FEG-01/BEGF-101

Bachelor's Degree Programme (BDP)

ASSIGNMENT 2020-21 (For July 2020 and January 2021 Sessions)

FOUNDATION COURSE IN ENGLISH (FEG-01/BEGF-101)

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School of Humanities Indira Gandhi National Open University Maidan Garhi, New Delhi-110068

FOUNDATION COURSE IN ENGLISH (FEG-01/ BEGF-101)

Programme: BDP/2020-21 Course Code: FEG-01/BEGF-101

Dear Student,

You are required to do **one** assignment for the Foundation Course in English. It is a Tutor Marked Assignment (TMA) and carries 100 marks. It covers four blocks of the course.

Aims: The TMA is primarily concerned with assessing your proficiency in English. You should not reproduce chunks of information from the passage(s) but effectively use the skills of reading and writing that you may have acquired during the course of study to compose your answers. These assignments aim to teach as well as to assess your performance.

Guidelines: You will be required to answer the questions on reading comprehension, vocabulary, grammar and composition. For the question on transcribing phonetically, you may consult an appropriate dictionary.

As in day-to-day life, **planning** is important in attempting the assignment as well. Read the assignment carefully; go through the units on which the questions are based; jot down some points regarding each question and then re-arrange them in a logical order. In the essay-type answer, pay attention to your introduction and conclusion. The introduction must tell you how to interpret the given topic and how you propose to develop it. The conclusion must summarize your views on the topic. **You should write in your own handwriting.**

Make sure that your answer:

- a) is logical
- b) is written in simple and correct English
- c) does not exceed the number of words indicated in your questions
- d) is written neatly and clearly.

Please remember that it is compulsory to submit your assignment before you can take the Term End Examination. Also remember to keep a copy of your assignment with you and to take a receipt from your Study Centre when you submit the assignment.

Last Date for Submission of Assignment:

| For July 2020 session: | 31 st March 2021 |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| For January 2021 session: | 30 th September 2021 |

Good Luck!

Note: Remember the submission of assignment is a precondition for appearing in the examination. If you do not submit the assignment on time, you will not be allowed to appear in the examination.

Foundation Course in English (FEG-01/BEGF-101) Assignment

Course Code: FEG-01/BEGF-101 Assignment Code: FEG-1/BEGF-101/TMA/2020-2021

Max. Marks: 100

(10)

Attempt all the questions

1. Read the passage and answer the questions that follow:

Moai, or mo'ai are monolithic human figures carved by the Rapa Nui people on Easter Island in eastern Polynesia between the years 1250 and 1500. Nearly half are still at Rano Raraku, the main moai quarry, but hundreds were transported from there and set on stone platforms called ahu around the island's perimeter. Almost all moai have overly large heads three-eighths the size of the whole statue. The moai are chiefly the living faces (aringa ora) of deified ancestors (aringa ora ata tepuna). The statues still gazed inland across their clan lands when Europeans first visited the island in 1722, but all of them had fallen by the latter part of the 19th century. The production and transportation of the more than 900 statues is considered a remarkable creative and physical feat. The tallest moai erected, called Paro, was almost 10 metres (33 ft) high and weighed 82 tonnes (90.4 short tons). The heaviest moai erected was a shorter but squatter moai at Ahu Tongariki, weighing 86 tonnes. One unfinished sculpture, if completed, would have been approximately 21 m (69 ft) tall, with a weight of about 145–165 tons (160–182 metric tons). The moai were toppled in the late 18th and early 19th centuries, possibly as a result of European contact or internecine tribal wars. Many archaeologists suggest that the statues were thus symbols of authority and power, both religious and political. But they were not only symbols. To the people who erected and used them, they were actual repositories of sacred spirits. Carved stone and wooden objects in ancient Polynesian religions, when properly fashioned and ritually prepared, were believed to be charged by a magical spiritual essence called mana. Archaeologists believe that the statues were a representation of the ancient Polynesians' ancestors. The moai statues face away from the ocean and towards the villages as if to watch over the people. The exception is the seven Ahu Akivi which face out to sea to help travelers find the island. There is a legend that says there were seven men who waited for their king to arrive. A study in 2019 concluded that ancient people believed that quarrying of the Moai might be related to improving soil fertility and thereby critical food supplies.

- a) What is considered remarkable about the location of the statues?
- b) How did the statues fall?
- c) Why are the statues considered to be sacred?
- d) Why do some statues face towards the island?
- e) Who were the men whose statues can be found looking out at sea?
- Imagine you are a resident of Easter Island telling visitors about the statues on the island.
 Describe what they are like and the significance they hold for your people. (10)
- 3. Match the words with their meanings and use the same words in sentences of your own: (10)

| Monolithic | an achievement that requires great courage, skill, or strength |
|--------------|--|
| Deified | relating to conflict within a group |
| Feat | that contains or stores |
| Internecine | formed of a single large block of stone |
| Repositories | worship or regard as a god |

4. Find words in the passage which mean the opposite of those given below and use the words in sentences of your own: (10)

- a) Small
- b) Former
- c) Lightest
- d) Erected
- e) Modern

| 5. | . Write a short composition (400 words) on any one of the following: | (20) |
|----|--|------|
| | | |

- a) The modern gadget I find most useful.
- b) Bullying and social media.
- 5. Write dialogues on the lines suggested below, taking at least 10 turns each. (20)
- a) A close friend is thinking about going abroad for further studies but is still undecided whether or not to do so. You have been asked for advice.
- b) Your parents are retired and now feel that they are no longer occupied as they were earlier. They are in good health and economically sound. You are concerned and suggest ways in which they can remain busy and happy.

- 6. An organization which works for the old and destitute in your city has placed an advertisement asking for volunteers. Write to them enquiring about the nature of the work and stating how you can help them. (10)
- 7. Do as directed:
- a) The book of poems is lying on the table. It was written by the famous poet William Blake. (Combine the above sentences into one sentence using ... 'which' ...)

(10)

- (b) I reached the market. I came to know that it (close). (Write the correct verb form)
- (c) Scientists say that several earthquakes occur in Delhi every year. (Rewrite as an interrogative sentence)
- (d) My book will be published in 2018 by ABC Publishers. (Change the voice)
- (e) "Do not forget to carry your umbrella. It is raining heavily," said mother to Anjali. (Rewrite using indirect speech)
- (f) Harsh ran to his friends. He told them he had won a prize for his artwork. (Join using a conjunction)
- (g) I wants to go my friend house. (Correct the sentence)
- (h) Although we have been this city many times, we still get lost the lanes and bylanes of the old city. (Insert appropriate prespositions)
- (i) There are a number of stray dogs (roaming/ had roamed) around in our locality and they have (become/became) quite dangerous. (Choose the right form of verb given in brackets)
- (j) Technological advances made in last few decades have had amazing effect on our lives at all levels (Insert appropriate articles)