

**DIPLOMA IN CREATIVE WRITING IN  
ENGLISH**

**Term-End Examination**

**December, 2012**

**01246**

**DCE-5 : WRITING POETRY**

*Time : 3 hours*

*Maximum Marks : 100*

*Weightage 70%*

---

*Note : Attempt five questions in all, choosing at least two questions from each section. All questions carry equal marks.*

---

**SECTION-A**

1. Discuss the importance of 'climax' in a poem. 20  
What is the difference between climax and denouement ? Illustrate your answer with examples. (450 words)
2. What are the different openings in poetry? How 20  
does the tone of the poem get reflected in the opening lines? Give examples to substantiate your answer. (450 words)
3. What is the role of symbols in poetry? Is it possible 20  
to use metaphor, simile or allegory in symbolic poetry? Give reasons for your answer. (450 words)

4. Is the use of colloquialism justified in poetry? What are the dangers of the abuse of colloquialism? Give examples with reference to modern poets. (450 words) 20
5. Write short notes on *any two* of the following topics. (200 words each) 2x10=20
- (a) Free verse
  - (b) Cliche in poetry
  - (c) Simile and Metaphor
  - (d) Connotation and Denotation

## SECTION B

6. Read the following poems and answer the questions given below 4x5=20

### Frost at Midnight :

-Samuel Taylor Coleridge

- The frost performs its secret ministry,  
unhelped by any wind. The owl's cry  
came loud-and hark, again! loud as before.  
The inmates of my cottage, all at rest,  
Have left me to that solitude, which suits  
Abstruser musings : save that at my side  
My cradled infant slumbers peacefully.  
'Tis calm indeed! so calm, that it disturbs.  
• And vexes meditation with its strange  
And extreme silentness. Sea, hill, and wood,  
This populous village! Sea, hill and wood,  
With all the numberless goings on of life,  
Inaudible as dreams ! The thin blue flame  
Lies on my low burnt fire, and quivers not,  
Only that film, which fluttered on the grate,  
Still flutters there, the sole unquiet thing.  
Methinks its motion in this hush of natures.  
Gives it dim sympathies with me who live,  
Making it a companionable form,  
whose puny flaps and freaks the idling spirit.  
By its own mood interprets, every where  
echo or mirror seeking of itself,  
And makes a toy of Thought.

9.

Those Dying -then

Emily Dickinson

Those - dying then,  
Knew where they went -  
They went to God's Right Hand-  
That Hand is amputated now  
And God cannot be found-  
The abdication of Belief  
Makes the Behaviour small-  
Better an ignis fatuus  
Than no Illume at all-

- (a) Discuss the significance of the title. 10  
(150words)
- (b) What are the various possible functions that 5  
the dasher perform in this poem  
(100 words) ?
- (c) Discuss the thematic significance of this 5  
poem.(200 words)
10. Write a poem on *any one* of the following topics. 20
- (a) Nation  
(b) Sea  
(c) Childhood  
(d) Image  
(e) Silence

- (a) Identify the central theme of the poem.  
(150 words)
- (b) Describe Coleridge's romantic concern in this poem. What is the picture that emerges?  
(150 words)
- (c) What kind of silence do you notice in the opening lines of the poem? How does it set the tone of the poem? (150 words)
- (d) What are the qualities or characteristics of a nature poem of this kind ?(150 words)

7 The old cat carries off  
a little sunshine  
on his back

-Kobayashi Issa

- (a) Comment on the metaphor of the poem 10  
(200 words)
- (b) Extend the metaphor in your own words, 10  
(200 words)

8. The Lost Word'

Esther Morgan

She's lost a word  
and searches for it every where-  
behind the sofa, at the back  
of dusty cupboards and drawers.  
She picks through the rubbish sacks.  
Under the carpet she finds lots of others  
she'd forgotten she'd swept under there  
but not the one she's looking for.  
The trouble is it's small -only two letters  
though no less valuable for that.  
She stands racking her brain  
for the last time she used it  
but all that comes to mind  
are failed attempts  
of some one else's tongue.

- (a) Comment on the central metaphor in this poem. How does it help in achieving 'unity' of impression? (200 words) 10
- (b) Is the word 'tongue' in the last line used in more than one sense? (100 words) 5
- (c) What kind of opening does the poem have? How do the opening few lines set the tone/mood of the poem? (150 words) 5