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Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Open University

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FEBRUARY-2017

(M.A.) English

Master's Degree In English

MEG

(Compulsory Courses of M.A. English – 2nd Year)

Literary Criticism And Theory	MEG – 05
American Literature	MEG – 06
Indian English Literature	MEG – 07
New Literature In English	MEG – 08
Australian Literature	MEG – 09
American Novel	MEG – 11

IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS

- Students have download assignments from University website.
- It is compulsory to submit assignments to appear for exam.
- Exam form will not be accepted from the student who has not submitted assignment on or before given date.
- Last date of submission of prepared assignments to study center is **30/07/2017**. After this date, assignments will not be accepted.
- It is compulsory to collect receipt of submission of assignments from the study center.
- Make sure to collect your evaluated assignments from your study center with evaluation sheet.
- Students can check their assignments marks on university website.
- Passing criteria for M.A. course is 40% for all assignment subjects.

Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Open University

Master's Degree In English Assignments for 2nd Year Compulsory Courses Programme: MEG

Dear Student,

This booklet contains all the assignments of the compulsory courses of MA (English) IInd year.

MEG-05	Literary Criticisms And Theory
MEG-06	American Literature
MEG-07	Indian English Literature
MEG-08	New Literature in English
MEG-09	Australian Literature
MEG-11	American Novel

Each course will comprise one assignment of 100 marks with 40% passing criteria.
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 chunk 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 counselor 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 instruction 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)

The top of first page of your response sheet should look like this:

ROLL NO: _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

COURSE TITLE: _____

ASSIGNMENT NO: _____

STUDY CENTRE: _____

DATE: _____

Mo. No. _____

4. Use only foolscap size paper for your response and tag all the pages carefully. Write the relevant question number with each answer.
5. Write the relevant question number with each answer.
6. You should write in your own handwriting.
7. Submission: The completed assignment should be sent to the Coordinator of the Study Centre allotted to you by _____.

Now read the following guidelines carefully before answering questions.

GUIDELINES FOR TMAS

You will find it useful to keep the following points in mind:

1. **Planning:** Read the assignment carefully. Go through the units on which they are based. Make some points regarding each question and then rearrange these in a logical order. And please write the answer in your own words. Do not reproduce passages from the units.
2. **Organization:** 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 summarise 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 exceeds 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!

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MEG – 05:- Literary Criticism And Theory

Q-1 Answer following questions in detail. (Around 1500 words) (20x2=40)

- A) Do theories help one to understand literature better? Prove with the support of some examples.

Or

- A) Discuss Aristotelian Views on Mimesis in detail.
B) “Spontaneity, emotion and personality play vital role in Wordsworth’s theory of poetry” Elaborate on the statement.

Or

- B) Evaluate T. S. Eliot as a critic.

Q-2 Answer any two questions from the following list of questions in around 1000 words. (2x10=20)

1. Elucidate Derrida’s resistance to definitions and to defining deconstruction in particular.
2. Discuss Rasa theory and Dhvani theory in details.
3. Discuss the implications of the distinction between sex and gender as set by feminist theories.
4. Present your views on role and function of ideology in literature.

Q-3 Answer any six questions in brief from the following list. (6x5=30)

1. What is committed writing? Explain with examples.
2. How does Stephen Greenblatt put forward relation between literature and power?
3. Explain term ‘Catharsis’.
4. Discuss T. S. Eliot’s definition of culture.
5. How does Post Modernism differ from Modernism? Explain in brief.
6. What is a good poet as per the idea of Coleridge?
7. What are Wordsworth's views on poetic diction?

8. What is 'Mimesis'? Explain

Q-4 Choose the correct option and answer the questions.

(1x10=10)

