

MEG-01, 02, 03 & 04

**Master's Degree Programme in English
(MEG)**

**ASSIGNMENTS
(July, 2017 and January 2018 Sessions)**

(Compulsory Courses of M.A. English — 1st Year)

British Poetry-01

British Drama-02

British Novel -03

Aspects of Language -04



School of Humanities

Indira Gandhi National Open University

Maidan Garhi, New Delhi-110068

Master's Degree Programme in English

Assignments for Ist year Compulsory Courses

Course Code: MEG

Dear Student.

This booklet contains all the assignments of the Compulsory Courses of MA (English) Ist year namely:

- MEG - 01 British Poetry
- MEG - 02 British Drama
- MEG - 03 British Novel
- MEG - 04 Aspects of Language

Each course will comprise one assignment of 100 marks. This assignment will be tutor marked.

Aims: The TMAs are 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. These assignments aim to teach as well as to assess your performance. Please ensure that you read the texts and the accompanying study guides that we have prepared for you. Let me repeat: you must read all the texts prescribed. Do make points as you go along. If there is anything you do not understand, please ask your Counselors 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 assignment please read the following instructions carefully:

1. Read the detailed instructions about the assignments given in the Programme Guide for Elective Courses.
2. Write your Roll 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).

ROLL NO.

NAME:

ADDRESS:

.....

COURSE TITLE:

ASSIGNMENT NO.

STUDY CENTRE:

DATE:

4. Your answers should be on foolscap paper only. Securely tie the pages together before submitting them.
5. Write the relevant question number with the each answer.
6. Submit the assignment to the Coordinator of your Study Centre before on the due date.
7. **Submission:** The completed assignment should be sent to the Coordinator of the Study Centre allotted to you by **31stMarch, 2018 (for July, 2017 Session) and 30th September, 2018 (for January, 2018 Session)**. Please read the instructions given in the 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 summarize 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.

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 emphasize.

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!

Note: Remember the submission of assignment is precondition of permission of appearing in examination. If you have not submitted the assignment in time you will not be allowed to appear in the examination.

MEG-01: BRITISH POETRY ASSIGNMENT

Programme: MEG
Max. Marks: 100
Ast code: MEG-01/TMA/2017-18

Dear Student,

In a conventional class your teacher would have discussed your assignment with you, pointed out what made a good essay and what a bad one. We have done exactly this in Unit 52 of the *British Poetry* (MEG-01) course. Read it carefully and discuss it with your counsellor and class-fellows at the Study Centre. Thereafter decide upon a topic, i.e. a period or literary group in the history of British poetry. You may, if you wish, select a topic from the list given in **52.2.1 (p. 70) in Block X**.

Alternatively, you could write on a British poet of your choice. You may write on a poet discussed in the units, i.e. on the syllabus, or even a poet we have not discussed in detail such as Robert Burns, G.M. Hopkins, R.S. Thomas, Ted Hughes or Seamus Heaney. You may have heard some of our lectures on William Blake, The Movement, Philip Larkin and Ted Hughes on the EduSat. They may now be available on e-gyankosh on www.ignou.ac.in You have yet another choice. Write an essay on a famous poem in English literature. Having decided upon your topic, do your research and then **read section 36.5 in Unit 36 in Block VIII for a model essay and a format for presentation**. You may learn how to present your term paper/sessional essay from 36.5. You must not quote from unacknowledged sources.

To sum up, write an essay on a period or a literary group in British poetry or a British poet or a British poem in about 3000 words on the model provided in 36.5 (in unit 36). The full marks for the essay is 100.

We look forward to reading your sessional essay.
Sincerely yours

Teacher

**MEG-02: BRITISH DRAMA
ASSIGNMENT
(Based on Blocks 1-9)**

**Programme: MEG
Assignment code: MEG-02/TMA/2017-18**

Max. Marks: 100

Answer the **first question** and any **four** of the remaining ones.

