



Date: 06-04-2026

**GAUHATI UNIVERSITY**  
**CENTRE FOR DISTANCE AND ONLINE EDUCATION**  
**HOME ASSIGNMENT**

**M.A. in English**

**Semester - IV (Session: 2023-24 (January))**

**Guidelines for Submission:**

1. Learners who have been admitted in the Academic Session (2023-24 (January)) will write the Home Assignment.
2. Learners should write their **Roll Number, GU Registration Number, Subject, Semester, Paper Title, Paper Code** and **Name of the Study Center** clearly on the first page of the answer script in the space provided.
3. The formats of the answer scripts are available at, and can be downloaded from, the GUCDOE website ([www.gucdoe.in](http://www.gucdoe.in)).
4. There will be 2 (two) compulsory questions in each paper, and each question will have options (Total Marks: 2 questions × 10 marks= 20 marks).
5. **Typed/Computerized answers will not be accepted.** Learners will write the answers neatly in their own handwriting.
6. Answer to a 10 mark question should not exceed 400 words.
7. Learners should not submit any plagiarized answers as such a practice is deemed to be unfair.
8. Learners of different Study Centers under GUCDOE will mandatorily submit the answer scripts at their respective Study Centers.
9. Learners of GUCDOE center will submit their answer scripts at GUCDOE Office.
10. **Last Date of Submission: 5<sup>th</sup> May, 2026.**

**PAPER: ENG 4016: Indian Writing in English**

Answer the following questions:

**2 x 10 = 20**

**Q. No. 1.** How does AshisNandy examine the complex psychological effects of colonialism on both the colonizer and the colonized? Discuss with reference to his critique of Western-centric frameworks.

**10**

**OR**

Do you think that Kamala Das's negotiation of personal trauma has subversive implications? Discuss with reference to the poems prescribed in your course.

**10**

**Q. No. 2.** Discuss the major themes of *Kanthapura* by Raja Rao.

**10**

**OR**

Critically analyse the narrative structure and characterization in *When Dreams Travel* by Githa Hariharan as strategies for exposing social injustice and advocating empowerment. **10**

**PAPER: ENG 4026: American Writing**

Answer the following questions:

**2 x 10 = 20**

**Q. No. 1.** Discuss the major features of key literary periods in American literature, using representative texts and authors as illustrations.

**10**

**OR**

Elaborate how Mark Twain's *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* engages with the themes of mobility, race, and the idea of freedom.

**10**

**Q. No. 2.** Analyse travel as a metaphor in Elizabeth Bishop's "Questions of Travel."

**10**

**OR**

Discuss the representation of urban America in Carl Sandburg's "Chicago".

**10**

**PAPER: ENG 4046: Writings from India's Northeast**

Answer the following questions:

2 x 10 = 20

**Q. No. 1.** Discuss Homen Borgohain's "Spring in Hell" as a short story.

10

**OR**

Discuss how *Nine Hills, One Valley* explores the themes of conflict, identity, and the search for harmony in a culturally diverse society.

10

**Q. No. 2.** Write a critical appreciation of Robin S. Ngangom's "Funerals and Marriages".

10

**OR**

Write a note on Sishir Basumatary's *The Real Mr. Barkotoki* as a graphic novel.

10

**PAPER: ENG 4056: Literary Theory**

Answer the following questions:

2 x 10 = 20

**Q. No. 1.** Explain the distinction between "work" and "text" as proposed by Roland Barthes.

10

**OR**

Why does Hayden White consider historical writing to be a literary artefact? Discuss.

10

**Q. No. 2.** Examine Jacques Derrida's critique of structuralism in "Structure, Sign, and Play in the Discourse of the Human Sciences."

10

**OR**

Present the main arguments of Edward Said in the essay "Travelling Theory."

10

**PAPER: ENG 4096: Book Into Film**

Answer the following questions:

2 x 10 = 20

**Q. No. 1.** Explain the concepts of *mise-en-scène* and montage in cinema, with suitable examples.

10

**OR**

How does Ritwik Ghatak explicate the importance of sound in cinema?

10

**Q. No. 2.** Discuss Bhaskar Hazarika's adaptation of Lakshminath Bezbaroa's tales into *Kathanodi*, focusing on how cinematic language is employed to construct a sense of reality.

10

**OR**

In what ways does a literary text undergo transformation when adapted into a film? Discuss with reference to any prescribed text from your course.

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