1. Primary power of words to denote, to express a direct or literal meaning is known as _____.
(a) Alankar (b) Rasa (c) Abhidha (d) Dhvani
2. _____ said, "Poetry feeds and waters the passions."
A) Plato (b) Aristotle (c) Sydney (d) Arnold
3. 'A Defense of Poetry' was written by _____.
(a) Keats (b) Shelly (c) Wordsworth (d) Arnold
4. An important subject of Coleridge's '*Biographia Literaria*' is an exposition and evaluation of _____ poetry.
(a) Eliot (b) Arnold (c) Shelly (d) Wordsworth
5. A _____ means something given and preconceived.
(a) Weltanschauung (b) Hamartia (c) Catharsis (d) Priori
6. _____ is a coinage by Said to describe the reductive way in which the West has represented the East so as to colonize and exploit it.
(a) Imperialism (b) Orientalism (c) Feminism (d) Vindication
7. 'A Room of one's Own' is written by _____.
(a) Showalter (b) Beauvoir (c) Woolf (d) Wollstonecraft
8. _____ refers to the grammatical arrangement of words in speech or writing.
(a) Phonology (b) Semantic (c) Syntax (d) synchronic
9. The Centre for Cultural and Community Studies was set up in Birmingham in _____.
(a) 1946 (b) 1964 (c) 1968 (d) 1967
10. _____ believed that the larger part of the individual's mental processes were unconscious.
(a) Freud (b) Jung (c) Lacan (d) Edward

MEG-05

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MEG – 06 :- American Literature

Answer following questions in detail. (Around 1500 words)

(20x2=40)

Q-1. Discuss critically the material circumstances which made the *American Enlightenment* possible. (Around 1500 words)

Or

Q-1. Evaluate narrative technique and structure in '*The Scarlett letter*'.

Q-2. Make a detailed analysis of theme of 'Freedom and Slavery' in 'Adventures of *Huckleberry Finn*'. (Around 1500 words)

Or

Q-2. Write a critical appreciation of the poem 'Song of Myself' by Walt Whitman.

Q-3 Write any two short notes (2/4)

(2x10=20)

- 1) 'Specificity' and 'Universality' in Faulkner's imagined world of 'Yoknapatawpha Country'
- 2) Conflicting claims of Christianity and Paganism in 'Sunday Morning'
- 3) 'Death of a Salesman'- a Realist Drama
- 4) Aptness of title-' The Bluest Eye' by Toni Morrison

Q-3 Answer any six question in brief. (6/8)

(6x5=30)

- 1) How folk elements occupy place in Toni Morrison?
- 2) Discuss in brief the difference between dramatic and theatrical traditions.
- 3) Write in few words about novel use of structure in 'Death of a Salesman'
- 4) What does the wall represent to Frost in 'Mending Wall'?
- 5) What form does Pound choose in 'Hugh Selwyn Moberly'? How?
- 6) Present autobiographical elements in 'A Clean Well-Lighted Place'.

- 7) Name the most important themes of American Indian Literary expression during the mid-nineteenth century?
- 8) Enlist few observations about Jim's character in 'Adventures of Huckleberry Finn'.

Q-4 Choose the correct option. (All 10)

(1x10=10)

- 1) _____ is a term used in Huckleberry Finn for a black person.
 (a) Blackish (b) Slavish (c) Negro (d) Nigger
- 2) Eclair means _____.
 (a) Eclair (b) Rondure (c) Sirius (d) Trinitas
- 3) _____ is a philosophy or philosophies oriented towards the envisaging and realizing of a perfect social order.
 (a) Humanitarianism (b) Heavenism (c) Republicanism (d) Utopianism
- 4) Pointing to this proximity between his books and he exploits and adventures of his life _____ himself remarked; "We have been there in the books....and where we go, if we are any good, there you can go as we have been."
 (a) Hemingway (b) O'Neill (c) Mark Twain (d) Hawthorne
- 5) 'Sunday Morning' is a poem by _____.
 (a) Ezra Pound (b) Wallace Stevens (c) Walt Whitman (d) Adrienne Rich
- 6) Hester defends a mother's rights in the scene at the _____.
 (a) Governor's office (b) Governor's House (c) Public garden (d) Club
- 7) In Greek mythology, _____ is a handsome young man loved by Aphrodite, Goddess of love and beauty.
 (a) Apollo (b) Ares (c) Adonis (d) Zeus
- 8) _____ is a naturalistic tragedy of human identity by O'Neill.

The Adding Machine

(a) The Operation Sedewinder (b)The (c) Zoo Story (d)The Hairy Ape

9) _____ is a metaphorical representation of woman, deriving from the biblical myth.

(a) Eye's apple (b) Apple's eye (c) Adam's heart (d) Adam's rib

10)'If I must die' is a _____ by Claude McKay.

(a) Sonnet (b) Poem (c) Lyric (d) Epic

MEG-06

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MEG – 07 :- Indian English Literature

Answer following questions in detail. (Around 1500 words)

(20x2=40)

Q-1 Do you think that 'Untouchable' is relevant to present time? Support with your arguments.

