

C 23067

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Name.....

Reg. No.....

**FINAL YEAR M.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, APRIL 2017**

English

C(1)—AMERICAN LITERATURE

(2000 Admissions)

Time : Three Hours

Maximum : 100 Marks

I. Attempt *four* essays of the following, without omitting any section.

**Section A**

1. Like most elegies, "When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloom'd" develops from the personal to the impersonal; from an intense feeling of grief to the thought of reconciliation. Discuss.
2. Hart Crane's poem "To Brooklyn Bridge" is one of the most beautiful and influential American literary works of the first half of the 20th century. Substantiate.
3. A poem, says Robert Frost begins in delight and ends in wisdom. Discuss this statement with reference to the prescribed poems of Frost.

**Section B**

4. In *Huckleberry Finn*, Twain, by exposing the hypocrisy of slavery, demonstrates how racism distorts the oppressors as much as it does those who are oppressed. Discuss.
5. Emerson's essay "Self-Reliance" teaches us to trust ourselves. Elaborate.
6. In what way do the themes of Faulkner's novel *The Sound and the Fury* extend beyond the story of the Compson family specifically, and grapple with issues central to human life in general ?

**Section C**

7. Willy's blind faith in his stunted version of the American Dream leads to his rapid psychological decline when he is unable to accept the disparity between the Dream and his own life. Discuss with reference to *Death of a Salesman*.
8. Among the most prominent and urgent themes of *The Glass Menagerie* is the difficulty that all the characters have in accepting and relating to reality. Elaborate.
9. Albee's play *The Zoo Story* chronicles, using an absurdist style, the relationship between two antagonistic characters who are forced to spend time together. Discuss.

(4 × 16 = 64 marks)

**Turn over**

II. Write Short Notes on any four of the following :

10. Use of expressionistic devices in *The Emperor Jones*.
11. Male insecurity as displayed by the characters in *The Sun Also Rises*.
12. Use of symbols in *Moby Dick*.
13. Clay in *The Dutchman*.
14. The American Dream.
15. The poem "Buffalo Bill".
16. The changing significance of the letter 'A' in *The Scarlet Letter*.
17. Confessional Poetry.

(4 × 7 = 28 marks)

III. Answer the following in a word / phrase / sentence :

18. Jerry taunts Peter for having \_\_\_\_\_ as pets.
19. Jadine's lover in *Tar Baby* is \_\_\_\_\_.
20. The first section of *The Sound and the Fury* is narrated by \_\_\_\_\_.
21. Brutus Jones is killed by a \_\_\_\_\_ bullet.
22. \_\_\_\_\_ is the narrator in *Moby Dick*.
23. "Ars Poetica" is written by \_\_\_\_\_.
24. Laura's favourite animal in her glass menagerie is the \_\_\_\_\_.
25. "When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloom'd" mourns the death of \_\_\_\_\_.

(8 × 1 = 8 marks)