GEG S4 01(M/P)

Exam Code : ENM4A/ENE4A/ENP4A

PROSE

SEMESTER- IV

ENGLISH

BLOCK 1

KRISHNA KANTA HANDIQUI STATE OPEN UNIVERSITY

Subject Experts

1. **Professor Pona Mahanta,** Former Head, Department of English, Dibrugarh University
2. **Professor Pradip Acharya,** Former Head, Cotton College, Guwahati
3. **Professor Bibhash Choudhury,** Department of English, Gauhati University

Course Coordinator(s): Chayanika Roy, Assistant Professor, KKHSOU and **Pallavi Gogoi**, Assistant Professor, KKHSOU

SLM Preparation Team

UNITS	CONTRIBUTORS
1	**Santanu Phukan,** Cotton University & **Pallavi Gogoi,** KKHSOU
2 & 3	**Pallavi Gogoi,** KKHSOU
4 & 5	**Santanu Phukan,** Cotton University
6 & 7	**Mitali Goswami,** Handique Girls' College

Editorial Team

Content: **Professor Bibhash Choudhury,** Department of English, Gauhati University

Language : **Chayanika Roy** & **Pallavi Gogoi**

Structure, Format & Graphics: **Chayanika Roy,** KKHSOU and **Pallavi Gogoi,**KKHSOU

November, 2018

This Self Learning Material (SLM) of the Krishna Kanta Handiqui State Open University is made available under a Creative Commons Attribution-Non Commercial-Share Alike 4.0 License (international): http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/

Printed and published by Registrar on behalf of the Krishna Kanta Handiqui State Open University.

Head Office: Patgaon, Rani Gate, Guwahati-781017; Web : www.kkhsou.in/web-new

City Office: Housefed Complex, Dispur, Guwahati- 781006

The University acknowledges with thanks the financial support provided by the **Distance Education Bureau, UGC** for the preparation of this study material

CONTENTS

		Pages
UNIT 1:	**The Essay as a Genre** Introduction, The Essay as a Literary Form, Types of Essay, Some Famous Essayists	**5-19**
UNIT 2:	**Francis Bacon: Life and Works** Introduction, Francis Bacon: The Essayist, His Life, and Works, The *Essays* by Bacon	**20-30**
UNIT 3:	**Francis Bacon: "Of Garden"** Introduction, Explanation of the Essay, Major Themes, Style and Language	**31-42**
UNIT 4:	**A. G. Gardiner: Life and Works** Introduction, A.G Gardiner: The Essayist, His Life, and Works	**43-49**
UNIT 5:	**A. G. Gardiner: "On Saying Please"** Introduction, Key Issues in the Text, Explanation of the Essay Style and Language	**50-62**
UNIT 6:	**Jawaharlal Nehru: Life and Works** Introduction, Jawaharlal Nehru: Life and Works, Context of the Prose-piece ''Animals in Prison''	**63-69**
UNIT 7:	**Jawaharlal Nehru: "Animals In Prison"** Introduction, Explanation of the Prose-piece, Style and Language	**70-79**

COURSE INTRODUCTION

This Course has been designed to acquaint the learners with the genre of essay and thereby emphasise prose pieces that has played significant role in the dissemination of serious and varied content. Some of the writers included in this course are Francis Bacon, A. G. Gardiner, Jawaharlal Nehru, Amitav Ghosh, Max Muller, George Orwell, C.P. Snow and Virginia Woolf. It also contains one interesting unit on "film" and its mechanism, that has been extracted from the book *Elements of Literature.*

BLOCK INTRODUCTION

The first block of the course on Prose consists of seven units. The first unit introduces the learner to the rambling form of writing known as the essay and briefly discusses the main characteristics of essay writing and highlights some famous essayists. The second unit introduces the learners to one of the famous English essayists, namely, Francis Bacon in which the learners will get a glimpse into the life of this significant prose writer of the seventeenth century as well as his major works including *The Essays*. The third unit deals with Francis Bacon's essay "Of Garden" which provides a detailed insight into the ways in which an interest in gardening can be developed and discusses the major themes as well as Bacon's style of writing. The fourth units aims to acquaint the learners with another very popular English essayist, A. G. Gardiner and throws light on his life and works as well as his conversational style of writing. The fifth unit deals with ''On Saying Please'' by Gardiner which takes up the importance of investing politeness, good conduct and courtesy in our everyday lives and hightlights the style and language of the essay. The sixth unit deals with the life and works of Jawaharlal Nehru and acquaints the learners with the important literary works of Nehru. The seventh unit contains Jawaharlal Nehru's essay "Animals in Prison" which illustrates Nehru's love for nature and his skill as an essayist. Nehru keenly observed animal life in every jail that he was sent to and had a compassion for animals and birds even when he was subjected to solitary confinement in Dehradun jail.

After going through these units, you will be able to analyse the essay as a genre and highlight the importance of the form based on your reading of some of the significant essays. While going through a unit, you may also notice some text boxes, which have been included to help you know some of the difficult terms and concepts. You will also read about some relevant ideas and concepts in "LET US KNOW" along with the text. We have kept "CHECK YOUR PROGRESS" questions in each unit. These have been designed to self-check your progress of study.