

## DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

### TEACHING FACULTY

#### Professors

Sukhdev Singh, Ph. D. (GNDU)

#### Associate Professors

Harbir Singh Manku, Ph. D.  
(IIT Delhi)

Yubee Gill, Ph. D. (GNDU) (**Head**)

#### Assistant Professors

Manbir Singh Bhullar, M. Phil. (GNDU)  
Sumneet Kaur, Ph. D. (GNDU)

### Courses offered

M. A.

Ph.D.

### Course Details: M. A.

#### Distribution of seats

Course	Duration (Year)	System	Total Seats	Reserved Category			
				SC/ST	BC	RA	Others
M. A.	2	Semester	50	12	3	4	6

### Eligibility

B.A. (Honours School) in English with 45% marks (40% for SC/ST candidates), OR any other Bachelor's Degree with 50% marks aggregate (45% for SC/ST candidates).

### Mode of Admission

Admission will be based on merit of the candidate in the Entrance Test to be conducted by the Department.

### Dates

a)	Fee deposit date in State Bank of India (Any Branch)	05.06.2017 to 27.06.2017
b)	Last Date for Online application form submission	07.06.2017 – 30.06.2017
c)	Entrance Test	10.07.2017 (11:00 am to 1:00 pm)
d)	Admission/Counseling	14.07.2017

**Venue:** Department of English, GNDU, Amritsar

### Contact No.

Coordinator/Head: 0183-2258802-09, 2450601-14, Ext.3236

**Fee (Approximate)** Rs. 18560/- (1st.Sem.) Rs.5000/- (2nd Sem.)



**PATTERN**  
**M.A. ENGLISH ENTRANCE TEST – 2017**

The pattern of question paper for the entrance test for admission to M.A. English Semester-I (2017-2018) is as follows:

- Q1. Comprehension of a Prose Passage OR  
Comprehension of a Short Poem 25 marks

**Note:** In the test, questions on comprehension of either a prose passage or a poem will be set to test (a) Comprehension of text (b) Knowledge of meanings of individual words/phrases/sentences.

- Q2. Vocabulary: Meaning of given words and their usage in sentences. (10x1.5=15 marks)

- Q3. Rewriting the given sentences as instructed – (10x2=20 marks)

- Q4. Common literary terms: meaning and explanation – (4x5=20 marks)  
(Recommended book for reading: A Glossary of Literary Terms by M.H. Abrams)

- Q5. A Paragraph on one of the 3 topics given in the test 20 marks  
(250 words approximately)

**SAMPLE QUESTIONS**

- Q1. Read the following passage and answer the questions given at the end. Your answers should be brief and in your own words. Match your answers to the marks allotted for each questions. (25 marks)

In the town of Surat, in India, was a coffee-house where many travellers and foreigners from all parts of the world met and conversed.

One day a learned Persian theologian visited this coffee-house. He was a man who had spent his life studying the nature of the Deity and reading and writing books upon the subject. He had thought, read and written, so much about God that eventually he lost his wits, became quite confused and ceased even to believe in the existence of a God. The Shah, hearing of this, had banished him from Persia.

After having argued all his life about the First Cause, this unfortunate theologian had ended by quite perplexing himself, and instead of understanding that he had lost his own reason he began to think that there was no higher Reason controlling the universe.

The man had an African slave who followed him everywhere. When the theologian entered the coffee-house the slave remained outside, near the door, sitting on a stone in the glare of the sun and driving away the flies that buzzed around him. The Persian having settled down on

divan in the coffee-house ordered himself a cup of opium. When he had drunk it and the opium had begun to quicken the working of his brain, he addressed his slave through the open door.

'Tell me, wretched slave,' said he, 'do you think there is a God, or not?'

'Of course there is,' said the slave and immediately drew from under his girdle a small idol of wood.

'There,' said he, 'that is the God who has guarded me from the day of my birth. Every one in our country worships the fetish tree, from the wood of which this God was made.'

