PGDWM

POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN WRITINGS FROM THE MARGINS
(PGDWM)

ASSIGNMENT BOOKLET
(For July, 2022 and January, 2023 session)

MEG 04: Aspects of Language
MEG 05: Literary Criticism & Theory
MEG13: Writings from the Margins
MEG 14: Contemporary Indian Literature in English Translation
MEG 15: Comparative Literature
MEG 16: Indian Folk Literature

School of Humanities
Indira Gandhi National Open University
Maidan Garhi, New Delhi – 110 068

ASSIGNMENTS
FOR
POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN WRITINGS FROM THE MARGINS
(PGDWM)

Programme: PGDWM
Course Code: MEG –04, 05, 13, 14, 15 & 16

Dear Student

You are required to do one assignment for each of the following courses of the PG Diploma in Writings from the Margins Programme. This is a Tutor Marked Assignment (TMA) and carries 100 marks each. Each assignment covers the entire course of MEG – 04, 05, MEG 13, MEG 14, MEG 15 & MEG 16.

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 2025** (if enrolled in the July 2024 Session) and **30th Sept, 2025** (if enrolled in the January 2025 session).

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 04: ASPECTS OF LANGUAGE ASSIGNMENT
Assignment 2024-25

Course Code: MEG-04
Assignment Code: MEG-04/TMA/2024-2025
Max. Marks: 100

1. What are the characteristics of human language? Discuss each in detail. 20

2. Write short notes on the following: 2×10 =20

a. Back-formation
b. Compounding

3. Discuss the significance and types of motivation in the context of second language learning. 20

4. Word is “a minimum free form.” Elaborate. 20

5. Write a critical note on “Indianness” in Indian English. Give relevant examples. 20

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: 4x5=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

MEG-13
WRITINGS FROM THE MARGINS
ASSIGNMENT 2024-25
(Based on Blocks (1-8)

Course Code: MEG-13/ 2024-25
Max. Marks: 100

All questions are compulsory.

1. Write short notes on : (10 x 2 = 20)

   a) Tribal Worldview

   b) Dalit Identity and Culture

2. Discuss the significance of folksongs in *Changia Rukh.* (20)

3. Discuss the ending of the play *Routes and Escape Routes*. (20)

4. Critically analyse the representation of women in 'Liandova and Tuaisiala.' (20)

5. Trace the growth of C.K. Janu as a social activist from the grassroots level. (20)

MEG-14
Contemporary Indian Literature in English Translation

Course Code: MEG-14
Assignment Code: MEG-14/TMA/2024-25
Max. Marks: 100

Attempt any five of the following. All question carry equal marks.

1. Analyze the social context that caused the birth of Kannada novels. 10

2. Write an essay on Partition novels in Hindi. 10

3. Write a note on growth of Contemporary Indian Theatre. 10

4. What are the aims of Dalit Writings and how well does 'Karukku' achieve them? 10

5. 'Salt' combines stringent political comment with sophisticated literary technique. Discuss. 10

6. Do you think 'Birds' ends on a happy note? Give reasons for your answer. 10

7. Comment on the style and symbolism used in the story 'The Empty Chest'. 10

8. Discuss 'The Compromise' as an allegory. 10

9. Discuss the thematics and poetic-style of the poem 'Tree and the Sage'. 10

10. How does a late 20th or 21st century reader accept the re-invention of the myth of Sri Radha? 10

MEG-15
COMPARATIVE LITERATURE: THEORY AND PRACTICE
ASSIGNMENT 2024-2025
(Based on Blocks 1-8)

(COMPULSORY Component for 2nd Year: Choose between MEG 04/MEG 15)

Course Code: MEG-15/ 2024-2025
Max. Marks: 100

Attempt all the questions. All questions carry equal marks

1. Write a note on cultural diversity in the contemporary world. How do cultural studies contribute to our understanding of culture? 20

1. Jean Rhys' Wide Sargasso Sea is a retelling of Charlotte Bronte's Jane Eyre. Discuss it as a Poet colonial text. 20

3. Why do some critics describe autobiography as fiction? Explain. 20

4. Do you find features of magical realism in folk tales? Discuss. 20

5. How is 'The Palm – Wine Drinkard compared with Ben Qkri's The Famished Road? 20

MEG 16: INDIAN FOLK LITERATURE
ASSIGNMENT

Course Code: MEG-16
Assignment Code: MEG-16/TMA/2024-25
Max. Marks: 100

Attempt any **five** questions. Question 8 is compulsory.

1. Give a brief overview of the growth of folklore studies in India. 20

2. What is Contextual Theory of folklore? Elucidate. 20

3. Categorize the 'Great' and 'Little' traditions in the study of folklore. 20

4. Are cave paintings a part of our folk paintings and folk narratives? Attempt a critical review of folk paintings. 20

5. Tales Told by Mystics bases itself on the rich indigenous mythological properties. Discuss. 20

6. Attempt a critical note on the ethnographic details and eco-systems of the tribes of India on the basis of Sitakant Mahapatra's The Awakened Wind': The Oral Poetry of the Indian Tribes. 20

7. Discuss Girish Karnad's pivotal role in the development of folk theatre and modern Indian drama.

8. Write short notes on any two: (10x2=20)

a. Desha, Kshetra, Nadu,Rajya
b. Jatra, Kathakali, Tamasha
c. Folk music
d. Folk cuisine