

**POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN NEW LITERATURES IN ENGLISH
(PGDNLEG)**

**ASSIGNMENT BOOKLET
(For July, 2023 and January, 2024 sessions)**

MEG 05: Literary Criticism & Theory
and
any **three** of the following:

MEG08: New Literatures in English
MEG 09: Australian Literature
MEG 12: A Survey Course in 20th Century Canadian Literature
MEG 19: Australian Novel



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

**ASSIGNMENTS
FOR
POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN NEW LITERATURES IN ENGLISH (PGNLEG)**

**Programme: PGDNLEG
Course Code: MEG – 05, 08, 09, 12 & 19**

Dear learner,

You are required to do one assignment for each of the following courses of the 'PG Diploma in New Literatures in English' Programme. This is a Tutor Marked Assignment (TMA) and carries 100 marks each. Each assignment covers the entire course of MEG 05, MEG 08, MEG 09, MEG 12 & MEG 19. **Please note, MEG 05 is compulsory and you need to choose any three from amongst MEG 08, MEG 09, MEG 12 and MEG 19, as per your admission details.**

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** for June exam and **30th September** for December exam.

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 – 05: Literary Criticism & Theory
ASSIGNMENT 2023 - 2024
Based on Blocks (1 – 8)

Max. Marks: 100

Answer all questions:

1. Why does Plato want the artists to be kept away from the ideal state? Discuss. (20)
2. Examine the purpose that spontaneity, emotions and personality serve in Wordsworth's theory of poetry. (20)
3. Write short notes on the following: (4 x 5 = 20)
 - a) Peripetia
 - (b) Sphota
 - (c) Class ideology
 - (d) Poetic Diction
4. Discuss briefly, the ideas of Marx and Engels on class relations. (20)
5. Comment on Mary Wollstonecraft's contributions to the rights of women. (20)

CHOOSE ANY THREE AS PER YOUR ADMISSION DETAILS**MEG-08
NEW LITERATURES IN ENGLISH**

**Programme: PGDNLEG
Assignment Code: MEG-08/TMA/2023-24
Max Marks: 100**

Attempt all the ten questions and answer each question in approximately 500 words.

1. Discuss the relationship between literature and social commitment with reference to the texts in your course. 10
2. *A Grain of Wheat* is a novel about Kenya's struggle for freedom. Discuss. 10
3. What political statement does Soyinka make in his play *A Dance of the Forests*? 10
4. Discuss the manner in which Bapsi Sidhwa presents the partition in *Ice-Candy Man*. 10
5. Examine *A House for Mr. Biswas* as a diasporic novel. 10
6. Write a critical account of the relationship between history and language in Derek Walcott's poetry. 10
7. Analyse the evolution of a distinct 'video style' in Braithwaite's poems. 10
8. The characters in *The Solid Mandala* are a reflection of the themes of the novel. Discuss. 10
9. What are the various functions that the stone angel serves in the novel *The Stone Angel*? 10
10. Migrant intellectuals have played a significant role in institutionalizing postcolonial theory. Discuss. 10

MEG - 09
AUSTRALIAN LITERATURE
ASSIGNMENT 2023 - 2024

Max Marks: 100

Attempt all the questions in this assignment:

1. "Australian writings of the colonial period excluded the woman, often delegating to her the passive virtues of stoicism and endurance." Do you agree with this statement? 20

2. Discuss the theme of exploration in Patrick White's novel *Voss*. 20

3. Critically evaluate the achievement of Henry Lawson as a writer of short fiction, bringing out the significance of his writing in the development of Australian fiction. 20

4. The poem "We are Going" by Kath Walker "depicts the murder of an entire civilization and way of life." Give your response to this statement. 20

5. Consider Ed Tiang Hong's poem "Coming To" as an attempt to re-define Australian identity. 20

A
SURVEY COURSE IN 20TH CENTURY CANADIAN
LITERATURE – MEG - 12
July 2023 and January 2024

Programme: PGDNLEG
Code: MEG-12/TMA/2023-2024
Max.Marks:100

Attempt all TEN questions and answer each question in approximately 500 words.

1. What are the different stages of Canadian history from the First Settlers to the present age? Elaborate on it. 10
2. What makes 1967 a key year in the development of indigenous Canadian drama? What gives George Ryga a special place in Canadian drama? 10
3. What is the general Canadian attitude to 'Nature' especially in the early years of its existence as a nation? 10
4. What are the chief characteristics of 20th century Canadian poetry? 10
5. Comment on the overall thematic thrust of *Surfacing*. Structurally, what are the three broad sections into which *Surfacing* can be divided? 10
6. Comment on the thematic side of *The Tin Flute*. 10
7. Who are the main characters in *The English Patient*. Give a brief account of their life together in the Italian Villa? 10
8. Comment on the thematic side of *The Ecstasy of Rita Joe*. 10
9. Discuss the narrative technique of "Swimming Lessons." 10
10. What are the various types of criticism that Frye talks about in *Anatomy of Criticism*? 10

ASSIGNMENT
THE AUSTRALIAN NOVEL (MEG 19)

Programme: MEG/2023/2024

Course Code: MEG 19

Max. Marks: 100

Answer all questions in this assignment.

1. Consider *The Tree of Man* by Patrick White as a pioneer novel. 20
2. Explain the significance of the title of Yasmine Gooneratne's novel
A Change of Skies. 20
3. "Kim Scott's novel *Benang* is a polyphonic text." Comment on this
statement. 20
4. Discuss with suitable examples, how Peter Carey mingles 'fiction'
with 'historical accounts' in his effort to arrive at a 'true history'
of a social outlaw, in *True History of the Kelly Gang*. 20
5. Write short notes of around 200 words each on the following:
10+10=20
 - a. Trace the development of the novel in nineteenth century Australia,
and critically evaluate its themes and concerns.
 - b. Examine how Keneally engages with the complex nature of
righteousness and virtue through the character Oskar Schindler in *Schindler's Ark*.