

**MASTER'S DEGREE IN ENGLISH
(MEG)**

**ASSIGNMENT
(For July 2026 and Jan 2027 Session)**

AMERICAN NOVEL: MEG-11



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

**MASTER'S DEGREE IN ENGLISH
AMERICAN NOVEL
(MEG –11)**

**Programme: MEG
Course Code: MEG-11/2026-27**

Dear Student

You are required to do one assignment for the elective English course entitled American Novel (MEG-11) of the Master's Degree in English Programme. This is a Tutor Marked Assignment (TMA) and carries 100 marks. This assignment covers the entire MEG-11 course from Blocks 1 to 9.

Aims: This TMA is concerned mainly with assessing your application and understanding of the course material. You are not required 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. Please ensure that you read all the texts prescribed in the course. Do make points as you go along. If there is anything you do not understand, please ask your Counselor at the Study Centre for clarification. Once you are able to do the assignment satisfactorily, you will be ready to take the exam with confidence.

Instructions: Before attempting the assignment, please read the following instructions carefully.

1. Read the detailed instructions about the assignment given in the Handbook and Programme Guide.
2. 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 :

ASSIGNMENT NO:

DATE:

4. Use only foolscap size paper for your response and tag all the pages carefully
5. Write the relevant question number with each answer.
6. You should write in your own handwriting.
7. **Last Date for Submission of Assignment:**
For June Examination: 30th April
For December Examination: 31st October

Please read the instructions given in your Programme Guide.

Now read the following guidelines carefully before answering questions.

GUIDELINES FOR TMAs

You will find it useful to keep the following points in mind:

1. **Planning:** Read the questions carefully. Go through the units on which they are based. Make some points regarding each question and then rearrange these in a logical order. And please write the answers in your own words. Do not reproduce passages from the units.
2. **Organization:** Be a little more selective and analytic before drawing up a rough outline of your answer. In an essay-type question, give adequate attention to your introduction and conclusion. The introduction must offer your brief interpretation of the question and how you propose to develop it. The conclusion must summarize your response to the question. In the course of your answer, you may like to make references to other texts or critics as this will add some depth to your analysis.

Make sure that your answer:

- (a) is logical and coherent;
 - (b) has clear connections between sentences and paragraphs;
 - (c) is written correctly giving adequate consideration to your expression, style and presentation;
 - (e) does not exceed the number of words indicated in your question.
3. **Presentation:** 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 may be aware that **you need to submit your assignments before you can appear for the Term End Exams. Please remember to keep a copy of your completed assignment, just in case the one you submitted is lost in transit.**

Good luck with your work!

Assignment
MEG-11
AMERICAN NOVEL
(For July 2026 and Jan 2027 Sessions)
(Based on Blocks (1-9))

Course Code: MEG-11/ 2026-27
Max. Marks: 100

Answer any 05 questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. Explain the major themes and characters in 'The Last of the Mohicans' by James F. Cooper. 20
2. Compare and contrast the critical interpretations of 'The Catcher in the Rye' by J.D. Salinger from different scholarly perspectives. 20
3. Evaluate the character development and critical approaches in 'Black Spring' by Henry Miller, focusing on the unconventional aspects of the novel. 20
4. Discuss the narrative technique used in 'The Great Gatsby' by F. Scott Fitzgerald and its impact on the story. 20
5. In 'The Floating Opera' by John Barth, analyze how the novel transitions from modernity to post-modernity and its implications on the narrative structure. 20
6. Reflect on the critical perspectives surrounding 'House Made of Dawn' by Scott Mamaday and its contribution to Native American fiction. 20
7. How does 'Sister Carrie' by Theodore Dreiser explore the major themes prevalent in late 19th-century American society? 20