

**BA General Programme (English)
(BAG)**

ASSIGNMENT

(For July, 2026 Session)

**BA General (English) (BEGC 134)
Reading the Novel**



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

Reading the Novel (BEGC-134)

Programme: BA General (English)

Course Code: BEGC-134/2026 -26

Dear Student

You are required to do this assignment for the BA General Programme (English) - Course titled *Reading the Novel* Code BEGC-134, 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 two sections – Section A, & B, 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).
3. 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:

NAME:

ADDRESS:

.....

COURSE TITLE:

STUDY CENTRE:

DATE:.....

4. Use foolscap/ A 4 size paper for your response and tag all the pages carefully.
5. Write the relevant question number with each answer.

Last Date for Submission of Assignment:

For the December TEE: 30th September

For the June TEE: 31st March

Good Luck!

BEGC-134
Reading the Novel
Assignment July, 2026 Session
(Based on Blocks 1 - 4)

TMA 01/2026 - 26
Max. Marks: 100

Answer all questions.

Section A

1. Answer the following in about 200 words each. (2 × 10 = 20)

- (i) Discuss the distinguishing features of the novel as a literary form. How does it differ from the epic and the romance?
- (ii) What is meant by point of view in a novel? Explain its significance with suitable illustrations.

Section B

Answer the following in about 350 words each. (4 × 15 = 60)

- 1. Discuss Edna Pontellier's search for identity and personal freedom in *The Awakening*. How does Kate Chopin challenge conventional ideas of womanhood?
- 2. Analyse the relationship between tribal life, nature, and exploitation in *Paraja*. How does Gopinath Mohanty portray the conflict between indigenous traditions and external forces?
- 3. Examine the significance of Okonkwo as a tragic hero in *Things Fall Apart*. Discuss how his strengths also contribute to his downfall.
- 4. Compare the representation of society and individual freedom in *The Awakening* and *Things Fall Apart*.

Section C

Answer the following in about 600 words. (1 × 20 = 20)

- 5. Critically examine the novel as a medium for representing social change. Discuss your answer with reference to *The Awakening*, *Paraja*, and *Things Fall Apart*.