

DCE

ASSIGNMENT BOOKLET
Assignments for Courses 1,2,3,4 and 5

ASSIGNMENTS
(For July 2019 and January 2020 Sessions)

Diploma in Creative Writing in English
(DCE)



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

Diploma in Creative Writing in English

Dear Students,

We hope you are already familiar with the system of evaluation to be followed for the Diploma in Creative Writing in English. At this stage you should read again the pages of the Programme Guide that give the details of the evaluation procedure. A weightage of 30 per cent, as you are aware, has been earmarked for Continuous Evaluation, which would consist of one assignment per Course.

The Assignment booklet for Courses 1,2,3,4 and 5 is being sent herewith. It has a total of 5 assignments, of which 4 must be submitted by you. The assignment for Course 1 is **compulsory** and every student must attempt this. You are required to do the assignments for only three courses, out of DCE-2,3,4 and 5.

Following is the calendar for submission of assignments:

Course 1	}	Last Date of Submission of Assignments: For July 2019 Session: 31st March 2020 For January 2020 Session: 30th September 2020
Course 2		
Course 3		
Course 4		
Course 5		

All assignments must be submitted on or before the date set.

All assignments pertaining to any Course must be submitted in one batch. **No piecemeal submission is acceptable.**

In case you are not able to keep this deadline in the first year, say 2020, you should submit your assignments in 2021, 2022 or 2023 that is, you have a total of 1+3 years to submit your assignments.

At the commencement of every academic year, your progress will be intimated and you will be asked your plan of studies for that year. At this stage, please ask for the assignment Booklet of **that** year, not for your year of enrolment. Irrespective of your year of enrolment, **you do the assignment in force for the year in which you submit it.**

Do not plan to take the terminal examination for any course if you have not done the assignments set for it first. You will not be permitted to do so.

Instructions for submitting your assignments

1. You should attach a slip in the following format to the top of the relevant course assignments

Course Title _____	Name _____	For Office Use
Assignment No. _____	Address _____	Grades: _____
Enrolment No. _____	_____	Letter _____
Date sent on _____		
_____	_____	Evaluated by _____
_____	_____	_____

PLEASE FOLLOW THE ABOVE FORMAT STRICTLY TO FACILITATE EVALUATION AND TO AVOID DELAY.

2. The answer sheets should be complete in all respects. Make sure you have answered all the questions in an assignment before you submit it.
3. Use only foolscap size writing paper (but not of very thin variety), for writing your answer.
4. Leave 5 cms margin on the left, top and bottom of your answer scripts so that comments, if any, can be made.
5. Start every assignment on a fresh sheet so that you can prepare separate sets for each block.
6. You should not send printed articles as your answers to assignments.
7. Please write **ASSIGNMENT FOR DIPLOMA IN CREATIVE WRITING IN ENGLISH** on top of the cover in which you send your answer/response sheets.

DCE – 1

Assignment (General Principles of Writing)

Maximum Marks: 100

Programme: DCE

Assignment Code: DCE 1/ TMA/1/2019-2020

1. How does the type of reader affect authenticity and credibility? Explain with examples. Illustrate with appropriate examples. 20
2. Explain the importance of footnoting in a book. 20
3. Write a brief account in the autobiographical mode of a young woman who has stepped out of her village home and is working in a big city. 20
4. A man who works as a stuntman in films meets with an accident and is left with no work, huge medical bills a family to support. Write a monologue expressing his feelings. 20
5. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:

A certain man had a donkey, which had carried the corn-sacks to the mill indefatigably for many a long year; but his strength was going, and he was growing more and more unfit for work. Then his master began to consider how he might best save his keep; but the donkey, seeing that no good wind was blowing, ran away and set out on the road to Bremen. "There," he thought, "I can surely be town-musician." When he had walked some distance, he found a hound lying on the road, gasping like one who had run till he was tired. "What are you gasping so for, you big fellow?" asked the donkey.

"Ah," replied the hound, "as I am old, and daily grow weaker, and no longer can hunt, my master wanted to kill me, so I took to flight; but now how am I to earn my bread?"

"Tell you what," said the donkey, "I am going to Bremen, and shall be town-musician there; go with me and engage yourself also as a musician. I will play the lute, and you shall beat the kettledrum."

The hound agreed, and on they went.

Before long they came to a cat, sitting on the path, with a face like three rainy days! "Now then, old shaver, what has gone askew with you?" asked the donkey.

"Who can be merry when his neck is in danger?" answered the cat. "Because I am now getting old, and my teeth are worn to stumps, and I prefer to sit by the

fire and spin, rather than hunt about after mice, my mistress wanted to drown me, so I ran away. But now good advice is scarce. Where am I to go?"

"Go with us to Bremen. You understand night-music, you can be a town-musician."

The cat thought well of it, and went with them. After this the three fugitives came to a farm-yard, where the cock was sitting upon the gate, crowing with all his might. "Your crow goes through and through one," said the donkey. "What is the matter?"

Said the cock, "guests are coming for Sunday, so the housewife has no pity, and has told the cook that she intends to eat me in the soup to-morrow, and this evening I am to have my head cut off. Now I am crowing at full pitch while I can."

"Ah, but red-comb," said the donkey, "you had better come away with us. We are going to Bremen; you can find something better than death everywhere: you have a good voice, and if we make music together it must have some quality!"

The cock agreed to this plan, and all four went on together. They could not, however, reach the city of Bremen in one day, and in the evening they came to a forest where they meant to pass the night. The donkey and the hound laid themselves down under a large tree, the cat and the cock settled themselves in the branches; but the cock flew right to the top, where he was most safe. Before he went to sleep he looked round on all four sides, and thought he saw in the distance a little spark burning; so he called out to his companions that there must be a house not far off, for he saw a light. The donkey said, "If so, we had better get up and go on, for the shelter here is bad." The hound thought that a few bones with some meat on would do him good too!

a) What is a story that features animals speaking to each other like humans called? Write a few sentences of a dialogue between a leopard and a snake about their shrinking habitats.

