

**M A English Semester III:
Topics for Assignment & Case Study**

The page limit for Assignment is 15 and for the Case Study 10. Both shall be hand written and shall be submitted on the stipulated date. Please don't use plastic folders or stick files.

Attempt any one question under each head.

Paper 9 Core EL 231 Linguistics & Structure of the English Language

Assignment

1. Attempt an essay on the main features of human languages
2. The contribution of Saussure to linguistics
3. Write an essay on the major developments in sociolinguistics.

Case Study

Attempt a phonemic transcription of the following two paragraphs.

For me every new experience is a narrative that calls for a listener. It is strange, but in this story you have consistently been my listener. You are at least ten years younger to me, and how many hours of friendship have we really had? Not that much, I am sure. Still, you have told me your story. Or parts of it, which probably made my mind fix you as my listener for this little story of mine. And maybe it is also because you are one the few genuine people I have come across. Who would not care for blank words of formal grace, and would always say what you thought, and who value people for what they are.

Mine is not a new story. No story is new. We have been around in this world for thousands of years and who has a new story to tell? Every single experience has been run through over and over again by hundreds of peoples, in hundreds of places and in a hundred different combinations. So you will probably smile when you note

the passion with which I would tell my story. You have heard this before. Several times. Read this. Seen it happen. Experienced it. But still to me it is new. Because for me the world began the moment I began to think of it. And my world has been shaped by what I have gone through, what I have seen, what I have read. My little limited world, my microcosm. Insignificant in the immensely larger scheme of the cosmos.

Paper 10 Core EL 232 Literary Theory 2

Assignment

1. Attempt an essay on Raymond Williams' notions of literature.
2. Foucault's observations on "What is the author".
3. Show how media exists within ideological constraints and become constitutive of the very ideology it re-presents.

Case Study

1. What are the chief principles implied by the term post-colonialism?
2. What are the basic tenets of New Historicism?

Paper 11 Elective 1 EL 233 Contemporary Malayalam Literature in English Translation

Assignment

1. Post-modern trends in Malayalam poetry
2. Make a critical assessment of the novels of Thakazhi
3. Narayan's *Kocharethi* narrates the tale of three generations, their struggles, and quest for identity. Substantiate.

Case Study

1. The depiction of Namboothiri community in VT's memoir
2. Attempt a critical evaluation of the poem "EthraYadrishikam."

Paper 12 Elective 2 EL 233 Dalit Writing

Assignment

1. The contribution of Abedkar to the development of Dalit movement.
2. Major poets and their representation of the Dalit identity.
3. Attempt a critical analysis of *Dreamhunt*

Case Study

1. Varna and caste hierarchy as ways for domination and control.
2. The poetic tradition of Kerala Dalits