

01611

**DIPLOMA IN CREATIVE WRITING IN  
ENGLISH**

**Term-End Examination**

**December, 2010**

**DCE-1 : GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF WRITING**

*Time : 3 hours*

*Maximum Marks : 100*

*(Weightage 70%)*

---

*Note : This paper has two sections, A and B. Answer five questions in all, choosing at least two from each section. All questions carry equal marks.*

---

**SECTION - A**

1. Examine the relationship between the authenticity of an author's experience and its expression in his fiction. (400 words) **20**
  
2. (a) Define the term "endings" in the context of short story writing. **10**  
(b) Write briefly about the endings of mood and atmosphere stories. (400 words) **10**
  
3. To what extent can dialogue be used as a major means of creating authenticity in short fiction ? (400 words) **20**

4. A writer of fiction can transmit his thoughts, emotions and experiences to the reader through the use of images and symbols. Develop and illustrate this concept with descriptive sentences or poems you know. (400 words) 20
5. (a) Why is it important for a writer to be his own proof reader and editor ? 10
- (b) Write a note on the methodology of correcting proofs. (400 words) 10

## SECTION - B

6. Based on the given passage, write the outline of a science fiction adventure story for teenagers. (400 words) 20

**Hint :** the action of the plot can revolve around any of the following situations that are of concern today : colonisation of space; terrorism and smuggling; medical engineering; corruption; pollution; search for rare minerals; or any others of your own choice.

"The door of the spaceship Mahavishwa opened slowly with a hissing noise. A very old, fair-complexioned man with a long white beard, shoulder-length hair, thick eye-brows, over-sharp black eyes, entered. His skin had the sheen of ivory. His eyes had a strange glow in them.

'Who are you ? asked Captain Mirdan. 'I'm Vishwas, Dr. Vishwas. I'm from the Earth. I was born there'. His voice was grave. It had a tenderness in it. It had an indescribable refinement in it.

'Born on the Earth !' Captain Mirdan was astounded.

Earth ? Where was Earth ?

••••

Sneha brought a plate with something to eat and some fruit juice in a glass, and served it to Dr. Vishwas, then took the Seva model Robot into the maintenance wing for an overhaul.

By the time they had finished their lunch and had had a chat, Seva came back overhauled.

'Doctor, now tell me, what can I do for you ?'

'Captain, you must take me to the Earth.'

7. (a) In the passage given for question six, how has the author achieved authenticity in an incredible situation ? 10
- (b) How has the author established Dr. Vishwas as a recognisable and distinct character ? 5
- (c) Describe Captain Mirdan to make him more real and alive. (400 words) 5

8. The Mouse that Gnawed the Oak-tree Down

The mouse that gnawed the oak-tree down

Began his task in early life.

He kept so busy with his teeth

He had no time to take a wife.

He gnawed and gnawed through sun and rain  
when the ambitions fit was on,

Then rested in the sawdust till

A month of idleness had gone.

He did not move about to hunt

The coteries of mousie-men.

He was a snail-paced, stupid thing  
until he cared to gnaw again.

The mouse that gnawed the oak-tree down,

When that tough foe was at his feet -

Found in the stump no angel - cake

Nor buttered bread, nor cheese nor meat -

The forest - roof let in the sky.

"This light is worth the work", said he.

"I'll make this ancient swamp more light",

And started on another tree.

Vachel Lindsay

- (a) Write out the message this poem 10  
communicates to you.
- (b) What strategies has the poet used to make 10  
the poem true appealing? (400 words)
-