

DCE

ASSIGNMENT BOOKLET
Assignments for Courses 1,2,3,4 and 5

ASSIGNMENTS
(For July 2020 and January 2021 Sessions)

Diploma in Creative Writing in English
(DCE)



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

Diploma in Creative Writing in English

Dear Students,

We hope you are already familiar with the system of evaluation to be followed for the Diploma in Creative Writing in English. At this stage you should read again the pages of the Programme Guide that give the details of the evaluation procedure. A weightage of 30 per cent, as you are aware, has been earmarked for Continuous Evaluation, which would consist of one assignment per Course.

The Assignment booklet for Courses 1,2,3,4 and 5 is being sent herewith. It has a total of 5 assignments, of which 4 must be submitted by you. The assignment for Course 1 is **compulsory** and every student must attempt this. You are required to do the assignments for only three courses, out of DCE-2,3,4 and 5.

Following is the calendar for submission of assignments:

Course 1	}	Last Date of Submission of Assignments:
Course 2		
Course 3		
Course 4		
Course 5		
		For July 2020 session: 31st March 2021
		For January 2021 session: 30th September 2021

All assignments must be submitted on or before the date set.

All assignments pertaining to any Course must be submitted in one batch. **No piecemeal submission is acceptable.**

In case you are not able to keep this deadline in the first year, say 2020, you should submit your assignments in 2021, 2022 or 2023 that is, you have a total of 1+3 years to submit your assignments.

At the commencement of every academic year, your progress will be intimated and you will be asked your plan of studies for that year. At this stage, please ask for the assignment Booklet of **that** year, not for your year of enrolment. Irrespective of your year of enrolment, **you do the assignment in force for the year in which you submit it.**

Do not plan to take the terminal examination for any course if you have not done the assignments set for it first. You will not be permitted to do so.

Instructions for submitting your assignments

1. You should attach a slip in the following format to the top of the relevant course assignments

Course Title _____	Name _____	For Office
Use		
Assignment No. _____	Address _____	Grades:
Enrolment No. _____	_____	Letter
Date sent on _____		
_____	_____	Evaluated by
	_____	_____

PLEASE FOLLOW THE ABOVE FORMAT STRICTLY TO FACILITATE EVALUATION AND TO AVOID DELAY.

2. The answer sheets should be complete in all respects. Make sure you have answered all the questions in an assignment before you submit it.
3. Use only foolscap size writing paper (but not of very thin variety), for writing your answer.
4. Leave 5 cms margin on the left, top and bottom of your answer scripts so that comments, if any, can be made.
5. Start every assignment on a fresh sheet so that you can prepare separate sets for each block.
6. You should not send printed articles as your answers to assignments.
7. Please write **ASSIGNMENT FOR DIPLOMA IN CREATIVE WRITING IN ENGLISH** on top of the cover in which you send your answer/response sheets.

Diploma in Creative Writing in English
DCE 1
Fundamentals of Writing
Assignment

Programme: DCE
Assignment Code: DCE 1/TMA/1/2020-2021

Max Marks: 100

Attempt all the questions

1. Write a character-sketch in the diary-writing mode. (20)
2. Using the autobiographical mode, write a brief account of a young man working abroad in order to improve his family's financial condition. (20)
3. You had an argument with your sister over a trivial matter and she left home in a huff. Later you hear that she has been in an accident. Write two opening paragraphs of a story based on this and also provide two possible endings for the story. (20)
4. Write a dialogue between two students discussing ways and means to get ahead in life. While one feels that it is important to be honest and ethical, the other laughs at him for his "outdated" views. (20)
5. Why should writers review and edit their own work? (10)
6. Read the following story and answer the questions that follow:

Two friends were walking through the desert. During some point of the journey they had an argument, and one friend slapped the other one in the face. The one who got slapped was hurt, but without saying anything, wrote in the sand:

"Today my best friend slapped me in the face."

They kept on walking until they found an oasis, where they decided to take a bath. The one who had been slapped got stuck in the mire and started drowning, but the friend saved him. After he recovered from the near drowning, he wrote on a stone:

"Today my best friend saved my life."

The friend who had slapped and then saved his best friend asked him, "After I hurt you, you wrote in the sand and now, you write on a stone, why?"

The other friend replied, "When someone hurts us we should write it down in sand where winds of forgiveness can erase it away. But, when someone does something good for us, we must engrave it in stone where no wind can ever erase it."

- i) Rewrite portions of the story where you think more descriptions would make it more interesting. (5)
- ii) Write a moral for the story. (5)

DCE-2
FEATURE WRITING

Programme: DCE
Assignment code: DCE 2/TMA/1/2020-2021

Max Marks: 100

- 1 Traditionally women have been expected to handle all domestic chores. Do you think this is changing in the present scenario? Write a feature on how we can change this mindset and usher in gender neutrality in the work-place as well as home?

