

**BA English Honours Programme
(BAEGH)**

ASSIGNMENT

(FOR JULY 2026 AND JANUARY 2027 SESSIONS)

***BA English Honours Compulsory Core Course*
(BEGC 110)**

BRITISH LITERATURE: 19TH CENTURY



**School of Humanities
Indira Gandhi National Open University
Maidan Garhi, New Delhi-110068**

COMPULSORY CORE COURSE OF ENGLISH (HONS)
BEGC-110
BRITISH LITERATURE: 19th CENTURY

Programme: BA English (Hons)
Course Code: BEGC-110/2026-2027

Dear Student,

You are required to do one assignment for this English Honours Compulsory Core Course titled *British Literature: 19th Century* Code BEGC-110, which will be a Tutor Marked Assignment (TMA) and will carry 100 marks. It is 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 three sections – Section A, B & C, you are required to attempt all questions in your own words. 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.

GUIDELINES

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).
2. 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:.....	COURSE TITLE:.....
NAME:	ASSIGNMENT NO:.....
ADDRESS:.....	STUDY CENTRE:.....
DATE:.....	

3. Use only A4 size paper for your response and tag all the pages carefully.
4. Write the relevant question number with each answer.
5. You should write in your own handwriting.
6. **Submission:** The completed assignment should be sent to the Coordinator of the Study Centre allotted to you by **31st March 2027** (if enrolled for the **July 2026 Session**) and **30th September, 2027** (if enrolled in the **January 2027 Session**)
7. Please read the instructions given in your Programme Guide.

GOOD LUCK!

BEGC-110
BRITISH LITERATURE: 19th CENTURY
Assignment for July 2026 and January 2027 Sessions
(Based on Blocks 1-4)

Section A

Q.1 Explain the following lines with reference to context:

(4x5=20)

- a. "Till they perish and they suffer—some, 'tis whisper'd—down in hell
Suffer endless anguish, others in Elysian valleys dwell,
Resting weary limbs at last on beds of asphodel.
Surely, surely, slumber is more sweet than toil, the shore
Than labour in the deep mid-ocean, wind and wave and oar;
O, rest ye, brother mariners, we will not wander more."
- b. "I was ever a fighter, so—one fight more,
The best and the last!
I would hate that death bandaged my eyes and forbore,
And bade me creep past.
No! let me taste the whole of it, fare like my peers..."
- c. Who order'd, that their longing's fire
Should be, as soon as kindled, cool'd?
Who renders vain their deep desire?—
A God, a God their severance ruled!
And bade betwixt their shores to be
The unplumb'd, salt, estranging sea.
- d. "For there is no friend like a sister
In calm or stormy weather;
To cheer one on the tedious way,
To fetch one if one goes astray,
To lift one if one totters down,
To strengthen whilst one stands."

Section B

Q. 2 Answer the following questions in about 300 words each:

(4x5=20)

- a. Explain the significance of Elizabeth- Jane in revealing the moral character of Henchard in *The Mayor of Casterbridge*.
- b. Write a short note on Duke's character in the poem "My Last Duchess."
- c. Discuss how Dickens portrays Lucie Manette as a symbol of home and domestic harmony in *A Tale of Two Cities*.
- d. Write a short note on the theme of the poem "The Windhover".

Section C

Q. 3 Answer the following questions in about 600 words each.

4 x 15 =60

- a. "Happiness is an occasional episode in a general drama of pain." Discuss this statement with reference to the portrayal of Henchard's character in *The Mayor of Casterbridge*.
- b. Explain the significance of the line "I am half sick of shadows" in "The Lady of Shalott."
- c. Compare and contrast the themes explored in "Meeting at Night" and "Parting at Morning."
- d. Critically analyse Dickens' portrayal of the two worlds of London and Paris in *A Tale of Two Cities*.