

Swami Ramanand Teerth Marathwada University, Vishnupuri Nanded (M.S.) 431606

Centre For Distance Education

M.A. (Distance Mode) First Year

ENGLISH SYLLABUS

w.e.f. 2016-17

M.A. (Distance Mode) First Year

Sub: English

Objectives:-

- 1. To acquaint the distance learners with the different components in spoken English such as organs of speech, speech mechanism, speech sounds syllable and syllable structure accent and intonation.
- 2. To enable the distance learner to use phonetic symbols in the transcription process.
- 3. To study the basic elements of English Grammar like Nouns and Noun Phrase, verb and verb phrase, types of sentences, clauses and word formation.
- 4. To introduce the distance learner different genres of drama, fiction, background, characters in the drama, plot and summary.
- 5. To help the distance learners to comprehend the individual authors of drama and novel.
- 6. To encourage the distance learner to comprehend the gist of the novel and drama along with the different roles played by the individuals and its relevance in the drama.
- 7. To study and comprehend the English language basic concepts and varieties of literary aspects.

M.A. First Year

(Distance Mode)

English Papers titles

Paper No. 1 Phonetics and Spoken English

Paper No. 2 The structure of Modern English Grammar

Paper No. 3 A Study of English Fiction

Paper No. 4 A Study of English Drama

Paper No. 1 Phonetics & Spoken English

1.1 Speech Mechanism

• Language and Communication

- o Preliminary
- o Definition of Language
- o Human and animal Communication
- o Features of Human Language
- Other means of Communication

• Organs of Speech

- o Preliminary
- o The Respiratory System
- o The Phonatory System
- o The Articulatory System

• Description and Classification of Sounds

- o Preliminary
- Types of sounds (Vowels, Consonants and Diphthongs)
- The State of the glottis
- o The position of the velum
- o The articulators involved
- o The nature of stricture
- o The stricture involved in the production of the consonants
- o The place of articulation
- The manner of articulation
- Vowels and their types
- o Diphthongs and their types
- o Consonants and their types: Plosives, Fricatives, Affricates, nasals, Semi-Vowels
- Syllabic consonants
- o Consonant Clusters: Initial, Middle, Final.

1.2 A) Note on Phonology

Phonology

- o Preliminary
- Meaning
- o Structure and system
- Syntagmatic and Paradigmatic relation.
- o Form and function
- Syllable structure
- o Phoneme theory
- o Phonetic environment.
- Allophones

1.2B) Phonetic Transcription

- Preliminary
- Types of Phonetic Transcription
- Usages of phonetic Transcription

1.3A) The Syllable

• The Syllable

- o Meaning and function
- o Structure of the syllable
- o Syllable division
- o Composition of the syllable
- o About the nucleus

1.3 B) Syllable Strength

- Strong Syllable
- Weak Syllable
- Strong forms of structure words

1.4 A) The Word Accent or Stress

Introduction

- o Meaning and Function
- Nature of word Accent
- Function of word Accent
- o Types of Accent
- Stress shift
- o Accent in compound words
- Stress shift according to the function
- o Rules of accentual patterns
- Exercises

B) Accent in connected speech

- Meaning and function
- Rhythm
- Weak forms

1.5. Intonation

Preliminary

- o Placing of the nucleus
- o Division of tone groups
- Static tone
- o Kinetic tone
- Uses of tone groups
- Identifying the stressed syllables
- Identifying the tone shapes
- Providing the tone shapes

• Types of intonation or tone

- o The falling tone and its functions
- o The rising tone and its functions
- o The falling rising tone and its functions
- o The rising-falling tone and its functions

1.6 The Words in Connected Speech

- Preliminary
- Elision
- Assimilation
- Changes in Assimilation
- Types of Assimilation
 - o Regressive Assimilation
 - o Progressive Assimilation
- Allophonic variations
 - Place of articulation
 - Voice
 - Lip position
 - Nasalization of Vowels
 - o Elision

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Paper No. 2 The Structure of Modern English Grammar

Elements of Grammar

- Preliminary
- Parts of sentence (Subject and predicate)
- Word classes

• Open class

- o Nouns
- o Verbs
- o Adjectives
- o Adverbs

Closed system

- o Articles
- Helping verbs
- Pronouns
- Preposition
- o Conjunction
- o Interjections

