

**THE ENGLISH AND FOREIGN LANGUAGES UNIVERSITY
HYDERABAD 500 007**



**SCHOOL OF DISTANCE EDUCATION
M.A. ENGLISH – PART I**

COURSE IV: BRITISH LITERATURE-II

(This set of assignments is printed on 2 pages.)

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Each Assignment is based on one or more Blocks 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 appropriately 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. Critically examine and explain the terms Classical and Romantic.
2. Cite and explain the instances of Nature images used by Wordsworth in his poem *Ode: Intimations of Immortality*.
3. Discuss the themes of artistic expression, ephemerality, and immortality of human life with reference to any two of John Keats' poems you have studied. .
4. Analyze and discuss the various social ills and conflicts of the Victorian age that the writers of the time dealt with in their works.
5. A. L. Tennyson's *Ulysses* is a poem of quest. Justify.

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

ATTEMPT ALL OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS (around 500-750 words each).

1. What do you understand by the term 'Victorian governess novel'? Discuss the characteristics of this genre.

2. Later day critics have found in Jane Austen's novels echoes of feminism in her strong woman protagonists who are victimized by the unfair social system but who also have the courage to be different, to think for themselves, and to make a difference to themselves as well to people around them. Discuss this statement with respect to any of her novels that you have studied.
3. Emily Brontë's *Wuthering Heights* provides us with multiple narrators and perspectives. Discuss.
4. Write an essay showing how Charles Dickens' novels (with special reference to any of his works) were a reflection of human life in nineteenth-century England.
5. *Tess of the d'Urbervilles* can be read as Hardy's expression of resentment against Victorian times and attitudes. Comment.

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

ATTEMPT ALL OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS (around 500-750 words each).

1. Why is modern poetry considered Anglo-American? Discuss with special reference to T. S Eliot and W. B Yeats.
2. Write a critical note on Dadaism and Surrealism.
3. Write a critical survey on the kinds of characters you find in Absurd plays with reference to Samuel Beckett's *Waiting for Godot* and Eugene Ionesco's *Rhinoceros*.
4. Discuss the themes of anger, ennui, and class conflict in John Osborne's play *Look Back in Anger*.
5. List and elaborate upon the characteristic features of a one-act play.

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

ATTEMPT ALL OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS (around 500-750 words each).

1. Write a note on the socio-political context of the twentieth-century novel.
2. Describe the peculiarly modernist and complex plot structure of James Joyce's novel *Ulysses*.
3. Discuss the themes of alienation and escape in Joseph Conrad's *Lord Jim*.
4. D. H Lawrence's novel *The Rainbow* is about people seeking fulfilment in relationships. Comment.
5. Write a note on James Joyce's *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* as a *Künstlerroman* of the artist-hero.
