

**THE ENGLISH AND FOREIGN LANGUAGES UNIVERSITY
HYDERABAD 500605**



**SCHOOL OF DISTANCE EDUCATION
M.A. English (Part I)**

**COURSE IV: BRITISH LITERATURE – II
(This set of assignments has 2 printed pages.)**

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Each Assignment is based on one Block of the course material; so read the Block, and the texts discussed in it, before attempting the Assignments for that Block.
2. Answers should be suitably and adequately illustrated with references to the texts studied in the Units. Answers lifted verbatim from the course material, the internet, or other sources will be awarded poor grades.

**ASSIGNMENT 1
(BASED ON BLOCK I)**

ATTEMPT ALL OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS (AROUND 500-750 WORDS EACH).

1. What are the main ideas and movements that shaped English Literature in the Romantic period? Explain the social, economic and political factors that influenced thought and literature during this period.
2. How far is it correct to call “The Ancient Mariner” a story of guilt and expiation?
3. Cite and explain instances of Nature images used by Wordsworth in “Ode: Intimations of Immortality”
4. Describe the themes of creative expression and the mortality of human life in Keats’s Ode to a Nightingale”.
5. Identify the major conflicts that marked the Victorian Age.

**ASSIGNMENT 2
(BASED ON BLOCK II)**

ATTEMPT ALL OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS (AROUND 500-750 WORDS EACH).

1. Write a note on the socio-political problems most of the novelists tried to address in the 19th century.
2. In Unit 2 of this block, we have seen that publishing was a very difficult task for Jane Austin. Do you think it is easy for women today? Write a note either supporting or opposing this view.
3. Discuss the plot and narrative structure of Emile Bronte’s “Wuthering Heights”.

4. Write an essay showing how most of Charles Dicken's novels reflect the human life in 19th century England.
5. What are the dominant themes in Thomas Hardy's "Tess of the d'Urbervilles"?

**ASSIGNMENT 3
(BASED ON BLOCK III)**

ATTEMPT ALL OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS (AROUND 500-750 WORDS EACH).

1. What are the major features of Symbolist poetry?
2. Why is modern poetry considered Anglo-American? Who are the great modernist poets?
3. Explain T.S. Eliot's views of poetry.
4. Write a critical note on the Movement poets.
5. W. H. Auden is close to W.B. Yeats in many ways. Explore the connection between these two poets.

**ASSIGNMENT 4
(BASED ON BLOCK IV)**

ATTEMPT ALL OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS (AROUND 500-750 WORDS EACH).

1. What are the roots of modern drama in 19th century?
2. Write a note on class discrimination as one of the major themes of "Arms and the Man".
3. Comment on the significance of the themes of "Murder in the Cathedral".
4. Write a note on the kind of characters you find in Absurd plays with reference to Samuel Beckett's 'Waiting for Godot'.
5. Describe the important features of a one-act play.

**ASSIGNMENT 5
(BASED ON BLOCK V)**

ATTEMPT ALL OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS (AROUND 500-750 WORDS EACH).

1. Elaborate the salient features of the postmodern novel.
2. Give an analysis of the major themes of Conrad's "Lord Jim".
3. Comment on "Ulysses" as a modern novel.
4. Examine the historical contexts for D.H. Lawrence's "The Rainbow".
5. What is a Bildungsroman? What characteristics of Bildungsroman have you noticed in James Joyce's "A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man"? Does the novel depart from the conventions of the genre?