

**DCE**

**ASSIGNMENT BOOKLET**  
**Assignments for Courses 1,2,3,4,5**

**ASSIGNMENTS**  
**(For July 2025 and January 2026 Sessions)**

**Diploma in Creative Writing in English**  
**(DCE)**



**School of Humanities**  
**Indira Gandhi National Open University**  
**Maidan Garhi, New Delhi – 110 068**

## Diploma in Creative Writing in English

Dear Students,

We hope you are already familiar with the system of evaluation to be followed for the Diploma in Creative Writing in English. At this stage you should read again the pages of the Programme Guide that give the details of the evaluation procedure. A weightage of 30 per cent, as you are aware, has been earmarked for Continuous Evaluation, which would consist of one assignment per Course.

The Assignment booklet for Courses 1,2,3,4 and 5 is being sent herewith. It has a total of 5 assignments, of which 4 must be submitted by you. The assignment for Course 1 is **compulsory** and every student must attempt this. You are required to do the assignments for only three courses, out of DCE-2,3,4 and 5.

Following is the calendar for submission of assignments:

Course 1	}	Last Date of Submission of Assignments: <b>For July 2025 Session: 31st March 2026</b> <b>For January 2026 Session: 30th September 2026</b>
Course 2		
Course 3		
Course 4		
Course 5		

All assignments must be submitted on or before the date set.

All assignments pertaining to any Course must be submitted in one batch. **No piecemeal submission is acceptable.**

In case you are not able to keep this deadline in the first year, say 2026, you should submit your assignments in 2027, 2028, 2029 or 2030 that is, you have a total of 1+4 years to submit your assignments.

At the commencement of every academic year, your progress will be intimated and you will be asked your plan of studies for that year. At this stage, please ask for the assignment Booklet of **that** year, not for your year of enrolment. Irrespective of your year of enrolment, **you do the assignment in force for the year in which you submit it.**

Do not plan to take the terminal examination for any course if you have not done the assignments set for it first. You will not be permitted to do so.

### Instructions for submitting your assignments

1. You should attach a slip in the following format to the top of the relevant course assignments

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Course Title _____	Name _____	
Use		For Office
Assignment No. _____	Address _____	
Enrolment No. _____	_____	Grades: Letter
Date sent on _____	_____	
_____	_____	Evaluated by
	_____	_____

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PLEASE FOLLOW THE ABOVE FORMAT STRICTLY TO FACILITATE EVALUATION AND TO AVOID DELAY.

2. The answer sheets should be complete in all respects. Make sure you have answered all the questions in an assignment before you submit it.
3. Use only foolscap-size writing paper (but not of very thin variety), for writing your answer.
4. Leave 5 cms margin on the left, top and bottom of your answer scripts so that comments, if any, can be made.
5. Start every assignment on a fresh sheet so that you can prepare separate sets for each block.
6. You should not send printed articles as your answers to assignments.
7. Please write ASSIGNMENT FOR DIPLOMA IN CREATIVE WRITING IN ENGLISH on top of the cover in which you send your answer/response sheets.
- 8.

**DCE 01**  
**GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF WRITING**

**Max. Marks: 100**  
**Programme: DCE**  
**Assignment Code: DCE 1/ TMA/1/2025-2026**

Answer the following.

1. Write short notes on: 10
- a) Content
  - b) Form
  - c) Structure
  - d) Style

2. Read the following passage and answer the questions given below. 10

The old library stood shrouded in a perpetual twilight, its towering shelves groaning under the weight of forgotten tales and whispered secrets. Dust motes danced in the sparse sunbeams that dared to pierce the grimy windows, each particle a tiny, fleeting star in a universe of silence. One could almost hear the ghosts of avid readers rustling pages, their hushed sighs mingling with the scent of aged paper and leather. It was not a place for hurried glances or casual browsing; it demanded reverence, an unhurried surrender to its profound stillness. Every volume seemed to possess a silent history, patiently awaiting the touch of a curious hand. Indeed, the very air hummed with untold narratives, each spine a portal to a different epoch, a forgotten mind. This sanctuary, though often overlooked by the digitally obsessed generation, held treasures far more enduring than any fleeting digital trend. A quiet defiance resided within its hallowed walls, a steadfast refusal to yield to the clamour of the modern world. Here, knowledge wasn't consumed; it was absorbed, a slow and nourishing draught for the hungry soul.

- a) Describe the tone of this passage.
- b) What is the author's attitude towards the old library?
- c) Comments on the diction of the passage.
- d) How does the flow of the sentences contribute to the overall feeling or voice of the passage? Explain.
- e) Suggest a suitable title for the passage. Justify the title by giving reasons.

3. Dialogues can play a crucial role in dramatising ideas.' Discuss. 10

4. Given below is an extract from the story 'The Babus of Nayanjore' by Rabindranath Tagore (Ten Tales for Indian Students, OUP). The protagonist is talking to himself, trying to understand why he dislikes Kailas Babu. Rewrite his self-analysis in the form of a dialogue with an intimate friend. (200 words) 10

When I sit down and try to analyse the thoughts and feelings that I had towards Kailas Babu, I see that there was a still deeper reason for my dislike. I will now explain. Though I am the son of a rich man, and might have wasted time at college, my industry was such that I took my MA. degree from Calcutta University when quite young. My moral character was flawless. In addition, my outward appearance was so handsome that if I were to call myself beautiful, it might be thought a mark of self-estimation, but would not be considered an untruth. There could be no question that among the young men of Bengal, I was regarded by parents generally as a very eligible match. I myself was quite clear on the point, and had determined to obtain my full value in the marriage market.

5. Distinguish between Creative and Non-Creative writing. 10
6. Discuss the various modes of Direct address. 10
7. Write a short story (approximately 750-1000 words) that develops this opening into a complete detective mystery. 20
- "The antique pocket watch, a family heirloom, was gone. Not just misplaced, but *gone* from the locked display case in a house known for its impenetrable security. The only clues were a faint scent of jasmine, a single, iridescent feather, and a cryptic note left on the pillow: 'Time unravels all secrets.'"
8. Write short notes on any one of the following. 10
- a) The relation between language and clarity.
  - b) Authenticity and credibility
9. 'A monologue is more than a device,' Discuss. 10