

**BEGE-105**

**BACHELORS DEGREE PROGRAMME (BDP)**

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

**ASSIGNMENT  
(For July 2022 and January 2023 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 – 105/2022-23**

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:

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ENROLMENT NO: .....  
NAME : .....  
ADDRESS : .....  
.....

COURSE TITLE : .....  
ASSIGNMENT NO: .....  
STUDY CENTRE : ..... DATE : .....

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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 2023 (For July, 2022 Session) and 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2023 (For January, 2023 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-105/2022-23**  
**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) ‘To be an immigrant is to live out a tragedy....The clash of cultures....and of generations.....I’m talking about the struggle to assimilate and the need to preserve one’s identity and heritage...I’m talking about the children who don’t know what their identity is. I’m talking about the feelings of alienation engendered by a society where racism is prevalent. I’m talking about the terrific struggle to preserve one’s sanity while striving to achieve the best for one’s family.’
- b) When I first met Gabriella, I couldn’t help but notice the sparkles. Her jewelry, sequined purse, and shiny strappy shoes caught my attention, as most doctors that I meet usually don’t wear such items. A well-dressed Caucasian woman with flawless fair skin, long blond hair, and the bluest eyes, she had a bubbly personality. Everything about her was sparkly. She was excited to begin the session; it shone in her eyes.
- c) In a field in front of the dining hall, I observed a beautiful ceremony. A large group of women, approximately 150 of them, were standing there on the grass in a huge circle, each holding a candle. I stopped and listened from under a nearby tree. They were singing a song in unison, and as each refrain ended two new women from the circle would step into it, move in opposite directions, and stop to hug each and every woman. These are the words they so wonderfully chanted: “dear sister, dear sister, I must let you know. You have loved me all these years, and I love you so.” That was it—such a simple, beautiful sentiment and as I found the way to my vehicle in the parking lot, I realized that I was singing the song as I walked. Merely doing so made me feel closer to my sisters and brothers. It was a powerful refrain. I began driving my car through the heavily wooded area.

(10x3=30)

2. Trace a connection between the title ‘Misery’, and its sub-title ‘To Whom Shall I Tell My Grief?’

(10)

3. Write a detailed note on the various themes present in the novel *The Binding Vine*.

(10)

4. Issues of race, and colonialism are reflected in Kincaids’ essay “On Seeing England for the First Time.” Elucidate with examples from the text.

(10)

5. What are some of the main features of Nehru's prose style as seen in his letter 'The Quest of Man?' (10)
6. Discuss the main features of Boswell's biographical art as employed in *Life of Johnson*. (10)
7. Laurence's speech "My *Final Hour*" reflects her commitment to social causes. Discuss with examples from the text. (10)
8. Trace the similarities and differences between a biography and an autobiography. (10)