

**BA English Honours and General Programme
(BAEGH AND BAG)**

DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC ELECTIVE

ASSIGNMENT

(FOR JULY 2025 AND JANUARY 2026 SESSIONS)

*BA English Honours (BAEGH) &
BA GENERAL (BAG)*

(BEGE 141)

UNDERSTANDING PROSE

**School of Humanities
Indira Gandhi National Open University
Maidan Garhi, New Delhi-110068**



**DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC ELECTIVE COURSE
(HONOURS AND GENERAL)
BEGE-141
UNDERSTANDING PROSE**

Programme: BA English (Hon. And
General.) Course Code: BEGE-141/2025-26

Dear Student

You are required to do one assignment for this Discipline Specific Elective English Honours and General Course titled *Understanding Prose* Code BEGE-141, which will be a Tutor Marked Assignment (TMA) and will carry 100 marks. It will be based on blocks 1 to 4.

Aims: This assignment is concerned mainly with assessing your application and your understanding of the course material. You are not to reproduce chunks of information from the course material but to use the skills of critical appreciation that you may have acquired during the course of study. This assignment aims to teach as well as to assess your performance.

Guidelines: There are three sections – Section A, B & C, you are required to attempt all questions in your own words and hand written Assignments should be submitted on time.

Instructions: Before attempting the questions, please read the following instructions carefully.

As in day-to-day life, planning is important in attempting the assignment as well. Read the assignment carefully; go through the units on which the questions are based; jot down some points regarding each question and then re-arrange them in a logical order. In the essay-type answer, pay attention to your introduction and conclusion. The introduction must tell you how to interpret the given topic and how you propose to develop it. The conclusion must summarize your views on the topic. 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 should submit the assignment in your own handwriting.

Make sure that your answer:

- a) Is logical
- b) is written in simple and correct English
- c) does not exceed the number of words indicated in your questions
- d) is written neatly and clearly.

Please remember that it is compulsory to submit your assignment before you can take the Term End Examination. Also remember to keep a copy of your assignment with you and to take a receipt from your Study Centre when you

Submit the assignment.

1. Write your Enrolment Number, Name, Full Address and Date on the top right corner of the first page of your response sheet(s).
2. 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 the first page of your response sheet should look like this:

ENROLMENT NO:.....	COURSE TITLE:.....
NAME:	STUDY CENTRE:.....
ADDRESS:.....	DATE:.....

3. Use only foolscap size paper for your response and tag all the pages carefully.
4. Write the relevant question number with each answer.
5. You should write in your own handwriting
6. Submission: The completed assignment should be sent to the Coordinator of the Study Centre allotted to you **by 31st March 2026 (For July, 2025 Session) and 30th September, 2026 (For January, 2026 Session)**. Please read the instructions given in your Programme Guide.

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

1. **Planning:** Read the questions 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 answers in your own words. Do not reproduce passages from the units.
2. **Organisation:** 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 exceed 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 emphasise.

You may be aware that you need to submit your assignments 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!

**BEGE-141 UNDERSTANDING PROSE
ASSIGNMENT
(FOR JULY 2025 AND JANUARY 2026 SESSIONS)
BA English Honours & General
(Based on Blocks 1-4)**

Maximum Marks: 100

Answer All Questions

Section A

Q.1 Write short notes on the following in about 200 words each:

(4 x 5 =20)

- a. Difference between Metaphor and Simile
- b. Characteristics of Descriptive Prose
- c. Diary Writing
- d. Hyperbole and Litotes

Section B

Q.2 Answer the following questions in about 350 words each:

4 x 7.5 =30

- a. Examine how Orwell critiques British imperialism through his portrayal of the English in colonial Burma in “Shooting an Elephant.”
- b. What does *The Diary of a Young Girl* reveal about the Holocaust and the psychological trauma endured by the Jewish community?
- c. Anton Chekhov’s story “Misery” explores human indifference toward others’ suffering. Discuss how this theme is developed in the narrative.
- d. Compare Jamaica Kincaid’s perception of England as a child with her experience of the country as an adult.

Section C

Q.3. Answer the following questions in about 600 words each:

5 x 10 =50

- a. How does Jawaharlal Nehru offer a deeper understanding of Indian culture and civilization in “The Quest of Man”?
- b. Bill Aitken shows a sympathetic understanding of the North–South cultural differences in “Travels by a Lesser Line”. Discuss.
- c. What are the key features of Margaret Laurence’s speech “My Final Hour” that make it thought-provoking? Illustrate your answer with relevant examples from the text.
- d. Who is the narrator of the story “Mother”? Discuss his character in detail with relevant examples from the text.
- e. How does Russell portray upper-class life in Victorian Britain through his *Autobiography*?