

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



SCHOOL OF DISTANCE EDUCATION

POST-GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN THE TEACHING OF ENGLISH

**MODERN ENGLISH GRAMMAR AND USAGE
ASSIGNMENTS (2016-2017)**

(This set of assignments contains 5 printed pages.)

Assignment I

(Based on Block I)

I. The following sentences are unacceptable vis-à-vis Standard English. (1) Identify the deviant features in each of these sentences, if any and (2) suggest an acceptable version.

1. Can you be able to explain this part of the lesson to me?
2. Do you always give your suggestions unwantedly ?
3. I am so happy that he stood first in the class. He works so hardly.
4. I left school when Dennis did leave school.
5. Shall we play the tennis?
6. I got cut my hair yesterday.
7. There aren't any eggs. If we have some eggs, I could make an omelet.
8. We live in a society where pizza gets to your house before police does.

II. Comment critically on the following statements in about 50 to 60 words each.

1. English is a very difficult language because its grammar is difficult.
2. No language can be a 'pure' language.
3. Teaching of grammar involves teaching students how to produced correct language
4. Rules of language use keep on changing all the time but grammatical rules are always the same.
5. Indian English is a language variety in its own right.

Assignment II
(Based on Block II)

I. Assign functional labels (i.e. Subject, Object, Complement, etc.) as illustrated in Section 2.4 of Unit 2 (pp. 19-20) to the underlined phrases in the following sentences.

1. Hiralal put the stolen necklace in the drawer of the table.
2. I have left my purse in the canteen.
3. I have found him a good student.
4. All those beautiful red silk dresses you see in the window will be bought by those rich tourists.
5. What I want is a cup of piping hot coffee.

II. Assign a formal and a semantic label to each of the following sentences.

1. I wonder if John was able to catch the train!
2. Why not forgive Prasen his mistake?
3. If I agreed with you, wouldn't we both be wrong?
4. How well the young man spoke!
5. War does not determine who is right, only who is left.

III. Say whether the following sentences belong to the Simple, Complex, Compound or Compound-Complex type. If complex, say whether they belong to the matrix – embedded type or the main subordinate type, and identify the matrix/main and the embedded/subordinate clauses. If compound, identify all the independent clauses.

1. Light travels faster than sound which is why some people appear bright until you hear them speak.
2. Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit but wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.
3. A bank is a place that will lend you money if you prove that you don't need it.
4. To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism but to steal from many is research.
5. Some of the children in that school beyond the fence are very good at the most popular game of cricket.

Assignment III
(Based on Block III)

I. Pick out the finite verbals in the following passage and analyze their structure using tree diagrams.

A man had a habit of honking his horn each day as he came home from work. His wife always liked to please him. Upon hearing the honk, she would immediately open the garage door. He would swing around a sharp corner and drive straight into the already-opened garage. His wife was consistent in her door-opening ministry, until one day she failed to hear the car horn. Her happy honking husband swung around the sharp corner, up the driveway, through the closed doors, through the back wall and into the vegetable garden, which was lying at the back of the house.

II. Point out the differences, if any, between the sentences in each of the following pairs. The difference may relate to form, function and/ or meaning.

1. a. He stopped to read his letters.
b. He stopped reading his letters.
2. a. Should you sit in the library now?
b. You should sit in the library now.
3. a. John shouted only at the speaker.
b. Only John shouted at the speaker.
4. a. Mum hates to cook on an electric cooker.
b. Mum hates cooking on an electric cooker.
5. a. If Mary invites John, he will certainly come.
b. If Mary invited John, he would certainly come.

III. Say whether the underlined parts in the following sentences contain phrasal verbs, prepositional verbs or phrasal-prepositional verbs:

1. He tore up the papers.
2. I plucked the raw mangoes off the branches.
3. Jagdish pushed the cart on to the footpath.
4. Meher looks after her old parents very well.
5. Preity always looks down on other students.

IV. Comment on the acceptability of the following sentences from the point of view of Standard English. In each case, point out the deviant features and suggest an acceptable version.

1. A phone box is round the corner if you want to ring up your mother.
2. I am loving you but you are not understanding it at all.
3. I am driving into town so I'll get some petrol in the way.
4. Had you told me about your problems, I would help you.
5. Let's do a different something today.

Assignment IV
(Based on Block IV)

I. Analyze the structure of the underlined noun phrases in the following sentences using tree diagrams.

1. A few of the most popular films in Hollywood are being screened at this theatre.
2. I have always wanted to have a big fat story book that I can go on reading for a very long time.
3. The curiously quiet, bearded old man who was sitting in a corner began to speak.
4. The new hostel warden, a pompous and rude man, was quite unpopular among the students.

II. Specify the article features of the underlined NPs in the following passage:

It is true that law is often so blind. In a small town, a man named Pattu Seini was arrested on a charge that he stole a neighbor's cow. His attorney maintained that he was innocent and filed that the case be dismissed through lack of evidence. The judge agreed and the case was dismissed. Pattu Seini then thanked the judge and asked, "But do I give back the cow?" Onlookers were watching but the judge had to let him go.

III. Comment on the use of the underlined items in the sentence below. Point out the differences in their use in each pair. The difference may relate to form, function, and/or meaning.

1. a. Seeing a movie is a must for me.
b. I must see a movie.
2. a. Justin is holding a racket.
b. Justin is creating a racket!
3. a. Mary is in a blue dress.
b. Mary is in a blue mood.
4. a. Surprisingly, Martin came up with a solution.
b. Martin came up with a surprising solution.
5. a. John said he is reading a weighty tome.
b. John said he is discussing a weighty issue.

IV. Identify the type to which the underlined clauses in each of the following sentences belong. You must choose from the following types:

- i. Restrictive clause
- ii. Non-restrictive clause
- iii. Nominal relative clause
- iv. Appositive clause
- v. Connective clause
- vi. Sentential relative clause

1. Whatever I see is depressing these days.
2. The bus has arrived on time, which is really amazing.
3. Relatives who are short tempered must be avoided at any cost.
4. I went to the librarian for a book which was very difficult to get.
5. The scholar, who has won award this year, is my friend.

V. Comment on the acceptability of the following sentences from the point of view of Standard English. In each case, point out the deviant features and suggest an acceptable version.

1. My foot is hurting awfully lot.
2. He reminds me about an old friend of mine.
3. John has a suggestion and he wants to put it ahead of the meeting.
4. I don't know the meeting's time.
5. There is only one key; I will have to get another one made if I lose it.

Assignment V
(Based on Block V)

I. Distinguish between the underlined items in each of the following pairs:

1. a. I came out of the room with a light heart.
b. I want some light in this room.
2. a. You have to cross the road with John now.
b. You are quite cross with John, aren't you?
3. a. I can see Jane has some dark designs on John.
b. I can see that Jane has some dark circles under her eyes.
4. a. She might go for the movie.
b. She had a go at the movie.
5. a. Turn down the music please.
b. John is going to face the music.
6. a. Time flies like an arrow.
b. Fruit flies like a banana.

II. Comment on the acceptability of the following sentences from the point of view of Standard English. In each case, point out the deviant/ variant features and suggest the more appropriate variant.

1. We were finally able to adopt to the cold climate of the country.
2. You do you want to go to the sell again? You have already bought three jeans.
3. The visitor all have arrived.
4. Which team did win the match?
5. I've better not stay any longer; I have work to do.
6. These days John is rubbing shoulder with the rich and famous.