Or

Q-1 Critique any one short story of a woman writer of your choice from the prescribed syllabus.

Q-2 Evaluate any poem of your syllabus in detail.

Or

Q-2 Present your views as a reader about theme of 'Tara' by Dattani.

Q-3 Write any two short notes (2/4)

(2x10=20)

- 1) Gandhi's views on education reflected in "Hind Swaraj"
- 2) Essence of Swami Vivekananda's addresses at the Parliament of Religions
- 3) Sri Aurobindo's ideas of Indian culture and tradition related in 'Is India Civilized?'
- 4) Nehru, as gets reflected in his Autobiography

Q-3 Answer any six question in brief. (6/8)

(6x5=30)

- 1) How Natraj or Shiva is presented as an artifact in Anand Commaraswamy's 'The Dance of Shiva'?
- 2) Mention few distinguished characteristics of writing style of Nirad Chaudhary.
- 3) How language in Midnight's Children leaves an impression?
- 4) Explain "Really what keeps us apart at the end of years is unshared childhood."

5) Explain “This is the soul of man.

Body and brain Hungry for earth our heavenly flight detains.”

6) Explain” he popped a stone.

In his mouth - -

And spat out gods.

Q-4 Choose the correct option and answer the questions. (MCQ)

(1x10=10)

1. ‘A Pilgrimage to Europe’ is an essay by_____

a) R. K. Narayan (B) Mulk Raj Anand (C) Mahesh Dattani (D) Salman Rushdie

2. Who was the contemporary writer of Raja Rao?

a) Chaman Nahai (B) Nayantara Sahgal (C) R. K. Narayan (D) Shashi Deshpande

3. _____ is defined as an ancient traditional story of gods or heroes, especially one offering an explanation of some fact or phenomenon.

a) Fable (B) Parable (C) Myth (D) Miracle

4. In ‘Midnight’s Children’ Saleem identifies himself with _____.

a) Pakistan (B) War (C) Partition (D) India

5. Mahesh Dattani has been awarded by _____

a) Sahitya Akademi Award (B) Pulitzer Prize (C) Booker Prize (D) Noble Prize

6. Which one of the following literary work does not have Gandhian influence?

a) Kanthapura (B) Waiting for the Mahatma (C) Untouchable (D) Small Remedies

7. ‘Survivors’ is a short story collection by _____.

a) Arun Joshi (B) Toru Datta (C) Mano Das (D) Suniti Namjoshi

8. In Anita Desai’s ‘Clear Light of the Day’ one would find non-linear movement of ____.

a) Space (B) Place (C) Time (D) Events and characters

9. The French poet Paul Valery compared prose to walking and verse to _____.

a) Flying (B) Swimming (C) Dancing (D) Singing

10. ‘Single Effect’ phrase was used by ____ for good short story.

a) O Henry (B) Chekhov (C) Edgar Allan Poe (D) Dostoyevsky

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MEG – 08:- New Literature In English

Answer following questions in detail. (Around 1500 words)

(20x2=40)

A. Justify Mugo in 'Grain of Wheat' as a hero of the novel, discussing his character in detail.

Or

A 'Ice Candy Man' is a literary mirror to Partition' elaborate.

B. Present your critical views about 'A Dance of Forests' as a literary piece.

Or

B Do you consider the title 'A House for Mr. Biswas' to be apt? Give reasons to support your arguments.

Q-2 Write any two short notes (2/4)

(2x10=20)

- 1) Derek Walcott as a poet
- 2) Structural and narrative paradoxes in 'The Solid Mandala'
- 3) Theme of self-alienation in 'The Stone Angel'
- 4) South Asian Literature

Q-3 Answer any six question in brief. (6/8)

(6x5=30)

- 1) Give brief idea about the function of literature in society.
- 2) On what grounds can the term 'commonwealth Literature' be critiqued?
- 3) What are the various functions the stone angel performs in the novel?
- 4) Elucidate the use of the twins as a structuring principle in 'The Solid Mandala'.
- 5) Write a brief note on the relationship between history and language in Walcott's poetry.
- 6) Reflection of Diasporic sensibility in Naipaul.
- 7) How the Parsi Paradox is presented in 'Ice Candy Man'?
- 8) What, according to Wole Soyinka, is the link between Yoruba religion and Yoruba tragedy?