• Types of Sentences

- o Declarative sentence and its functions
- Interrogative sentence and its functions
- o Imperative sentence and its functions
- Exclamatory sentence and its functions

2.2 Nouns and Noun Phrase

- Preliminary
- Nouns
 - o Types of nouns
 - o Nouns and number
 - o Nouns and gender
 - o Nouns and case

• Pronouns

- o Types of pronouns
- o Functions of pronouns

• The noun phrase

- Head words
- o Pre modification
- o Post modification

2.3 Verb & Verb Phrase

Preliminary

• Types of verbs

- Regular and irregular verbs
- Finite and non-finite verbs
- o Main verb and auxiliary verb
- Tense, aspect and mood
- Verb phrase and verbless phrase

2.4 Other phrases in English

• Adjectives

- o Types of Adjectives
- Functions of Adjectives
- Adjective phrase

Adverb

- Types of Adverb
- Adjuncts
- Disjuncts
- Conjuncts
- o Subjuncts
- Adverb phrase

• Preposition

- o Types of preposition
- o Prepositional phrase

2.5 Compound and Complex Sentences

Preliminary

Co-ordination

- o Cumulative
- o Adversative
- o Alternative
- o Illative

• Sub-ordination

- Noun clause
- Adjective clause
- Adverb clause

2.6 Word formation (Morphology)

- Preliminary
- Morphemes and Allomorphs

• Word formation process 1

- Affixation
- Prefixes and suffixes
- o Inflectional and derivational suffixes

• Word formation process no 2

- o Compounding
- o Noun compound
- o Verb compound
- Adjective compound
- Word formation process no.3
 - Conversion
 - Coining
 - Acronym
 - Blending
 - Clipping
 - Reduplication
 - Back formation
 - Meaning Change
 - Generalization
 - Specialization

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Paper No. 3 A Study of fiction

3.1 Background to fiction

Background to fiction

- o Preliminary
- Definition
- A history of novel
- o Types of novel.

• Study to fiction

- Characters in the novel
- o Plot
- o Story
- o Structure
- o Setting
- o Theme
- Narration

• Critical approaches to fiction

- o Textual approach
- o Generic approach
- o Contextual approach
- Biographical approach
- Reader oriented approach
- Feminist approach
- Historical approach
- Stylistic approach
- Discourse approach

3.2 The Guide

- Introduction to the writer
- Setting
- Plot
- Characters
- Theme and technique
- Summary
- Conclusion

3.3 Kanthapura

- Introduction to the writer
- Setting
- Characterization
- The Theme and technique
- Plot

- Summary
- Conclusion

3.4 The White Tiger

Introduction

- o Arvind Adiga: A Biographical Sketch
- His literary Output
- As a novalist
- o Summary of the white tiger

• Plot of the white Tiger

- o Development of plot through journey of the protagonist
- His life in darkness
- o His life in light
- o His Career as a businessmen

• Characteristic: The White Tiger

- o Leading character: Balram Halwai
- Supportive characters: Mrs. Kusum, Mr. Ashok Sharma, Mrs. Pinky Sharma
- o Round and flat characters

• Themes: The White Tiger

- o Major theme: Dark image of shining India, Struggle for existence, paralysis of democracy
- o Minor themes: Master servant relationship. Breaking the cage.

• Narrative Technique

- o Arvind Adiga's narrative technique
- o Epistolary form of narration
- o Flashback technique
- o Darkness as a metaphor

• Setting

- Social settings. Setting in darkness
- Setting in light

Conclusion

o Relations: Plot, characters, theme, narration, technique setting

3.5 The Story of my Marriage / Two States

Introduction

- o Chetan Bhagat : A biographical and mind Sketch
- o Chetan Bhagat: His art
- o Chetan Bhagat: His contribution

About the Novel

- o Title
- o Plot

- Setting
- o Characterization: Minor Characters, Major Characters

• Theme of the Novel

- o Multiculturalism
- o Exploitation
- o Cross- cultural love marriage
- o Problems and Aspirations of youth

• Synoptic summary

- o Prologue
- o Delhi
- Chennai
- o Delhi
- o Goa
- Delhi & Chennai
- o Epilogue

