

# ASSIGNMENT-I

## SEMESTER V

**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH**  
**KKSJ MANINAGAR SCIENCE COLLEGE**

### WRITE A BRIEF NOTE ABOUT THE AUTHORS:

Instruction: Story 1, 2 & 4.

Mention the following details in bullet points.

- Name of the Story
- Name of the Author
- Birth & Death Year
- S/he is famous for...
- Major works

### WRITE THE MEANINGS OF THE FOLLOWING WORDS:

Instruction: Meanings are to be written in **ENGLISH** only.

Barbarism	Mourner	Beggar
Semi-barbaric	Preceded	Mendicancy squad
Gruff	Doleful	Vestibule
Authority	Troupe	Mortal
Hitch	Strewing	Coax
Exultant	Administering	Appertaining
Crooked	Savage	Thereunto
Arena	Mazes of passion	Prosperity
Assert	Trial	Possessor
Gladiator	Dollar	Contracting
Heretic	Cents	Unassuming
Amphitheatre	Penny	Rare
Galleries	Bulldozing	Sterling
Dictate	Butcher	Pier glass
Vaults	Imputation	Sequence
Allegiance	Parsimony	Longitudinal
Fate	Instigates	Whirled
Fierce	Sniffles	Possession
Wail	Predomination	Airshaft
Idealism	Subsiding	Depreciate

Janitor	Idiocy	Panic
Rippling	Patent	Grocery
Cascade	Enfolded	Briskly
Faltered	Trance	Molest
Splashed	Discreet	Abreast
Fluttered	Scrutiny	Pleaded
Practiced hand	Inconsequential	Wrenched
Hashed metaphor	Magi	Yanked
Ransacking	Ecstatic	Shelter
Platinum	Wails	Warned
Fob chain	Craved	Deadly tone
Chaste	Yearned	Terrified
Proclaiming	Tresses	Baffled
Meretricious	Coveted adornments	Stinging slap
Ornamentation	Ardent spirit	Hostile
Intoxication	Babe in the manger	Defend
Prudence	Invented	Clutched
Ravages	Privilege	Scarcely breathe
Generosity	Lamely	Lamming
Tremendous	Uneventful chronicle	Retaliate
A mammoth task	Loaf	Flayed
Truant schoolboy	Dispirited	Clenched
Coney island	Despair	Stark
Chorus girl	Different	Scattered
Turned white	Solemnly	Utter disbelief
Burdened	Vague	Frenzy
Immovable	Dread	Egging on
Peculiar	Pavement	Bother
Wriggled off	Knocked down	Poised
Laboriously	Snatched	

### **ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS IN SHORT:**

Instruction: It is advisable to mention about the author in the answer.

1. Describe the king in the story *The Lady, or the Tiger*?
2. Why was the king's arena built?
3. What was the ritual that was followed each time an accused was presented in the king's arena?
4. When the doors of the arena were opened, who used to come out then?
5. What was the attitude of the people who gathered on the day of the trials?
6. What kind of nature did the princess have? Whom did she love?
7. When the king learned about the love affair of his daughter, what did he decide to do?
8. Why had the king thrown the princess' lover into the prison?

9. Why was the young courtier implicated for trial? What were the preparations the king ordered for this trial?
  10. How did the princess indicate to her lover, the door that he was to choose behind which would be the woman chosen as a bride for him?
  11. In your opinion, what would have been the appropriate ending to this story?
  12. Why did Della want to save money? How did she save money?
  13. Describe the flat where the Youngs lived?
  14. Why was Della unhappy on Christmas Eve?
  15. What were the two prized possessions of the Youngs? How does the author show the readers their importance?
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16. What did Della buy for Jim? How much did she pay for it?
  17. What was Jim's reaction when he saw Della without her lovely hair?
  18. What gift did Della's husband get for her and how did he procure it?
  19. According to Christian tales who were the Magi?
  20. Why does O' Henry call Jim and Della the Magi?
  21. What was the picture that the author paints of his childhood in the opening paragraph of the extract?
  22. What did the black boy's mother do to support her children? What did she tell them when she was in despair?
  23. What did the author's mother tell him one evening and what was his feeling on being told so?
  24. What happened when the black boy went to the grocery store by himself for the first time?
  25. Why did the black boy refrain himself from going out?
  26. Why did the mother not allow her son into the house that night? What lesson was she trying to teach him?
  27. How did the black boy win his right to the streets of Memphis?

### **WRITE SHORT NOTES ON THE FOLLOWING:**

Instruction: It is advisable to mention about the author in the answer.

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1. The king's method of delivering justice.
2. The description of the king's arena.
3. The princess and the fate of her lover.

4. The love between Della and her husband.
5. The appropriateness of the title – The Gift of the Magi.
6. The ending of the story – The Gift of the Magi.
7. The socio economic condition of the period as you can understand from the extract.
8. The character of the black boy.
9. The black boy's mother.

### **ESSAY WRITING:**

Instruction: Write Essays on the following topics.

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#### **MODERN LIFE / SOCIETY:**

1. Health is Wealth
2. Stress Management
3. Globalization
4. Fashion Fever
5. Terrorism: a Modern Curse