

Paper 3
English CORE
Rhetoric, Prosody, Grammar and Comprehension
(External Evaluation: 60 + Internal Assessment 40): Total Marks 100
4 Credits
(15 Classes per Credit)
Contact + Non-Contact Classes: Total 60

Graduate Attributes: Course Objective

This course on Rhetoric, Prosody and Comprehension is designed to enable the graduates to acquire, by the end of this course, a comprehensive knowledge of literary devices and their effective use in both academic and non-academic sectors. Graduates will also be able to develop critical thinking and analytical reasoning which will enable them to think out of the box in their professional lives as well. By the end of the course the graduates should also be able to make a practical application of the information and communication technology that will be used in the classes to illustrate the concepts in rhetoric and prosody. Graduates will further acquire listening, understanding and analytical skills as part of the comprehension component of the course.

Learning Outcome:

- ▯ A detailed knowledge of the most widely used concepts of rhetoric and prosody in literature in English
- ▯ The ability to identify and use these concepts in both academic and non-academic fields as well as in one's own use of English
- ▯ The practical application of these concepts in close reading of literature
- ▯ The ability to analyze and interpret texts in terms of their literary and representational qualities

Key Features:

- ▯ to equip students with the basics of understanding and appreciating texts through literary devices
- ▯ to develop an expertise in the practical application of rhetorical devices in English
- ▯ to hone their practical skills in applying the knowledge of literature in their personal, social and professional interactions

Unit I: Rhetoric (2 Credits)

In this section the aim is to introduce students the use of rhetorical devices through a discussion of poems and prose passages. The teachers should ensure that apart from giving the definitions of these devices, it is equally important to show how they are used by the poets and writers and the overall purpose such uses evoke in the literary piece. This section will, by its very nature rely heavily on the use of ICT in order to make these concepts clearer to the students.

▯ **Figures of Speech:**

Simile | Metaphor | Personification | Alliteration | Assonance | Interrogation | Irony | Onomatopoeia | Hypallage | Pun | Oxymoron | Hyperbole | Anti-climax | Asyndeton and Polysyndeton | Metonymy | Synecdoche | Paradox | Euphemism | Tautology | Ellipsis | Catachresis

▯ **Sentence and Paragraph Structure*:**

Syntactic structure | unity of a paragraph | logical arrangement of ideas in composition | precision in writing | simplicity and clarity of ideas | economy of expression | avoiding a diffused style (tautology, pleonasm or redundancy and verbosity) | enhancing the visual element in writing | choice and arrangement of words.

**These elements will be taught and assessed through practical demonstrations and exercises*

Unit 2: Prosody (1 Credit)

Understanding meter in a poem is essential for a studied appreciation of poetry. Writing poetry involves following certain rhyme scheme and meter which is studied under prosody. In this section the students will be introduced to some key concepts in prosody which will be discussed and illustrated through selections from a wide range of poems. This section, as the previous one, will, by its very nature, rely heavily on the use of ICT in order to make these concepts clearer to the students.

Poetry and verse | syllable | accent | rhythm and meter | measure or foot (Iambic, Trochaic, Spondee; Pyrrhic; Anapaestic, Dactylic; Amphibrachic) | verses (dimeter, trimeter, tetrameter, pentameter) | variations in rhythm and metre | scansion | pauses | rhyme | stanzas (couplet, heroic couplet, tercet, quatrain, quintain, sestina, rhyme royal, ottava rima, the Spenserian stanza) | the sonnet | blank verse | free verse

Unit 3: Grammar and Comprehension (1 Credit)

The comprehension of passages requires certain abilities which when practised can be improved. Learners at this stage will be trained how to think and write logically by looking at some examples that demonstrate excellent comprehension. Here, the aim is to hone the comprehension skills of learners addressing the following points:

- Analysing | Summarizing | Sequencing | Inferencing | Comparing and contrasting | Drawing conclusions | Self-questioning | Problem-solving | Relating background knowledge | Distinguishing between fact and opinion | Finding the main idea, important facts, and supporting details
- Analysis of an unseen passage to demonstrate comprehension skills
- Grammatical exercises

Recommended Reading:

- Beum, Robert & Karl Shapiro. *The Prosody Handbook*. Dover, 2006
- Bose, M.N. & T.S. Sterling. *Elements of English Rhetoric and Prosody*. Chatterjee & Co. Ltd., 2021 (rpt.)
- Cushman, Stephen et al. *The Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics, Fourth Edition*. Princeton University Press, 2012
- Lanham, Richard A. *A Handlist of Rhetorical Terms (Second Edition)*. University of California Press, 1991
- Sarkar, Jaydip & Anindya Bhattacharya. *A Handbook of Rhetoric and Prosody*, Orient Blackswan, 2017