



Date: 30-03-2026

GAUHATI UNIVERSITY
CENTRE FOR DISTANCE AND ONLINE EDUCATION
HOME ASSIGNMENT

M.A. in English

Semester- I (Session: 2025-26 (January))

Guidelines for Submission:

1. Learners who have been admitted in the Academic Session (2025-26 (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).
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 : 30th April, 2026.**

PAPER: ENG 1016 (ENGLISH LITERARY AND CULTURAL HISTORY)

Answer the following questions:

2 x 10 = 20

Q. No. 1. What is Enlightenment? Write an account of the British Enlightenment with special reference to the ideas of John Locke, David Hume, and George Berkeley. **10**

OR

Discuss the main intellectual thrusts of the Enlightenment movement. How do post-colonial perspectives critique Enlightenment ideas? **10**

Q. No. 2. Write an essay on the formal experimentations of the modernist movement. Was the 'crisis of language' a central concern for modernist writers? Give a reasoned answer. **10**

OR

Write a note on the rise of the working class in nineteenth-century England. How did this emerging 'class' make its presence felt in nineteenth-century literature? **10**

PAPER: ENG 1026 (British Poetry)

Answer the following questions:

2 x 10 = 20

Q. No. 1. Evaluate John Keats as a poet, with special reference to the poems prescribed in your curriculum. **10**

OR

Write a note on the major preoccupations of Victorian poetry, with special reference to Alfred Tennyson, Robert Browning, and Matthew Arnold. **10**

Q. No. 2. Discuss the socio-historical and intellectual contexts of modern British poetry. **10**

OR

Give a critical appreciation of W. B. Yeats's "The Second Coming." **10**

PAPER: ENG 1036 (British Drama)

Answer the following questions:

2 x 10 = 20

Q. No. 1. Critically comment on the beginning and ending of Shakespeare's *Hamlet*. **10**

OR

Is *She Stoops to Conquer* an anti-sentimental comedy? Give a reasoned answer. **10**

Q. No. 2. Evaluate J. M. Synge's *Riders to the Sea* as a tragedy with relevant reference to the text. **10**

OR

How is the ethos of the 'angry young man' reflected in Osborne's *Look back in Anger*? Discuss. **10**

PAPER: ENG 1046 (British Fiction)

Answer the following questions:

2 x 10 = 20

Q. No. 1. Examine the symbolic and structural significance of the lighthouse in Virginia Woolf's *To the Lighthouse*. **10**

OR

Discuss Ian McEwan's *Atonement* in terms of its treatment of crime and punishment. **10**

Q. No. 2. Comment on the circular structure of Borges's 'The Circular Ruins'. **10**

OR

Discuss Kipling's "The Man Who Would Be King" in terms of its key themes. **10**

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