KT-7112-A

M. A. (Sem. III) Examination - December - 2024

English Literature

Paper - XII(A) - MAEN-EC-304 (A)

American Literature - I

(Poetry & Drama)

Time allowed : **Three Hours**

Max. Marks : **100**

This question paper contains two sections as under:

Section-A ***Max. Marks-20***

Will carry 20 marks with 01 compulsory question comprising 10 short answer type questionas taking two questions from each unit. Each question shall be of two marks.

Section-B ***Max. Marks-80***

Will carry 80 marks, equally divided into five long answer type questions. Paper setter shall be advised to set two questions from each unit and students are instructed to attempt five questions by selecting one question from each unit. Unit I to V will have one question on Reference to context from each Unit. Word limit 500 words.

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SECTION - A

1 (i) How does Emerson use the metaphor of 'the problem' to reflect on life and existence?

(ii) What event does '*When Lilacs Last In the Dooryard Bloomed*' commemorate ?

(iii) In the poem '*Of Modern Poetry*', what does Wallace Stevens mean by "the poem must resist the intelligence ?"

(iv) What is the significane of the "two roads" in the poem *The Road Not Taken* written by Robert Frost ?

(v) What does the speaker in *Lady Lazarus* mean by "I have done it again" ?

(vi) How does Wal*ker* explore the theme of desire in the poem Desire ?

(vii) How does Willy Loman's obsession with the American Dream impact his relationships with his family ?

(viii) What role does Linda Loman play in the family dynamic in Arthur Miller`s Play 'Death of a Salesman` ?

(ix) What role do the supernatural elements play in the narrative of *The Emperor Jones*?

(x) How does the user of the "drums" contribute to the atmosphere and themes of *The Emperor Jones* ?

SECTION - B

UNIT - I

2 Explain with reference to the context :

(a) "I am the doubter and the doubt, / And I the hymn the Brahmin sings.
The sacred riddle, which is my form. / I have forgotten many things.

Not mine the gods and things of men;
The heavens I conquer not, not care,
But everything I see within me — / That
will be me, if I make it so."

(b) A light exists in Spring / Not present on the Year
At any other period -/ When March is scarcely here
A color stands abroad / On Solitary Fields
That Sciene cannot overtake / But Human Nature feels -

OR

Analyze how Whitman portrays the timeless nature of human experience and how he connects himself to future generations.

UNIT - II

3 Explain with reference to context :
(a) She dreams of a place where there is no death

Where the soul is at peace, and the body is free
But she knows, as she reads, that she is alive,
That she is part of the world of change.
The world of birth and death
The world of light and darkness"

(b) He is all pine and I am apple orchard

My apple trees will never get across

And eat the cones under his pines. I tell him

He only says, 'Good fences make good neighbors.

Spring is the mischief in me, and I wonder

If I could put a notion in his head:

'Why do they make good neighbors? Isn't it

Where there are cows ? But here there are no cows.

OR

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Frost often blends simplicity with deeper meaning in his poems. How does this technique appear in Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening, and how does it affect the reader's interpretation of the poem?

UNIT - III

4 Explain with reference to context :

(a) "nothing which we are to perceive in this *world*

equals the power of your intense fragility

whose texture compels me with the color of its countries,

rendering death and forever with each breathing

I do not know what it is about you that closes

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and opens; only something in me understands

the voice of your eyes in deeper than all roses

nobody; not even the rain, has such small hands."

(b) You do not do, you do not do / Any more, black shoe

In which I have lived like a foot / For thirty years, poor and white

Barely daring to breathe or Achoo / Daddy, I have had to kill you

You died before I had time — / Marble-heavy, a bag full of God,

Ghastly statue with one gray toe / Big as a Frisco seal

OR

How does Alice Walker use imagery and symbolism to explore the multifaceted nature of desire, particularly in the context of personal identity, relationships, and the broader societal influences that shape human yearning ? Explain in detail by supporting your answers with appropriate examples from the poem.

UNIT - IV

5 Explain with reference to context :

(a) "And when I saw that, I realized that selling was the greatest career a man could want. Cause what could be more satisfying than to be able to go, at the age of eighty-four, into twenty or thirty different cities, and pick up a phone, and be remembered and loved and helped by so many different people?"

(b) I saw the things that I love in this world. The work and the food and the time to sit and smoke. And I looked at the pen and I thought. what the hell am I grabbing this for ? Why am I trying to become what I don't want to be...when all I want is out there, waiting for me the minute I say I know who I am.

OR

How does Arthur Miller use the character of Willy Loman to explore the American Dream ? Analyze Willy's perception of success and how it reflects the broader societal expectations of the time.

UNIT - V

6 Explain with reference to context :

(a) "Look-a-heah, white man! Does you think I'se a natural bo`n

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fool ? Give me credit fo' havin' some sense, fo' Lawd's sake! Don't you s'pose I'se looked ahead and made sho' of all de chances ? I'se gone out in dat big forest, pretendin' to hunt, so many timesdat I knows it high an' low like a book. I could go through on dern trails wid my eyes shut. [With great contempt.] Think dese ign'rent bush niggers dat ain't got brains enuff to know deir own names even can catch Bruntus Jones ? Huh, I s'pects not! Not on yo' *life*! Why, man, do while men went after me wid bloodhounds where I come from an' I jes' laughs at 'em.It's a shame to fool dese black trach around heah, dey're so easy. You watch me, man! I'll make dem look sick, I will'.

(b) "I ain't no fool. I knows dis Emperor's time is sho't. Dat why I make hay when de sun shine. Was you thinkin' I'se aimin' to

hold down dis job for life ? No. suh! What good is gittin' money if you stays back in dis raggedy country? I 'wants action when I spends. And when sees dese niggers gittin' up deir nerve to tu'n me out, and I'se got all de money in sight. I resigns on de spot and beats it quick."

OR

Analyze the genre of The Emperor Jones and how it blends elements of realism and expressionism.

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