *Such is Life*, in the history of the Australian novel. 20

3. Explain the significance of the title *The Tree of Man*. 20

4. Consider *Schindler's Ark* as a story of the triumph of humanity. 20

5. Explain how writing becomes a political act in *True History of the Kelly Gang.* 20