

Maulana Azad National Urdu University

Programme: **M.A. (English)**

II Semester Examination, April/May-2026

Course Title: **English Essay**

Course Code: **MAEN201DST**

Time: **3 Hours**

Total Marks: **70**

Note: This question paper consists of three parts: Part – A, Part-B and Part-C. Number of words to answer each question is only indicative. Attempt all parts.

Part–A contains **10** compulsory questions of multiple choice/fill in the blank/very short answer type question. Answer all questions. Each question carries 1 mark. **(10x1=10-marks)**

Part-B contains 08 questions of which students are supposed to answer **05** questions. Answer each question in approximately 200 words. Each question carries 06 marks. **(5x6=30 marks)**

Part-C contains 05 questions of which students are supposed to answer **03** questions. Answer each question in approximately 500 words. Each question carries 10 marks. **(3x10=30 marks)**

Part-A

1. Answer all the following questions.

- i. The narrative voice of the essay ‘Sir Roger at the Assizes’ is that of _____.
a. Sir Roger de Coverley b. A village magistrate c. The Spectator d. A court official
- ii. Stevenson argues that all forms of happiness must be socially validated. (True/False)
- iii. Elia is the pseudonym used by _____.
- iv. The essay ‘The Man in Black’ exposes the contrast between:
a. Wealth and poverty b. Appearance and reality
c. Law and justice d. City and countryside
- v. According to Emerson, the individual soul is separate from the universal soul. (True/False)
- vi. Which of the following literary movements is Virginia Woolf associated with?
a. Romanticism b. Realism c. Modernism d. Classicism
- vii. The first African recipient of the Nobel Prize in Literature was _____.
- viii. F. Scott Fitzgerald is best known for which of the following novels?
a. Moby-Dick b. The Great Gatsby c. The Scarlet Letter d. Catch-22
- ix. The pleasure of the lantern bearers lies in displaying their lanterns to others. (True/False)
- x. According to Orwell, imperialism primarily:
a. Strengthens moral authority b. Liberates the colonized
c. Dehumanizes both ruler and ruled d. Improves governance

Part-B

2. Is ‘The Man in Black’ a critique of society or of individual hypocrisy? Analyze.
3. Analyze how the lantern functions as a metaphor for subjective experience in ‘The Lantern Bearers’.
4. Examine how Lu Xun portrays the harsh realities of everyday life.
5. Discuss how Lamb transforms personal loss into a literary experience.
6. Analyze fasting as a form of political protest in the essay ‘Why Do I Fast?’
7. Examine how the narrator balances admiration and subtle irony in presenting Sir Roger.
8. Analyze how ‘Notes of a Native Son’ connects private grief with public history.
9. Discuss the idea of the *flâneur* (urban wanderer) in relation to Woolf’s narrator. To what extent does the essay revise or feminize this traditionally male figure?

Part-C

10. In 'Dream Children: A Reverie', how does Lamb use the form of the reverie to explore absence and desire?
11. Compare the treatment of personal experience as a form of political expression in 'Notes of a Native Son'.
12. Examine how the relationship between the individual and society is negotiated in any two prescribed essays.
13. In 'Shooting an Elephant', how does the act of shooting become an inevitable consequence of systemic pressure rather than individual choice?
14. To what extent does 'Why Do I Fast?' suggest that the body can function as a site of political expression?
