

**MEG-02**

**MASTER'S DEGREE IN ENGLISH  
(MEG)**

**ASSIGNMENT  
(For July, 2023 and January, 2024 Session)**

**BRITISH DRAMA: MEG-02**



**School of Humanities  
Indira Gandhi National Open University  
Maidan Garhi, New Delhi-110068**

**ASSIGNMENT**  
**For**  
**MASTER'S DEGREE IN ENGLISH ONLINE**  
**BRITISH DRAMA (MEG-02)**

**Programme: MEG**  
**Course Code: MEG-02**

**Dear Student,**

You will have to attempt a single assignment for the Master's Degree in English (MEG-02). The assignment is a Tutor Marked Assignment (TMA) and carries 100 marks. It will be based on blocks 1 to 9. The number of choices has been restricted in order to ensure that you read the study materials thoroughly and attempt some independent critical thinking.

**Aims:** The TMA is concerned mainly with assessing your application and 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. The assignment aims to teach as well as to assess your performance. Please ensure that you read the three novels, one play as well as the short stories and poems that have been prescribed for this course.

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

1. Read the detailed instructions about the assignment 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 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 for (if enrolled in the July 2023 session) and 30<sup>th</sup> Sept, 2024 (if enrolled in January 2024 session)**

Please read the instructions given in your Programme Guide.

### **GUIDELINES FOR TMAs**

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

1. **Planning:** Read the questions carefully. Go through the points 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. **Organization:** 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 summarize your response to the question. In the course of your answer, you may like to make references to other texts or books 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 emphasize.

***Note: You may be aware that you need to submit your assignment 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 02:BRITISH DRAMA  
(Based on Blocks (1-9))**

**MEG-02/TMA 01/2023-24  
Max. Marks: 100**

**Section A is compulsory. Attempt any four questions in Section B**

**Section A**

1. Critically comment on the following passages with reference to the context, in not more than 150 words each: (4x5=20)
  - (a) O, my offence is rank, it smells to heaven, It had the primal eldest curse upon't A brother's murder! Pray can I not. Though inclination be as sharp as will.
  - (b) Galatea never does quite like Pygmalion: relation to her is too godlike to be altogether agreeable.
  - (c) What boots it then to think of God or heaven ? Away with such fancies and despair; Despair in God, and trust in Beelzebub ... Abjure this magic, turn to God again.
  - (d) Astride of a grave and a difficult birth  
Down in the hole, lingeringly,  
the gravedigger puts on the forceps.  
We have time to grow old. The air is full of our cries. But habit is a great deadener.

**Section B**

1. "Beckett rejects the received logic of form and conventional structure." Critically comment. (20)
2. Discuss the typical Shakespearean comic elements in the play in A Midsummer Night's Dream. (20)
3. What do you think is the dominant quality of Hamlet's character? Discuss with suitable examples. (20)
4. Can *The Alchemist* be understood as a satire? Give suitable examples. (20)
5. Discuss the play Pygmalion as a romance? Elaborate. (20)
6. Discuss the art of characterisation in *The Playboy of the Western World*? (20)
7. Discuss *Murder in the Cathedral* as a poetic drama. (20)
8. Comment on the historical significance of *Look Back in Anger*. (20)
9. Discuss the Romantic and Modernist conceptions of character in the presentation of Jimmy as the play's protagonist. (20)