Q-4 Choose the correct option and answer the questions. (MCQ)

(1x10=10)

1. “European culture was able to manage- and even produce the Orient Politically, sociologically, militarily, ideologically, scientifically and imaginatively during the post-Enlightenment period.” Who said so?
(a) Gayatri Spivak (b) Edward Said (c) M. K. Gandhi (d) Frantz Fanon
2. _____founded Trinidad Theatre Workshop which provided a significant creative outlet for him and other Caribbean dramatists.
(a) Derek Walcott (b) Nagugi Wa Thiongo (c) Wole Soyinka (d) V. S. Naipaul
3. The first long narrative (Africa) Ethiopia Unbound was published in _____.
(a) 1910 (b) 1911 (c) 1912 (d) 1913
4. Which one of the following is not a character from ‘Grain of Wheat’?
(a) Mugo (b) Mumbi (c) Wanai (d) Gikonyo
5. Which one of the following is not a dramatic work of Soyinka?
(a) Nammo (b) The Strong Breed (c) The Road and Kongi’s Harvest (d) The Swamp Dwellers
6. ‘The Fortunate Traveller’ is a poetry collection by _____.
(a) Edward (b) Kamau Brathwaite (c) Chinua Achebe (d) Derek Walcott
7. ‘Contradictory Omens: Cultural Diversity and Integration in the Caribbean’ was work by _____ published in 1974.
(a) Brathwaite (b) Achille (c) Achebe (d) Thingo
8. Celebrated Urdu poet _____ described the novels of Bapsi Sidhwa as “Ruthlessly truthful, deeply perceptive, she tells her story with rare courage, frankness, and good humour.”
(a) Faiz Ahmed Faiz (b) Kaifi Azmi (c) Nida Fazli (d) Javed Akhtar
9. V. S. Naipaul was awarded by _____.
(a) Nobel Prize (b) Sahitya Akadami (c) Booker Prize (d) O. Henry Award
10. Hagar Shipley is a character from _____.
(a) The Stone Angel (b) A Life in City (c) The Solid Mandala (d) A House of Mr. Biswas

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MEG – 09:- Australian Literature

Answer following questions in detail. (Around 1500 words)

(20x2=40)

Q-1 Discuss in detail issues related to the land in 'Voss'.

Or

Q-1 Critique the social and political issues that get reflected in contemporary Australian poetry? Give suitable examples.

Q-2 Justify the aptness of title 'The Old School' by Christina Stead.

Or

Q-2 Elucidate 'Violence as the primary force in 'The Removalists'.'

Q-3 Write any two short notes (2/4)

(2x10=20)

- 1) Feminist concerns in Australian poetry.
- 2) 'Jindyworobak'
- 3) Nature theme in the poetry of Harpur and Kendall
- 4) Multicultural Aspect in Australian Poetry

Q-3 Answer any six question in brief. (6/8)

(6x5=30)

- 1) Do you think 'We are Going' expresses the agony of Aboriginals?
- 2) What sort of religious sentiment finds place in 'Voss'?
- 3) On what ground it seems that Judith Wright's poem 'Legend and Bullocks' gives impression that the country has been transformed into a promised land?
- 4) Throw some light on social context in 'If I had a Gun', a poem by Gig Ryan.
- 5) Give few reasons for the dominance of male writers in the early colonial writing in Australia.
- 6) Is it possible to read Barbara Boynton's story: The Chosen Vessel as an indictment of Bush life?
- 7) In what way is Campbell's poem democratic?
- 8) Examine the strengths and weaknesses of 'Mister Man'.

Q-4 Choose the correct option and answer the questions. (MCQ)

(1x10=10)

- 1) 'Coming to' is a poem by _____.
(a) Kevin Gilbert (b) Chris Wallace (c) Bruce Dawe (d) Ed Tiang Hong
- 2) _____ is a poem by Chris Wallace-Crabbe.
(a) Melbourne (b) Harijan (c) In the Park (d) Blood

