

Reg. No. :

Name :

Fourth Semester M.A. Degree Examination, September 2019

English Language and Literature

Elective —EL 243.2: AMERICAN LITERATURE

(2013–2016 Admissions)

Time : 3 Hours

Max. Marks : 75

- I. Answer **any six** of the following each in about **300** words.
1. Puritanism as a religious and social movement which affected the whole set up of American society.
2. The contributions of Thoreau as a political thinker who influenced Mahatma Gandhi.
3. Examine the contributions of Emerson to Transcendentalism
4. Examine the contributions of the 'Lost Generation'.
5. Poe's "The Raven" has an undeniable atmosphere of doom. Examine how this atmosphere is created.
6. Examine Tennessee Williams as a Naturalist playwright.
7. Explore the basis of Whitman's creativity in "Out of the Cradle Endlessly Rocking".
8. Examine Frost a farmer poet of rural New England with special reference to his poems "Birches and "Fire and Ice".
9. Langston Hughes and the Harlem Renaissance.

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10. "The Red Wheel Barrow" as a symbolist poem.
11. Sylvia Plath as a Confessionalist poet.
12. "A Supermarket in California" as a poem of the Beats generation.

(6 × 5 = 30 marks)

- II. Write essays in about four pages each on any three of the following, not omitting any section:

SECTION A

13. Examine the contributions of O'Neil to American theatre.
14. Emily Dickinson's flirtation with death in the poems prescribed for study.

SECTION B

15. Examine the political background of Arthur Miller's *The Crucible*. What parallelism was he trying to draw between Puritan America and the political climate of the 1960s in America?
16. Examine O'Neil's *Emperor Jones* as a Psychological drama.
17. The father-daughter relationship as revealed in "Daddy".

SECTION C

18. *The Scarlet Letter* as a novel which exposes Puritan hypocrisy.
19. Faulkner's *Light In August* as a novel which explores the theme of racial discrimination and polarization in the American South.
20. The emergence of New Criticism in America.

(3 × 15 = 45 marks)

