

**POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN THE NOVEL  
(PGDNOV)**

**ASSIGNMENT BOOKLET  
(For July, 2024 and January, 2025 sessions)**

**MEG 05: Literary Criticism & Theory**

**MEG 03: British Novel**

**MEG11: American Novel**

**MEG 19: Australian Novel**



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

**ASSIGNMENTS  
FOR  
POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN THE NOVEL  
(PGDNOV)**

**Programme: PGDNOV  
Course Code: MEG – 03, 05, 11 & 19**

Dear learner

You are required to do one assignment each for the following courses of the 'PG Diploma in The Novel' Programme. These are Tutor Marked Assignments (TMA) and carry 100 marks each. Each assignment covers the entire course of MEG 03, MEG 05, MEG 11 & MEG 19.

**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 must have acquired during the course of study. These assignments 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 **31<sup>st</sup> March** (for June examination) and **30<sup>th</sup> September** (for December examination).

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.**

Last dates for submission: **31<sup>st</sup> March** (for June examination) and **30<sup>th</sup> September** (for December examination).

**Good luck with your work!**

**MEG – 05 Literary Criticism & Theory**  
**ASSIGNMENT 2024 - 2025**  
**Based on Blocks (1 – 8)**

**Max. Marks: 100**

**Answer all questions.**

1. Explain and discuss Aristotle's view of literature as imitation. 20
  
2. Do you think that Wordsworth establishes a new poetic theory? What are the main features of his theory? 20
  
3. Write short notes on the following: 4 x 5 = 20
  - a) Rasa
  - (b) Catharsis
  - (c) Postmodernism
  - (d) “Woman as other”
  
4. Show how literary criticism and theory have developed a materialistic dimension based on Marxism. 20
  
5. Draw out the ideologies set forth by Mary Wollstonecraft and Virginia Woolf as pioneer feminists. 20

**ASSIGNMENT**  
**MEG-03 BRITISH NOVEL**

**Programme: MEG/2024/2025**  
**Course Code: MEG 03**  
**Max. Marks: 100**

**Answer all questions in this assignment.**

1. Comment on the significance of places as segments of life in *Tom Jones*. Do you think that these segments bring to life the diversity and interrelatedness of eighteenth century English life? **20**
  
2. Explain how Jane Austen engages with the theme of love and marriage in *Pride and Prejudice*. **20**
  
3. Discuss the narrative techniques adopted by Emily Bronte in *Wuthering Heights*. Explain how the complex narrative reflects multiple voices. **20**
  
4. Explain how George Eliot engages with the ‘woman question’ in *Middlemarch*. **20**
  
5. Consider *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* as an aesthetic autobiography. **20**

**MEG-11AMERICAN NOVEL  
ASSIGNMENT July 2024-Jan 2025**

*(Based on Blocks (1-9))*

**Course Code: MEG-11/ 2024-2025**

**Max. Marks: 100**

**Answer all questions.**

1. Discuss *Sister Carrie* as a city novel. 20
2. Consider *The Catcher in a Rye* as a tragedy. 20
3. Write a critical note on style of *Black Spring*. 20
4. Examine the use of irony in the *The Floating Opera* giving suitable examples from the novel. 20
5. Comment on the aspect of characterization in *The Last of the Mohicans*. 20

**ASSIGNMENT**  
**THE AUSTRALIAN NOVEL**  
**(MEG 19)**

**Programme: MEG/2024/2025**  
**Course Code: MEG 19**  
**Max. Marks: 100**

**Answer all questions in this assignment.**

1. Explain with suitable examples, how nineteenth century women novelists of Australia created a space for themselves within the patriarchal culture and society of their times. 20
  
2. Critically examine the significance of Joseph Furphy's novel *Such is Life*, in the history of the Australian novel. 20
  
3. Explain the significance of the title *The Tree of Man*. 20
  
4. Consider *Schindler's Ark* as a story of the triumph of humanity. 20
  
5. Explain how writing becomes a political act in *True History of the Kelly Gang*. 20