108N (AL)

[20-HKPGDEN-M4S(N)21J]

MA 4th Semester (New) Exam., 2020

ENGLISH

[PGEG–S4–03]

(American Literature)

Full Marks : 80

Time : 3 hours

The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions

1. *(a)* Answer the following questions in *one* or *two* sentence(s) each : 1×8=8

(i) What is referred to by the 'stream of consciousness' technique?

(ii) Mention two plays written by T. S. Eliot.

(iii) What are the major themes evident in the poems of Ralph Waldo Emerson?

(iv) Who is the 'I' in Walt Whitman's poem, *One's Self I Sing*?

(v) What is the central idea of the poem, *Much Madness is Divinest Sense*?

(vi) From which collection has the poem, *Mending Wall* been taken?

(vii) Identify two themes in Ernest Hemingway's *The Old Man and the Sea.*

(viii) What is meant by a 'picaresque' novel?

(b) Choose the correct options from the following : 1×4=4

(i) Who wrote the book, *The Day of Doom?*

1. Michael Wigglesworth
2. Edward Taylor
3. Cotton Mather
4. Anne Dudley Bradstreet

(ii) Which among the following is not a play by Eugene O'Neill?

1. *Strange Interlude*
2. *The Hairy Ape*
3. *The Fifth Column*
4. *The Emperor Jones*

(iii) *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* was published in the year

1. 1880
2. 1883
3. 1888
4. 1885

(iv) *Ulysses*, which marks the foundation of the modernist movement in America, was written by

1. Ernest Hemingway
2. Gertude Stein
3. James Joyce
4. Mark Twain

(c) Fill in the blanks of the following : 1×4=4

(i) _____, which is an offshoot of Romanticism, held the view that intuition and conscience would transcend experience.

(ii) Samuel Langhorne Clemens wrote under the pen name _____.

(iii) _____ was the first American dramatist to receive the Nobel Prize for literature.

(iv) _____ is popularly known as "the black woman's poet laureate".

2. Answer any *five* from the following questions (each within *50* words) : 2×5=10

(a) Explain briefly the important aspects of Byrd's *The History of the Dividing Line.*

(b) State two important themes evident in the play, *Desire Under the Elms.*

(c) Who are the major characters of the novel, *Billy Budd*?

(d) Mention two features of Robert Frost's poetic style.

(e) State briefly the significance of 'Nature' in Emily Dickinson's poetry.

(f) Write a paragraph on Henry James' contribution to American literature.

3. Answer any *four* from the following questions (each in around *150* words) : 3×4=12

(a) Write a short paragraph on Cotton Mather's contribution to American literature.

(b) What is the central theme of the poem, *The Wound-Dresser*?

(c) There is a good blend of symbolism and realism in Ernest Hemingway's *The Old Man and the Sea.* Explain.

(d) Describe briefly the theme of innocence versus experience in the novel, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn.*

(e) Reflect upon Herman Melville's use of animal imagery in his novel, *Billy Budd.*

4. Answer any *three* from the following questions (each in around *250* words) : 6×3=18

(a) In what way did Puritanism leave a profound effect on American literature? Explain by citing the example of any two Puritan authors. 2+4=6

(b) What are the major themes evident in twentieth century American poetry? Discuss briefly.

(c) Explain with reference to the context :

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 neighbours".

(d) Provide a character sketch of Eben Cabot as presented by Eugene O'Neill in the play, *Desire Under the Elms.*

5. Answer any *three* from the following questions (each in around *300* words) : 8×3=24

(a) Analyse the significance of Ernest Hemingway as a modern novelist with particular reference to his novel, *The Old Man and the Sea.*

(b) Write a note on the critical reception of Herman Melville as an American writer.

(c) Discuss the thematic concerns evident in Emily Dickinson's poems, *Much Madness is Divinest Sense* and *A Bird Came Down the Walk.*

(d) Do you agree that 'transcendentalism' is a view of life that influenced the authors of America? Justify your answer.

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