3.6 Robinson Crusoe

• Preliminary

- o Life sketch of Daniel Defoe
- o Major works of Defoe
- o Defoe as a Novelist
- Outline story of Robinson Crusoe
- Nature and works
- Gist of the novel

• Robinson Crusoe: Themes

- The Ambivalence of mastery
- The necessity of repentance
- o The importance of Self-awareness

• Robinson Crusoe: Characterization

- o Robinson Crusoe
- The Pirates
- The Cannibals
- o Friday
- The Spaniards
- o Importance of the novel
- Summary
- o Conclusion

3.7 Wuthering Heights

- Introduction to the writer
- Setting
- Plot

- Characterization
- Theme
- Summary
- Conclusion

♦ Bibliography **♦**

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Paper No. 4 A Study of Drama

4.1 <u>Background to Drama</u>

Background to the study of drama

- o Preliminary
- o It's distinction from the other geners of literature like poetry, novel and brief history of drama.

• Structure of the Play

- o Plot, exposition, rising action
- o Climax, catastrophe, falling action
- o External & internal conflict
- o Uplifting effect.

• Characterization

- o Protagonist
- o Antagonist

• Types of Drama

- o Tragedy, comedy
- o Tragi Comedy
- o Poetic drama
- Historical play

• Dramatic devices

- Dramatic irony
- Soliloquy and Aside
- o Expectation and Surprise
- Characters, dialogue, action, motivation

4.2 Pygmalion

• Preliminary

- o Modern drama
- o Life and works of G.B. Shaw
- o Shaw as a dramatic artist

• Introduction of the play: Pygmalion

- The plot / Structure
- Characterization
- o Problems and ideas

Themes and Issues

- o Education
- Social aspects
- o Man-Woman relationship

• language and Styles

- Prose style and dialogues
- Verbal humor
- Screen response
- Comprehension question

4.3 Tughlaq

- Introduction to the writer
- Plot
- Characters
- Themes
- Summary
- Brief comments on thematic and structural unity of the scene
- Conclusion

4.4 <u>Thirty Days in September</u>: Mahesh Dattani

• Preliminary

- o The play Wright
- o Life
- o Work
- o Contemporary Wright

• The Play

- o Dramatic personae
- o Plot Overview
- Major and minor themes
- o Characterization
- o Act I. Summary and analysis
- o Act II. Summary and analysis
- o Act III Summary and analysis

• key facts at a Glance

- o The protagonist
- Major conflict
- Rising action
- Climax
- o Falling action

4.5 Raisin in the Sun

Preliminary

• The Playwright

- o Life
- o Work
- The contemporaries
- o The age

• The Play

o The theme / The story

- o Plot
- Characters
- Dramatic devices

• Act wise Summary of the play

- o Act I
- o Act II
- o Act III

• Aspects of the Play

- Racial conflict
- African consciousness
- Feminist concerns
- Significance of the title

4.6 King Lear

Shakespeare

- Life and works
- Historical context
- o General plot
- o Characters

• Act wise summary

- o Act One
- o Act Two
- o Act Three
- o Act Four
- o Act Five

• Characters in the play

- o King Lear, Cordelia, Edmund, Regan, Goneril
- o Lair of Britain, King of France, Earl of Kent, Duke of Cornwall, Duke of Burgundy, Fool and Curran.

• Themes

o Power, Natures law, Doubling, Parent Children relationship

Techniques

- o Symbols used
- Motifs
- o Dramatic devices

4.7 <u>Murder in the Catherdral</u>

Preliminary

- Life and works of T.S. Eliot
- o Historical and religious context
- General plot
- o Characters

Act wise Summary and analysis

- o Part one
- o Interlude
- o Part two

Characterization

- o Thomes Beckett
- o Three priest of the catherdral
- First Temper
- Second Temper
- Third Temper
- Fourth Temper
- Four Knights
- o First Knight
- Second Knight
- o Third Knight
- Chorus
- o The women of Canterbury

• Themes

- Meaning of the play
- o Style
- o Structure
- Flesh v/s Spirits

Technical details

- Symbols used
- Motifs
- Dramatic devices
- Techniques used

♦ Bibliography ♦

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