

BEGE-105

BACHELORS DEGREE PROGRAMME (BDP)

**ELECTIVE COURSE IN ENGLISH
(BEGE-105)**

**ASSIGNMENT
(For July 2024 and January 2025 Sessions)**

**UNDERSTANDING PROSE
BEGE-105**



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

**Elective Course in English (BEGE – 105)
UNDERSTANDING PROSE**

**Programme: BDP
Course Code: BEGE – 105/2024-25**

Dear Students,

You will have one assignment for the Elective Course in English (BEGE - 105), which will be a Tutor Marked Assignment (TMA) and will carry 100 marks. It will be based on blocks 1 to 7.

Aims: This assignment is concerned mainly with assessing your application and your understanding of the course material. You are not required to reproduce chunks of information from the course material but to use the skills of critical appreciation that you may have acquired during the course of study. This assignment aims to teach as well as to assess your performance.

Instructions: Before attempting the questions please read the following instructions carefully.

1. Read the detailed instructions about the assignments given in the Programme Guide for Elective Courses.
2. Write your Enrolment Number, Name, Full Address and Date on the top right corner of the first page of your response sheet(s).
3. 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 :
ASSIGNMENT NO:
STUDY CENTRE : DATE :

4. Use only foolscap size paper for your response and tag all the pages carefully.
5. Write the relevant question number with each answer.
6. You should write in your own handwriting.
7. **Submission:** The completed assignment should be sent to the Coordinator of the Study Centre allotted to you **by 31st March 2024 (For July, 2023 Session) and 30th September, 2024 (For January, 2024 Session)**. Please read the instructions given in your Programme Guide.

Now read the following guidelines carefully before answering the 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 units.
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;
 - d) 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!

Elective Course in English
UNDERSTANDING PROSE (BEGE – 105)
Based on Blocks 1-7

Programme: BDP
Course Code: BEGE-105/2024-25
Maximum Marks: 100

Answer All Questions

1. Comment on the dominant variety of prose (narrative, expository or descriptive) present in each of the following passages. Write a brief critical appreciation of each passage in about 250 words each:

- a) My brother and I carried our father into the hospital, stamping on the goat turds which were spread all over the floor. There was no doctor in the hospital. The Ward boy, after we bribed him ten rupees, said that a doctor might come in the evening. The doors to the hospital's rooms were wide open. A few men had spread a newspaper on the ground and were sitting on it. One of them had an open wound on his leg. He invited us to sit with him. My brother and I lowered our father onto the newspaper sheets. Two little girls came and sat beside us; both had yellow eyes and skin. Jaundice it seemed. We kept adding newspapers to the ground and the line of diseased eyes, raw wounds and delirious mouths kept growing.
- b) It was perfectly true that the house was made out of trees. It was a fair-sized but elderly shack, made out of poplar poles and chinked with mud. There was an upstairs, which was not so usual around here, with three bedrooms, one of which I was to share with Chris's sister, Jeannie, who was slightly younger than I, a pallid-eyed girl who was either too shy to talk or who had nothing to say. I never discovered which, because I was so reticent with her myself, wanting to push her away, not to recognize her, and at the same time experiencing a shocked remorse at my own unacceptable feelings.
- c) Theologians don't much like it when we attempt to peel away the accretions of myth, history, dogma, and sacrament that cloud the origins of their chosen faith. When we seek common threads among the world's spiritual doctrines, we may be chided for taking a cafeteria approach to religion: a little from this one, a little from that one, as if we were downloading only our favorite songs from the Internet in order to make up our own "Best of" CD
It is true enough that some New Age belief systems do little more than dabble in devotion, backing off quickly whenever spiritual discipline becomes too incompatible with one's lifestyle. One cannot really be a part-time Buddhist any more than a self-described Christian can purchase salvation with one hour a week in church. But the irrefutable truth is that at the heart of each of the great religious traditions are three small words: God is one.

(10x3=30)

2. The story 'Misery' by Chekhov deals with human insensitivity to other peoples' grief. Do you agree? Give a reasoned answer.

(10)

3. Write a detailed note on *The Binding Vine* as a Stream of Consciousness novel.

(10)

4. Comment on how Lamb has used humour in his essay "A Dissertation Upon Roast Pig", to make the essay entertaining. Give examples from the text wherever necessary.

(10)

5. How does Bill Aitkin comment upon the cultural divide between the North and South? Give a reasoned answer. (10)
6. Write a note on how Gandhi spent his days in Calcutta and his impression of Burma as seen in his autobiography. (10)
7. What do we get to know about the Holocaust from Anne Frank's diary? (10)
8. Laurence was committed to social causes. Write a note on her commitment to nuclear disarmament as seen in her speech "My Final Hour." (10)