

S.S. JAIN SUBODH PG COLLEGE, JAIPUR

ASSIGNMENT-2026

English Literature

BA Semester II

Paper II: Prose and Fiction – I

Answer one question from each unit.

UNIT-I

1. Discuss Bacon's views on the practical uses and abuses of study in Of Studies. Analyze the aphoristic style of Bacon and its effectiveness in conveying wisdom.
2. Distinguish between knowledge and wisdom as explained by Russell. Why does he consider wisdom essential in modern life? Discuss Russell's concern about scientific progress without moral wisdom.
3. How does Lucas humorously critique indecision and second-guessing in Third Thoughts? Discuss the conversational and light essay style of Lucas with reference to the text.
4. Examine Addison's rational criticism of superstitions in society. How does Addison combine moral instruction with gentle satire in the essay?
5. Discuss Belloc's critique of contemporary education and his suggested reforms. Analyze the tone of irony and seriousness in Belloc's treatment of education.
6. How does Hunt turn a trivial daily experience into a humorous reflective essay? Discuss the personal and conversational charm of Hunt's familiar essay style.

UNIT-II

1. Interpret El Dorado as an allegory of human aspiration and the pursuit of ideals. Discuss Stevenson's message about contentment and the illusion of perfection.
2. Analyze The Open Window as a story of deception and imagination. Discuss the role

of Vera and the use of surprise ending in the story.

3. Discuss fate and coincidence in *An Astrologer's Day*. Analyze the astrologer's character and the significance of the final revelation.

UNIT-III

1. Examine *A Cup of Tea* as a critique of upper-class charity and vanity. Analyze Rosemary's psychology and the theme of superficial compassion.

2. Discuss identity and social status in *Living or Dead*. Analyze Tagore's portrayal of the condition of women and emotional isolation.

3. Discuss the theme of war's impact on ordinary individuals in *Old Man at the Bridge*. Analyze Hemingway's minimalist style and symbolism in the story.

4. Discuss *Animal Farm* as a political allegory of the Russian Revolution. Analyze the theme of power and corruption through the character of Napoleon.

UNIT IV

1. Explain the methods of prose appreciation with reference to theme, style, tone, and structure. How does close reading help in understanding prose passages effectively?

2. Discuss the importance of clarity, tone, and structure in formal communication. Explain the differences between formal and informal communication with examples.

3. Describe the essential features and structure of an effective report. Discuss the role of objectivity and accuracy in report writing.

4. Explain the key elements of an effective academic presentation. Discuss the importance of visual aids and audience engagement in presentations.

Semester IV English Literature

Paper I: Poetry and Drama

Answer one question from each unit.

Unit I

1. Write the salient features of Contemporary Age.
2. Write a short note on Novel and Free Verse.

Unit II

3. Write critical appreciation of the poem "Birches".
4. Write critical appreciation of the poem "Preludes".

Unit III

5. What is the central idea of the play Arms and the Man?
6. How are women portrayed in the play? Discuss.

Paper II: Prose and Fiction

Answer one question from each unit.

Unit I

1. How does Lucas explain the importance of Wednesday? Which weekday is important for you and why?
2. What is the central idea of the essay "The Pleasures of Ignorance"?

Unit II

3. Discuss the main theme of the novel *The Old Man and the Sea*.
4. How does William Faulkner reveal character in 'A Rose for Emily'?

Unit III

5. Write the characteristics of a good précis.
6. Write an essay on NEP 2020.

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BA English (Semester VI)

Paper I- Indian Writing in English-II

Answer one question from each unit.

Unit I

1. Discuss how modern Indian poets express personal and social realities through symbolism and imagery with reference to Nissim Ezekiel's "Night of the Scorpion" and Kamala Das's "My Grandmother's House."
2. Examine themes of memory, loss, and familial relationships in A. K. Ramanujan's "Obituary" and Mamta Kalia's "Tribute to Papa." How do these poets present private experiences within a broader cultural framework?

Unit II

3. Critically analyze the representation of women's voices and resistance in *Roots* by Ismat Chughtai and *A Kitchen in the Corner of the House* by Ambai. How do these writers challenge patriarchal norms?
4. Discuss the significance of feminist historiography and social critique in the Introduction to *Women Writing in India: 600 B.C. to the Present* by Susie Tharu and K. Lalita, and relate it to the themes of social power and failure in *The Politics of Failure* by S. V. Srinivas.

Unit III

5. Analyze the portrayal of women's confinement and inner strength in *Inside the Haveli* by Rama Mehta. How does the novel depict the tension between tradition and modernity?
6. Discuss how *Inside the Haveli* explores the transformation of female identity within patriarchal structures. How does the protagonist negotiate cultural expectations and personal freedom?

B.A. Sem VI

Assignment

Paper II: Gender Writing -II

Attempt one question from each unit:

Unit I

1. Discuss the theme of marital alienation and emotional distance in *The Interpreter of Maladies*.
How does Lahiri portray the inner lives of her characters?
2. How does Shashi Deshpande explore the concept of patriarchal inheritance and its impact on women in *The Legacy*?

Unit II

1. Discuss how Meena Kandasamy reinterprets the idea of “paradise” in *Another Paradise Lost* from a feminist perspective.
2. How does Rupi Kaur address issues of language, identity, and marginalization in *Broken English*?

Unit III

1. Discuss the theme of alienation and isolation in Anita Desai’s *Fire on the Mountain*.
2. Analyze the significance of setting and symbolism in shaping the feminist concerns of *Fire on the Mountain*.