DCE

ASSIGNMENT BOOKLET

Assignments for Courses 1,2,3,4,5

ASSIGNMENTS

(For July 2026 and January 2027 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 Course 2 Course 3	Last Date of Submission of Assignments: **For July 2026 Session: 31st March 2027**
Course 4	**For January 2027 Session: 30th September 2027**
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

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

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Course Title _____

Assignment No._____

Name _____Enrollment Number_____

Address_____

For Office Use

Grades:_____

Enrolment No._____

Letter Date sent on _____

_____

_____

Evaluated by

PLEASE FOLLOW THE ABOVE FORMAT STRICTLY TO FACILITATE

EVALUATION AND TO AVOID DELAY.

1. The answer sheets should be complete in all respects. Make sure you have answered all the questions in an assignment before you submit it.

2. Use only full-size writing paper (but not of very thin variety), for writing youranswer.

3. Leave 5 cms margin on the left, top and bottom of your answer scripts so thatcomments, if any, can be made.

4. Start every assignment on a fresh sheet so that you can prepare separate sets for eachblock.

5. You should not send printed articles as your answers to assignments.

6. Please write ASSIGNMENT FOR DIPLOMA IN CREATIVE WRITING INENGLISH on top of the cover in which you send your answer/response sheets.

DCE 01
GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF WRITING

Max. Marks: 100
Programme: DCE
Assignment Code: DCE 1/ TMA/1/2026-2027

Answer the following.

1. Write short notes on any four of the following: **5x4=20**

a) Footnoting
b) Proofreading
c) Indexing
d) Imagery
e) Structure

2. Read the following passage and answer the questions given below. **5x4=20**

On rainy afternoons, embroidering with a group of friends on the begonia porch, she would lose the thread of the conversation and a tear of nostalgia would salt her palate when she saw the strips of damp earth and the piles of mud that the earthworms had pushed up in the garden. Those secret tastes, defeated in the past by oranges and rhubarb, broke out into an irrepressible urge when she began to weep. She went back to eating earth. The first time she did it almost out of curiosity, sure that the bad taste would be the best cure for the temptation. And, in fact, she could not bear the earth in her mouth. But she persevered, overcome by the growing anxiety, and little by little she was getting back her ancestral appetite, the taste of primary minerals, the unbridled satisfaction of what was the original food. She would put handfuls of earth in her pockets, and ate them in small bits without being seen, with a confused feeling of pleasure and rage, as she instructed her girl friends in the most difficult needlepoint and spoke about other men, who did not deserve the sacrifice of having one eat the whitewash on the walls because of them.

a) Describe the tone of this passage.
b) Comment on the use of gustatory imagery in the passage.
c) Comment on the diction of the passage.
d) How does the flow of the sentences contribute to the overall mood of the passage? Explain.

3. Writers should always review and edit their own work. Do you agree? Give reasons. **10**

4. What do you understand by 'Creative Writing'? How does it differ from 'Non-creative writing'? **10**

5. What are the different types of monologues and dialogues? Elaborate. **10**

6. Write a short story about a young person who commutes daily to and from a neighbouring city to improve his/ her family's financial condition. Use the autobiographical mode. **15**

7. Discuss the importance of sustaining the reader's interest from beginning to end. What measures can you take to ensure readability? **15**