10

b) Look at the phrases: "no good wind was blowing" and "a face like three rainy days". What do you think they mean? Write three other descriptive phrases for each that would convey the same meaning.

10

DCE-2
FEATURE WRITING

Max. Marks: 100
Programme: DCE

Assignment Code: DCE 2/ TMA/1/2019-2020

1. Women empowerment is a much discussed issue today. Do you think that women are increasingly getting empowered to decide the course of their lives and profession? Write a feature article on whether women are actually being able to realize their full potential.

20

2. The basic purpose of a book review is to help readers decide whether or not to read the book. Keeping this in mind choose a book that you have read recently. Now write **two** reviews of the same book. In the first one give a positive write-up of the book which would encourage the readers to buy it. And in the second one – write a discouraging review.

10+10=20

3. Take a look around your own town and try and see what could be of interest to tourists. Keeping that in mind write a travel article highlighting not only the positive aspects, but also what could go wrong for the tourists, asking them to plan accordingly.

20

4. Imagine that you are interviewing a potential candidate for a job that involves a lot “out of the box” thinking. Assume that the candidate is also someone who can think fast on his/her feet. So lighten the mood and have some fun. List out ten questions and their possible answers which would show that both you as an interviewer and the candidate are equally good at matching wits.

20

5. Write a short feature on any **one** of the following topics:
 - a) Alzheimer’s disease is on the rise these days.
 - b) Dangers of social media
 - c) What makes life so stressful?

20

DCE – 3
SHORT STORY

Max. Marks: 100
Programme: DCE

Assignment Code: DCE 3/TMA/1/2019-2020

1. Write a short story from the point of view of a man/woman who has been placed in an old age home by his/her children. The story could focus on the positive things that are happening to the person OR it could be about how terrible his/her situation is. 20

2. Write a short story for children on **one** of the following:

- a) A pessimist becomes an optimist
- b) Alone in the house
- c) Your first day in a foreign country where you don't speak the language

20

3. Write a mystery/detective story around the following situation:

Your new friend is visiting your home for the first time. You go into the kitchen to make tea, leaving her alone in the living room. When you return, your friend tells you that she just met and had a nice conversation with your sister. You are an only child and you live alone!!

20

4. Write a short story beginning with the following sentence:

“The plan was going great until we got arrested.”

20

5. Continue the following story and take it to a logical conclusion:

It was getting dark when he realized that was lost in the forest—and alone. The rest of the hikers had gone ahead and were lost to sight. Calling out to them didn't help either as they seemed to be out of earshot. He regretted the short nap that he had taken as the others had thought that he had gone on ahead. He hastened his steps towards what he thought was the general direction of the road. After walking for a long time he realized that he had gone even deeper into the woods. Fear gripped him as he realized that he was well and truly lost. Tired and hungry he finally saw the glow of a fire in the distance. With great hope he ran towards it.....

20

DCE – 4
WRITING FOR MEDIA: RADIO TELEVISION

Max. Marks: 100
Programme: DCE
Assignment Code: DCE 4/ TMA/1/2019-2020

1. Write a **Radio** documentary on any **one** of the following:
 - a) Gender disparity in our Country
 - b) How we can live better

Remember that a script, a narrator and sound effects are essential to a radio documentary.

20

2. Write a **Radio** play revolving around any **one** of the following making use of narration, dialogues and SFX:
 - a) Once bitten twice shy
 - b) Nothing ventured, nothing gained
 - c) Too many cooks spoil the broth

20

3. Write an interesting Public Service Announcement for **TV** on any **one** of the following topics. Suggest visuals, narration, SFX and dialogues wherever required:
 - a) A healthy mind resides in a healthy body
 - b) Do not use mobile phones while driving
 - c) Drugs: A menace to society

20

4. Write out a script for a TV documentary on the following:

“Anxieties of people over 80 years of age.”

20

5. Write either a **Radio** or a **TV**. talk on “It’s easier to handle failure, than to handle success.”

20

DCE 5

(Writing Poetry)

Max. Marks: 100

Programme: DCE

Assignment Code: DCE 5/TMA/1/2019-2020

1. Read the following poem and answer the questions that follow:

The Human Seasons

Four Seasons fill the measure of the year;
There are four seasons in the mind of man:
He has his lusty Spring, when fancy clear
Takes in all beauty with an easy span:
He has his Summer, when luxuriously
Spring's honied cud of youthful thought he loves
To ruminare, and by such dreaming high
Is nearest unto heaven: quiet coves
His soul has in its Autumn, when his wings
He furlerh close; contented so to look
On mists in idleness—to let fair things
Pass by unheeded as a threshold brook.
He has his Winter too of pale misfeature,
Or else he would forego his mortal nature.

- (i) List the similarities that the poet finds in the seasons of the year and a human being's life. What are the characteristics of each? 10
- (ii) Rewrite the poem in the form of a short prose paragraph. 5
- (iii) What are the poetic devices used in the poem? Identify and list them. 5
2. Write a short poem with an enclosed ending. 20
3. Write two verses on the theme of memory using simile and metaphor. 20
4. What do you understand by 'rhyme'? Write a stanza on any theme in rhyme and then rewrite it in free verse. 20
5. (i) What are the images that spring to your mind when you think of books? Using those images, write a poem for children. 10
- (ii) How can one use colloquialisms in writing poetry? Write a poem using colloquialisms and the local contexts of your region. 10