

**DIPLOMA IN CREATIVE WRITING IN
ENGLISH**

Term-End Examination

December, 2016

01504

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. Can social and political events motivate poets to write powerful poems ? What is the purpose of writing poetry on topical issues ? Give an example of such a poem. 20

2. Describe the difference between suspense, climax and denouement in a poem. Explain with relevant examples. 20

3. Define symbol. What is the difference between a symbol and an image ? Give examples of each. 20
4. Discuss the impulses underlying poetic innovation. 20
5. Write short notes on any *two* of the following topics (200 words each) : $2 \times 10 = 20$
- (a) Persona in poetry
 - (b) Free verse
 - (c) Cliche
 - (d) Colloquialism
 - (e) Meter

SECTION B

Read the following four poems and answer the questions that follow each poem :

6. Behind the Door

– Dom Moraes

A corpse puts on my clothes
A dead man fills my shoes
with his infected feet
My spectacles can't see
I stand before a door
hewn out of blackened stone
to which I hold no key

The friends I made when young
patrol the western shore
They call me to betray
all that I have, and came
May be I will, some day,
but this has tired me out,
this trip to who I am.

- (a) Comment on the title of the poem. 5
- (b) What is the central idea of the poem ? 5
- (c) Discuss the images of 'corpse' and 'dead man'. What purpose does the repetition serve ? 5
- (d) Explain 'this trip to who I am'. What is the significance of this line ? 5

7. The Professor

– *Nissim Ezekiel*

Remember me ? I am Professor Sheth.

Once I taught you geography. Now

I am retired, though my health is good. My
wife died some years back.

By God's grace, all my children

Are well-settled in life.

One is Sales Manager,

One is Bank Manger,

Both have cars.

Other also doing well, though not so well.

Every family must have black sheep.

Sarala and Tarala are married,

Their husbands are very nice boys.

You won't believe but I have eleven

grandchildren

How many issues you have ? Three ?

That is good. These are days of family planning.

I am not against. We have to change with times.

- (a) The idiom of this poem is 'Indian English'. Would you agree ? Give reasons. 5
- (b) Can you call this a dramatic monologue ? Explain with reasons. 5
- (c) What do you understand by 'Every family must have black sheep' ? 5
- (d) What is the effect that the language of the poem produces ? 5

8. Passing Time

– *Maya Angelou*

Your skin like dawn

Mine like musk

One paints the beginning
of a certain end.

The other, the end of a
sure beginning.

- (a) Is the title 'Passing Time' apt for the poem? Explain. 5
- (b) Comment on the structure of the poem. 5
- (c) Explain the significance of 'your skin like dawn / mine like musk'. 5
- (d) The poem is built on a set of binary oppositions. Do you agree? Explain. 5

9. The Bustle in a House

– *Emily Dickinson*

The Bustle in a House

The Morning after Death

Is solemnest of industries

Enacted upon Earth —

The Sweeping up the Heart

And putting Love away

We shall not want to use again

Until Eternity —

- (a) Identify and explain the central metaphor. 10
- (b) What is the significance of the capitalization of certain words? 5
- (c) What is the irony in the term 'bustle' here? 5

10. Write a poem of 15 to 20 lines on any *one* of the topics given below : 20

- (a) Alone
- (b) Caged Bird
- (c) Hourglass
- (d) Shadow
- (e) Children
-