

# **Bachelor of Arts (General)**

(BAG)

ASSIGNMENT

**(July 2020 and January 2021 sessions)**

**SECOND SEMESTER**

BEGC 132

Selections from Indian Writing: Cultural Diversity



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

# Assignment - BEGC 132

## Selections from Indian Writing: Cultural Diversity

Programme: BAG

Course Code: BEGC 132

**Dear Students,**

You will have to attempt a single assignment for the first semester of the BA Gen course (BEGC 132). The assignment is a Tutor Marked Assignment (TMA) and carries 100 marks. It will be based on blocks 1 to 4. The number of choices has been restricted in order to ensure that you read the study materials thoroughly and attempt some independent critical thinking.

The Assignment is in three parts – A, B and C. The type of questions and the answers they require vary in each section. **You must answer all the questions in all the sections.**

**Aims:** The TMA is concerned mainly with assessing your application and understanding of the course material. You are not required to reproduce chunks of information from the course material but to use the skills of critical appreciation that you may have acquired during the course of study. The assignment aims to teach as well as to assess your performance. Please ensure that you read the three novels, one play as well as the short stories and poems that have been prescribed for this course.

**Instructions:** Before attempting the questions please read the following instructions carefully.

1. Read the detailed instructions about the assignment given in the Programme Guide for Elective Courses.
2. Write your Enrolment Number, Name, Full Address and Date on the top right corner of the first page of your response sheet(s).
3. 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: .....

ASSIGNMENT NO: .....

STUDY CENTRE: ..... DATE:.....

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4. Use only foolscap size paper for your response and tag all the pages carefully.
5. Write the relevant question number with each answer.
6. You should write in your own handwriting.
7. **Submission:** The completed assignment should be sent to the Coordinator of the Study Centre allotted to you **by 30<sup>th</sup> April 2021 (For July 2020 Session) and 31st October 2021 (For January 2021 Session).**

Please read the instructions given in your Programme Guide.

Now read the following guidelines carefully before answering the questions.

## GUIDELINES FOR TMA

You will find it useful to keep the following points in mind:

1. **Planning:** Read the assignment carefully. 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 units.
  
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;
  - d. does not exceed the number of words indicated in your question.
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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 assignment 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!

**BEGC 132**  
**Selections from Indian Writing: Cultural Diversity**  
**ASSIGNMENT**

**Programme: BA Gen (BAG)**  
**Course Code: BEGC 132**  
**Max: 100 marks**  
**Min Pass marks: 35**

**This assignment is split up into three sections: A, B and C.**

**Attempt ALL the questions.**

**SECTION A**

Explain the following with reference to the context:

1. I know not who I am  
Neither among the sinners nor the saints  
I am neither happy nor unhappy  
I belong neither to water nor to the earth  
I am neither fire nor air. 10
  
2. O good soldier,  
Know when you're beaten.  
And now, that question  
Which we just referred to in connection with the so-called language battle,  
Let's put it this way:  
Were we and those on behalf of whom we fought  
The same folk? 10
  
3. At daybreak, hacked at the trunk  
You will be found lying prostrate.  
No longer will you respond  
To your mother's call  
Nor a likeness of you  
Shall be found, when I survey  
The whole hillside.  
Who shall now relieve my grief?" 10
  
4. You need no book, Rasha Sundari  
no paper or pen either  
you have the black, smudgy kitchen wall  
for your magical scribbles  
lines, ellipses, curves

all of them your secret codes for  
a whole new world.

10

### **SECTION B**

Write short notes on the following:

5. The arguments over language. 10
6. The Bhakti movement and Indian literature. 10

### **SECTION C**

7. The impact of cultural negotiations on the literature of the Northeast. 20
8. Show how writing by marginalized sections describes the experiences of an entire community With reference to the texts you have read. 20