

**DIPLOMA IN CREATIVE WRITING IN
ENGLISH**

Term-End Examination

December, 2011

01920

DCE-2 : FEATURE WRITING

Time : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 100

(Weightage 70%)

Note : This paper has two sections, A and B. Attempt any five questions in all, choosing at least two from each section. All questions carry equal marks.

SECTION - A

1. Write short notes on *any two* of the following :
(200 words each) : 2x10=20
 - (a) Pre-conceptions in writing about women.
 - (b) The tone of an objective review.
 - (c) Articles aimed at a business traveller.
 - (d) Technique of asking questions in an interview.

2. Discuss the differences between a traditional and a progressive attitude in writing on women. 20

3. Do you agree that a reviewer's job is to examine a book for its subject, style and relevance ? Discuss with examples. (400 words). 20

4. What techniques would you suggest to someone who is interested in taking up travel writing ? (400 words) 20

5. Discuss some of the advantages and disadvantages of using electronic aids during an interview. (400 words) 20

SECTION - B

6. You have to interview a scientist who has made some path-breaking discovery. Write a brief introduction about what the new discovery is and then frame 7 - 10 questions and their possible answers. Remember - you can make the interview serious or humorous - as per the nature of the discovery. Marks will be given for originality. (400 words). 20
7. Write an article comparing and contrasting the lives of rural and urban women in our country today. Draw conclusions as to who is getting a better deal in life. (400 words). 20
8. Write a travel article aimed at retired persons who wish to travel to some exotic foreign locale. Outline all the attractions and conveniences that the older generation would want during their travels. (400 words). 20
9. Write a book review of any book that you have read lately. Keep in mind all the guidelines that you have learnt regarding objectivity, integrity and acquaintance with allied subjects etc. Provide the title, author and price of the book. (400 words). 20

10. Comment on the subject and style of the following book review in your capacity as a reviewer of books. (400 words). 20

A BEND IN THE ROAD

by Nicholas Sparks

When you read a book by Nicholas Sparks, you are guaranteed a story of unconditional love that exists between two people. It is a bond that remains standing after the most tragic events. In this case, the love is between Miles and Missy. Readers are given a glance at the heart-warming couple. We get to meet sweet, withdrawn Jonah and his caring teacher.

As soon as we form a bond with these characters, Sparks reveals the sad details of Missy's accident. It's difficult not to become emotionally involved in the plot and suffer right along with the cast. Sparks uses the first half of **A Bend in the Road** to form the relationship between Miles and Sarah. The latter portion of the book focuses on the narrator's story and Miles' anger and resentment over no arrest of a suspect.

The events of this novel are bound to cause an intense shift in readers' emotional gears. You must feel love, sadness, anger and frustration to fully experience the story. Just as soon as you perceive Miles as a caring wonderful man, the author changes his behaviour. Now, you must feel disappointment in his actions. Sparks weaves a

poignant tale, but it's emotionally draining. As mentioned on the book jacket, the relationship between Miles and Sarah is threatened by a devastating secret. Sparks intends for readers to solve the mystery early on in the book. If you know the identity of the hit-and-run suspect, you can watch with amazement as the story unfolds. If you don't pick up on the clues, you'll be stunned when the answer is revealed. Either way, you'll be surprised at the climax.

The conclusion of **A Bend in the Road** is somewhat open-ended. Readers see Miles' choice, but they must provide their own reasons for his decision. Fans of Sparks' work may notice similarities between this book and his past efforts. Incredible love, loss of love, death and mourning are present in earlier titles as well. The formula works, however. Books by Nicholas Sparks have been translated in dozens of languages. No doubt **A Bend in the Road** will be cherished as well.