**Questions:**

1. What did the visitors do in the coffee-house? 2 marks  
a) study about God  
b) drink coffee  
c) take rest  
d) meet, talk and enjoy drink
2. Where did the learned man come from? 2 marks  
a) India  
b) Persia  
c) Africa  
d) Unknown country
3. Where was his slave when the learned man asked him the question? 2 marks  
a) in the coffee-house resting  
b) in the coffee-house keeping the flies off his master  
c) outside the coffee-house sitting  
d) outside the coffee-house talking to someone
4. What does a theologian do? 2 marks
5. How does the slave answer his master's question? 4 marks
6. Why did the Shah send the learned man away? 4 marks
7. What did the learned man believe in, and why? 4 marks

Q1. Give a close reading to the following poem and answer the questions given at the end of the poem: (25 marks)

**A NOISELESS PATIENT SPIDER**

A noiseless patient spider  
I marked where on a little promontory it stood isolated,  
Marked how to explore the vacant vast surrounding,  
It launched forth filament, filament, filament, out of itself,  
Ever unreeling them, ever tirelessly speeding them.

And you O my soul where you stand,  
Surrounded, detached, in measureless oceans of space,  
Ceaselessly missing, venturing, throwing, seeking the spheres to connect them,  
Till the bridge you will need be formed, till the ductile anchor hold,  
Till the gossamer thread you fling catch somewhere, O my soul.

\*Promontory – projection, jutting

1. How does the first stanza (entirely about the spider) set up an elaborate parallel or comparison with the second (about the human soul)?
2. What effect is achieved by repeating the words "filament" and "ever" in the first stanza?
3. The spider's task is "to explore." What does the soul do that is comparable?
4. In what ways are the types of activities of the spider and the soul different? Which is more explanatory and tentative?
5. Which two lines do you like and why?

QII. Write the meanings of the following words and use them in your own sentences:

Brisk, Consequence, Metabolism, Symmetry, Symphony...

QIII. Rewrite the following sentences according to the instructions given in italics:

1. I've been working there for fifteen years.

Suppose this sentence has been spoken by someone to you and you don't clearly understand if he has said *fifty* or *fifteen*. To know the missing information, ask a question beginning with **How...**

2. The Managing Director prefers to leave finance affairs to the accountant.  
Change the form of the underlined word to make it suitable in the sentence.

3. Their product is nothing like as attractive as ours, we feel.  
Rewrite the sentence without changing its meaning. Begin as **Our product is far...**

4. From your voice, I'd say you have a cold.  
Rewrite the sentence without changing its meaning. Begin the sentence with **You sound...**

5. "I didn't steal the money", said Joe.  
Rewrite the sentence as indirect speech using **denied** to make it a negative statement.

6. It is possible that they didn't receive your letter.  
Rewrite the sentence using '**might**' to convey the sense of possibility.

7. Rich people have a longer life expectancy than poor people.  
Rewrite the sentence using one of the following options so that it is grammatically as well as logically correct: (a) certain to (b) sure to (c) bound to (d) likely to

8. Let us wait and see what she says.

Choose one of the options to rewrite the sentences so that it has the same meaning. (a) understand (b) find out (c) consider (d) imagine.

9. I admire so many things about her: her generousness, her intelligence, her looks and above all her self-confidence.

Correct the form of some words in the sentence.

10. He smokes all the time, I can't stand that about him.

Rewrite the two sentences as one beginning your sentence with **What I...**

Q.IV Write about 50 words on each of the following literary terms:

(4x5=20 marks)

- 1) Elegy
- 2) Metaphor
- 3) Tragedy
- 4) Symbolism
- 5) Satire

QV. Write a well developed paragraph of about 250 words on any one of the following topics:

(20 marks)

- a) If I were Grass!
- b) Are we happier than our forefathers?
- c) Indian weddings are extravagant.

### **Ph.D.**

The thrust areas of teaching and research include Literary Theory, Modern Fiction, Indian Writing in English, Applied Linguistics, American Literature, Romantic and Victorian Poetry, Shakespeare, Modern Drama and Indian Classics in Translation.

### **Special Features**

The Department publishes a research Journal ***Punjab Journal of English Studies***. The Department has a very good independent library.