- 1 Explain the following passages with reference to their contexts and supply brief critical comments where necessary : 8x5=40
 - a. When I behold the heavens, then I repent,
And curse thee, wicked Mephistophilis,
Because thou hast depriv'd me of those joys,
 - b. I swear to thee by Cupid's strongest bow,
By his arrow with the golden head,
By the simplicity of Venus' doves,
By that which knitteth souls and prospers loves,
And by that fire which burn'd the Carthage queen
When the false Trojan under sail was seen;
 - c. Come on, Sir. Now you set foot on shore
In *novo orbe*; here's the rich pern;
And there within, Sir, are the golden mines great Solomon's ophir!
 - d. I hit a blow on the ridge of his skull, laid him stretched out, and he split to the knob of his gullet.
 - e. And I treat a duchess as if she was a flower girl.
2. How does 'wisdom emerge out of the folly and mockery' in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*? 15
3. Attempt a critique of Hamlet's soliloquies in Shakespeare's play of that name. 15
4. Brief by outline the historical background of *Murder in the Cathedral*. 15
5. Do you agree with Allardyce Nicoll that *Look Back in Anger* has the theme of a gently nurtured girl who is strangely magnetised by a lower class intellectual, Support your answer with suitable examples from the text of the play. 15
6. What changes have Pozzo and Lucky undergone during the course of *Waiting for Godot a?* 15

**MEG - 03: BRITISH NOVEL
ASSIGNMENT
(Based on Blocks (1 - 9))**

**Programme: MEG
Ast code: MEG-03/TMA/2017-18
Max. Marks: 100**

Answer all questions.

1. Write a critical note on the evolution of the British novel. 20
2. How does Jane Austen treat love and marriage in *Pride and Prejudice*? 20
3. Examine Dorethea's widowed condition in the light of the issues raised by the "Woman Question" in *Middlemarch*. 20
4. Analyse the relationship between the Cosmic and the Comic in *A Passage to India*. 20
5. Would you consider Miss Brodie in *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie* to be a symbol of non - conformity? Give a detailed answer. 20

MEG-04: ASPECTS OF LANGUAGE ASSIGNMENT

Programme: MEG
Course Code: MEG-04/TMA/2017-18
Max. Marks: 100

- 1 Write short notes on any **two** of the following: 20
- i Theories of the Origin of Language
 - ii The Great Vowel Shift
 - iii Criteria for classification of consonants
 - iv The difference between simple, complex and compound words
- 2 Write in detail, giving examples whenever appropriate, on stress and rhythm of connected speech in English. 20
- 3 Describe some of the minor processes of word formation in English and their contribution to the enrichment of the English word-store. 20
- 4 What is a standard language? Discuss in detail the process of language standardization. 20
- 5 Analyse the following extract of a poem by Tennyson using the tools given to you in Block 9 of your Course. 20

Ring out, wild bells

Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky,
The flying cloud, the frosty light:
The year is dying in the night;
Ring out, wild bells, and let him die.

Ring out the old, ring in the new,
Ring, happy bells, across the snow:
The year is going, let him go;
Ring out the false, ring in the true.

Ring out the grief that saps the mind
For those that here we see no more;
Ring out the feud of rich and poor,
Ring in redress to all mankind.

Ring out a slowly dying cause,
And ancient forms of party strife;
Ring in the nobler modes of life,
With sweeter manners, purer laws.

Ring out the want, the care, the sin,
The faithless coldness of the times;
Ring out, ring out my mournful rhymes,
But ring the fuller minstrel in.

Ring out false pride in place and blood,
The civic slander and the spite;
Ring in the love of truth and right,
Ring in the common love of good.

Ring out old shapes of foul disease;
Ring out the narrowing lust of gold;
Ring out the thousand wars of old,
Ring in the thousand years of peace.

Ring in the valiant man and free,
The larger heart, the kindlier hand;
Ring out the darkness of the land,
Ring in the Christ that is to be.