

**POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN BRITISH LITERATURE
(PGDBLT)**

**ASSIGNMENT BOOKLET
(For July, 2022 and January, 2023 session)**

**MEG01: British Poetry
MEG 02: British Drama
MEG 03: British Novel
MEG 05: Literary Criticism & Theory**



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

**ASSIGNMENTS
FOR
POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN BRITISH LITERATURE
(PGDBLT)**

**Programme: PGDBLT
Course Code: MEG – 01, 02, 03 & 05**

Dear Student

You are required to do one assignment for each of the following courses of the PG Diploma in British Literature Programme. This is a Tutor Marked Assignment (TMA) and carries 100 marks each. Each assignment covers the entire course of MEG – 01, MEG 02, MEG 03 & MEG 05.

Aims: These TMAs are concerned mainly with assessing your application and understanding of the course materials. You are not required to reproduce chunks of information from the course materials but to use the skills of critical appreciation that you may have acquired during the course of study. These assignment aim to teach as well as to assess your performance. Please ensure that you read all the texts prescribed in the courses. **Let me repeat: you must read all the texts/ critical essays prescribed.** Do make points as you go along. If there is anything you do not understand, please ask your Counsellor at the Study Centre for clarification. Once you are able to do the assignments satisfactorily, you will be ready to take the exam with confidence.

Instructions: Before attempting the assignments, please read the following instructions carefully.

1. Write your enrolment number, name, full address and date on the top right corner of the first page of your response sheet(s).
2. 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:	
COURSE CODE:	STUDY CENTRE:
DATE:	

3. Use A 4 size paper for your response and tag all the pages carefully.
4. Write the relevant question number with each answer.
5. You should write in your own handwriting.

6. **Submission:** The completed assignment should be sent to the Coordinator of the Study Centre allotted to you by **31st March 2023** (if enrolled in the July 2022 Session) and **30th Sept, 2023** (if enrolled in the January 2023 session).

Now read the following guidelines carefully before answering 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 study materials.
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;
 - (e) 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!

MEG-01
British Poetry

Assignment Code: MEG-01/TMA/2022-23

Max. Marks: 100

Note: Attempt any five questions.

1. Explain any two of the excerpts of poems given below with reference to their context:
(10 X 2 = 20)
 - (i) *But hail thou Goddess, sage and holy,
Hail divinest Melancholy,
Whose Saintly visage is too bright
To hit the Sense of human sight;
And therefore to our weaker view,
Ore laid with black staid wisdoms hue.*
 - (ii) *My love is now awake out of her dreams (s),
and her fayre eyes like stars that dimmed were
With darksome cloud, now shew theyr goodly beams
More bright then Hesperus his head doth rere.*
 - (ii) *All human things are subject to decay,
And when Fate summons monarchs must obey.
This Fleckonoe found, who, like Augustus, young
Was called to Empire and had governed long;*
 - (iv) *Damn with faint praise, assent with civil leer,
And without sneering, teach the rest to sneer;
Willing to wound, and yet afraid to strike*
2. Draw a comparison between the “Epithalamion” and the “Prothalamion” as wedding songs. Answer with suitable examples. (20)
3. Who were the Pre- Raphaelites and what were the characteristics of the movement? Critically appreciate any one poem of this age/movement. (20)
4. What attitude to Nature does Coleridge express in the Ode to Dejection? In what ways does this attitude differ from that of Wordsworth and from his own earlier attitude? (20)
5. What was the Reformation? What relations can you identify and trace between the Renaissance and the Reformation. (20)
6. Philip Larkin has been called an ‘uncommon poet of common man’. Would you agree? Explain with suitable examples. (20)

MEG 02: BRITISH DRAMA

MEG-02/TMA 01/2022-23

Max. Marks: 100

Answer any five questions. All questions carry equal marks. Answer each question in about 350 to 400 words.

1. Discuss *Waiting for Godot* from the perspective of the theatre of the Absurd. (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. Write an essay on British Drama in the twentieth Century. (20)

MEG 03: BRITISH NOVEL

MEG-03/TMA 01/2022-23

Max. Marks: 100

Answer all questions in this assignment

1. "Fielding is one of the most pro-woman writers in English." Do you agree with this view? Justify your answer with illustrations from the text of *Tom Jones*. (20)
2. Discuss how *Pride and Prejudice* engages with the theme of love and marriage. (20)
3. The character Heathcliff in Emily Brontë's novel *Wuthering Heights* is often referred to in derogatory terms by the other characters, as being 'the evil beast', 'uncivilised', 'without refinement' and so on. Do you agree with such a judgment of Heathcliff? (20)
4. Comment on the symbolism of the title *Heart of Darkness*. (20)
5. Write a critical essay on the narrative technique adopted by Muriel Spark in *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*. (20)

MEG – 05: Literary Criticism & Theory
ASSIGNMENT 2022 - 2023
Based on Blocks (1 – 8)

Max. Marks: 100

Answer all questions.

1. Discuss Aristotle's view of literature as imitation. (20)
2. What do Wordsworth and Coleridge have to say on poetic diction. (20)
3. Write short notes on the following: (4 x 5 = 20)
 - a) Catharsis
 - (b) Auchitya
 - (c) Superstructure
 - (d) 'Pleasure' and 'instruction' as ends of literature
4. What does I. A. Richards talk about in *Practical Criticism*? (20)
5. Comment on Lacan's main contribution to critical theory. (20)