- 3) 'South Country' is a poem which deals with _____.
 (a) Rivers (b) Mountains (c) Politics (d) landscapes
- 4) 'I'm international, never mind place;
 I'm for humanity, all one race.' Is a stanza by _____.
 (a) Alice Walker (b) Kath Walker (c) Anil Walker (d) Kim Walker
- 5) Which book of David Malouf was shortlisted for Booker Prize?
 (a) Fly Away Peter (b) The Great World
 (c) An Imaginary Life (d) Remembering Babylon
- 6) In _____ one would find the depiction of the time-honoured division of woman as an object of sexual desire and as a mother/goddess.
 (a) Bush (b) Chosen Vessel (c) The Drower's Wife (d) The Union Buries its Dead
- 7) The origin of the theory 'Psychoanalysis' may be credited to _____.
 (a) Jung (b) Lacan (c) Jack (d) Freud
- 8) Voices of Colin Johnson, Kath Walker, Jack Davis and Kevin Gilbert strongly proved the literary presence of _____ voices.
 (a) Feminist (b) Social (c) Aboriginal (d) Ancient
- 9) _____ is the front arch of a theatre stage where a curtain may be lowered 'between scenes, it also refers to the part of a stage that comes forward beyond this.
 (a) Proscenium (b) Arena (c) Traverse (d) Thrust
- 10) _____ was born in 1912 of Australian parents in England.
 (a) Patrick White (b) David Malouf (c) David Williamson (d) A.L. Gordon

MEG-09

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MEG – 11:- American Novel

Answer following questions in detail. (Around 1500 words)

(20x2=40)

A) Discuss American Renaissance in detail.

Or

A) Comment on the Narrative technique of Fitzgerald with special reference to 'The Great Gatsby'.

B) Discuss the plot-structure of 'Light in August'.

Or

B) Discuss aptness of title 'Colour Purple' relating it to its theme

Q-2 Answer any two questions from the following questions in around 1000 words. (2x10=20)

1. Discuss theme of native identity in 'A House Made of Dawn'.
2. Write in detail on art of characterization in 'Floating Opera'.
3. How Emerson was influenced of Indian thought? Discuss the influence with examples of his literary works.
4. Critically analyze the character of Holden Caulfield.

Q-3 Answer any six questions in brief from the following list. (6x5=30)

1. Elaborate on impact of world war on American Writers.
2. What are the special features of 'The Catcher in the Rye'?
3. Discuss various themes of novel 'The Last of the Mohicans'.
4. Identify some of the recurring images in 'Sister Carrie' and comment on their function.
5. Why 'The Great Gatsby' is known as fable too?
6. Justify recurring dawn image in 'House Made of Dawn'.
7. Why 'Sister Carrie' is known as a City Novel?
8. Which of the literary piece of the paper you liked the most? Give five reasons for the same.

Q-4 Choose the correct option and answer the questions. (1x10=10)

1. 'Tales of the Folio Club' was written by _____.
A) Washington Irving (B) Edgar Allen Poe (C) James Cooper (D) Theodore Dreiser
2. The economic system that appeared in the industrialized Western World in the 19th Century characterized by private ownership of property and the means of production."
A) Criticism (B) Intellectualism (C) Humanism (D) Capitalism
3. _____ Novel is a novel with narrative, which includes a diversity of points of view and voices.
A) Tragic (B) Picaresque (C) Polyphonic (D) Absurd
4. _____ is an episodic and reflective novel.
A) The Floating Opera (B) The Great Gatsby
(C) The Color Purple (D) Black Spring

5. In 'The Great Gatsby' Character _____ represents theme or idea more than an individual personality.
- A) Nick (B) Raleigh (C) Wilson (D) Daisy
6. "If I am the instrument of her despair and death, then I am in turn instrument of someone outside myself" is a quote from _____
- A) The Great Gatsby (B) The Catcher in the Rye
(C) A House Made of Dawn (D) The Floating Opera .
7. _____ story enfolds the entire action of the novel, Light in August.
- A) Mrs. Hines (B) Joanne Burden (C) Lucas Burch (D) Lena Grove's
- 8 'The Catcher in the Rye' reflects theme of _____.
- A) Fruitlessness of life (B) Pasotrility
(C) Inequality in the Society (D) Continuity of life
- 9 _____ is a sect of Greek Philosophy which believed that goodness is not possible in society.
- A) Cynicism (B) Opera (C) Feminism (D) Sadism
- 10 _____ declared in an interview; "After all, if my generation of writers represents anything if there is anything we have fought for, it is sexual revolution."
- a) Ernest Hemingway (B) William Faulkner (C) Eugene O'Neill (D) Norman Mailer