

Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Open University
Term End Examination July - 2026

Course	: Diploma Course	Date	: 09/07/2026
Subject Code	: DCL-04	Time	: 11:30am to 01:45pm
Subject Name	: Approaches to Comparative Literature: Genre	Duration	: 02.15 Hours
		Max. Marks	: 70

Q-1 Compare and contrast the Western and Indian approaches to the study of literary genres. **14**

OR

Define the 'Epic' as a genre. Conduct a comparative study between the Western Epic tradition (e.g., Homer) and the Indian Epic tradition (e.g., Vyasa or Valmiki).

Q-2 Discuss the similarities and differences between the Aristotelian concept of 'Tragedy' and the Indian concept of 'Nataka' as defined by Bharata in the Natyashastra. **14**

OR

Examine the 'Novel' as a genre. How did the rise of the novel in India differ from its evolution in the West?

Q-3 Analyze 'Travel Narrative' as a literary genre. What are the key elements that distinguish a travelogue from other forms of prose? **14**

OR

Discuss the significance of Women's Autobiographies in Indian literature. How do these narratives challenge traditional genre boundaries?

Q-4 Is genre a rigid category or a fluid one? Discuss with reference to the "Mixing of Genres" in contemporary Indian writing. **14**

OR

How does the cultural context influence the development of a genre? Explain with examples from the study of either the Epic or the Novel.

Q-5 Write short notes on any TWO of the following: **14**

- (a) Bharata's concept of Rasa.
- (b) Features of the Picaresque novel.
- (c) The role of 'Memory' in Women's Autobiographies.
- (d) Differences between a Travel Narrative and a Memoir.
