

**POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN WRITINGS FROM INDIA  
(PGDWI)**

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

**MEG 05: Literary Criticism & Theory**

**MEG 07: Indian English Literature**

**MEG 10: English Studies in India**

**MEG 14: Contemporary Indian Literature in English Translation**



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

**ASSIGNMENTS  
FOR  
POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN WRITINGS FROM INDIA  
(PGDWI)**

**Programme: PGDWI  
Course Code: MEG – 05, 07, 10 & 14**

Dear Student

You are required to do one assignment for each of the following courses of the PG Diploma in Writings from India Programme. This is a Tutor Marked Assignment (TMA) and carries 100 marks each. Each assignment covers the entire course of MEG – 05, MEG 07, MEG 10 & MEG 14.

**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:

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	ENROLMENT NO: .....
	NAME: .....
	ADDRESS: .....
COURSE TITLE: .....	
COURSE CODE: .....	STUDY CENTRE: .....
DATE: .....	

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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 2023** (if enrolled in the July 2022 Session) and **30<sup>th</sup> 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 – 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)

**MEG 07: INDIAN ENGLISH LITERATURE**  
**ASSIGNMENT 2022-23**  
**(Based on Blocks 1-8)**

**Course Code: MEG-07/ 2022-23**

**Max. Marks: 100**

**Attempt all questions. All questions carry equal marks.**

1. Write short note on: (4 x 5 = 20)
  - a) Forms of Prose
  - b) Narrative technique in *The Four Daughter*
  - c) Vikarm Seth's Prose Style
  - d) Social and Cultural situations in India during Derozio's time
2. Comment on the structure and techniques used by Anita Desai in *Clear Light of the Day*. (20)
3. In Kanthapura, Raja Rao conveys a purely Indian experience through the foreign medium of the English Language. Comment. (20)
4. What makes India special for Aurobindo is "spirituality made the leading motive and the determining power of both the inner and the outer life." Do you agree? Elaborate Aurbindo's view on Indian Culture. (20)
5. Mulk Raj Anand's novel portrays Indian social problems realistically. Discuss with reference to the novel *Untouchable*. (20)

**MEG - 10**  
**ENGLISH STUDIES IN INDIA**  
**ASSIGNMENT 2022 - 2023**  
**(Based on Blocks 1 – 8)**

**MEG 10/ TMA 01/ 2022 -23**  
**Max. Marks: 100**

**Answer all questions.**

1. Would you agree that the social reform movements in India contributed to the institutionalisation of English studies? Discuss. (20)
2. Why do you think Michael Madhusudan Dutt stopped writing in English and started writing in Bengali midway through his career as a writer? (20)
3. Explain the term 'exploding the canon'. Critically analyse what the term means. (20 )
4. What is the importance of a 'Dalit Consciousness' in Dalit writings? Explain with examples. (20)
5. Examine Said's definition of Orientalism. Do you find any flaws, or loop holes, in his argument? Discuss. (20)

**MEG-14**  
**Contemporary Indian Literature in English Translation**

**Course Code: MEG-14**  
**Assignment Code: MEG-14/TMA/2022-23**  
**Max. Marks: 100**

*Attempt any five of the following. All question carry equal marks.*

1. What do you understand by 'Idea of India' as a 'Nation'? (20)
2. Account for the rich scope of comparative studies in studying Indian Literature. (20)
3. What are the thematic preoccupations of the writer in Samskara? Discuss. (20)
4. Discuss the theme of communalism and its treatment in the novel 'Tamas'. (20)
5. Discuss the various symbols and motifs used in the play 'Tughlaq'. (20)
6. Write a critical note on contemporary Indian poetry from the Northeast with special reference to the poems prescribed. (20)
7. Write a critical note on Dalit Literature. (20)