20
- 2 While reviewing a book you need to include its subject, strengths, weaknesses and context along with your personal opinion. Write a review of a book that you have read recently, which you would recommend/not recommend to others.

20
- 3 You have just returned from a vacation to a foreign land, whose language, culture and cuisine were completely unfamiliar to you. Describe your experiences there in such a way that others would want to/not want to travel there.

20
- 4 Imagine that you are interviewing a person who has survived a terrible disease. List out ten questions and their possible answers which would bring out the fact that a positive mindset helps to combat illnesses.

20
- 5 Write a short feature on any one of the following:

20

 - i Be the change you want to see
 - ii Balancing a career and family

DCE-3
SHORT STORY

Programme: DCE
Assignment code: DCE 3/TMA/1/2020-2021

Max Marks: 100

- 1 Continue the following story and take it to a logical conclusion:

She could hear water running in the kitchen when she unlocked the front door and entered her house. This seemed surprising since she lived alone and there couldn't possibly be anyone else in the house. She ran towards the kitchen and pushed open the door – and in that instant she realized that she should have run out of the house instead of into it...

20

- 2 Write a short story beginning with the following sentences: (You can fill in the blanks for the name, gender, town and age)

My name isand I am aliving in I'myears old and am married/not married. Yesterday I killed someone and I haven't been able to.....

20

- 3 Write a short story for children on one of the following:

- i Trapped in an elevator
- ii Waking up to something absurd
- iii My happiest day

Remember that the story is for children so the language and the values that the story endorses should suit their age.

20

- 4 Write a mystery / detective story around the following situation:

A spinster is murdered leaving all her wealth to her neighbour who immediately becomes a suspect. You, as the neighbor's best friend set out to solve the mystery of the murder and absolve your friend of the crime.

20

- 5 Write a story about how your deepest fear in life was holding you back and how you managed to overcome it.

20

DCE – 4
WRITING FOR MEDIA: RADIO TELEVISION

Programme: DCE
Assignment Code: DCE 4/TMA/1/2020-2021

Max. Marks: 100

- 1 Write a Radio documentary on any one of the following: 20
- a) Stress – a modern day killer
 - b) Technology – a blessing or a curse
- Remember that a script, a narrator and sound effects are essential to a radio documentary.
- 2 Write a Radio play revolving around any one of the following, making use of narration, dialogues and SFX: 20
- a) A bird in hand is worth two in the bush
 - b) The pen is mightier than the sword
 - c) Fortune favours the bold
- 3 Write a Public Service Announcement for TV on the following topics. Suggest visuals, narration, SFX and dialogues wherever required: 10x2=20
- a) Say no to child labour
 - b) Organ donation
- 4 Write a script for a TV documentary on the following: 20
- “Some important qualities that women must possess and how to develop them.”
- 5 Write a take for either Radio or TV on “Three problems facing the world today which mankind needs to address immediately”. 20

DCE 5
Diploma in Creative Writing in English
Writing Poetry
Assignment

Programme: DCE
Assignment Code: DCE 5/TMA/1/2020-2021

Max Marks: 100

Attempt all the questions

1. Read the following poem and answer the questions that follow:

Palanquin Bearers:

Lightly, O lightly we bear her along,
She sways like a flower in the wind of our song;
She skims like a bird on the foam of a stream,
She floats like a laugh from the lips of a dream.
Gaily, O gaily we glide and we sing,
We bear her along like a pearl on a string.
Softly, O softly we bear her along,
She hangs like a star in the dew of our song;
She springs like a beam on the brow of the tide,
She falls like a tear from the eyes of a bride.
Lightly, O lightly we glide and we sing,
We bear her along like a pearl on a string.

- i) Pick out the comparisons in the poem. Are they similes or metaphors? (5)
- ii) What is the tone of the poem? Do you get a sense of hard physical labour? Why/why not? (5)
- iii) One of the palanquin bearers is an old man who has to do this work to earn a living. Write a short poem from his point of view describing his difficulties. (10)

2. Imagine that it is a bride who is being brought to her husband's house in the palanquin. Write a short poem describing her state of mind at leaving her parents' house and going to live among strangers in a new village. (20)
3. Write two verses on the theme of weddings, using suitable images. (20)
4. Imagine you are the father of the bride who is on her way to her husband's house. Write two verses describing your emotions, your hopes and fears. (20)
5. A poem containing entirely of negations is an anti-poem. Write a short poem which illustrates this. (20)