

3 (Sem-3/CBCS) ENG-HC 2

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ENGLISH

(Honours)

Paper : ENG-HC-3026

(American Literature)

Full Marks : 80

Time : 3 hours

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks
for the questions*

1. Answer any *ten* of the following as directed :

1×10=10

- (a) Where does Tom work?
- (b) Tom, at *The Prologue*, refers to a Spanish town that became famous for a painting of Pablo Picasso with the same name. What is the name of the town?
- (c) With what name Jim used to call Laura at High School?
- (d) Fitzgerald published *The Crack-up* serially in a magazine in 1936. Name the magazine.

- (e) For my _____ pen are too superior things.

(Fill in the blank)

- (f) What did the bird drink after eating the Angle Worm?
- (g) "They looked like frightened Beads, I thought." What does the expression 'frightened Beads' mean?
- (h) What is 'Death' as personified in *Because I Could Not Stop for Death*?
- (i) The poem, *O Captain! My Captain!* is an allegory of what significant historical event?
- (j) Published in 1892, the final version of *Leaves of Grass* is known by which name?
- (k) What does the hunter do to please the yelping dogs in the poem, *Mending Wall*?
- (l) Down which river do Huck and Jim travel?

- (m) Who adopted Huck Finn?
- (n) What does the 'kitchen' symbolize in the poem, *I Too*?
- (o) What fruit trees does the narrator own in *Mending Wall*?
- (p) What does Dupin intentionally leave at the Minister's apartment so that he'll have reasons to return?
- (q) Who is Monsieur G?
- (r) In which poem does the word 'powwow' occur?

2. Answer any *five* of the following as directed :

2×5=10

- (a) How did Laura spend her time instead of attending her classes at Rubicam's Business College?
- (b) "..... all life is a process of breaking down, but the blows" What are the two types of 'blows' that Fitzgerald talks about in the opening section of *The Crack-Up*?

- (c) We passed the fields of _____ grain,
We passed the _____ Sun.

(Fill in the blanks)

- (d) How did Whitman describe the temples of India?
- (e) Why does Huck always run away from his father?
- (f) Why did Huck decide to go to the Phelps' farm?
- (g) Name two leading figures of Harlem Renaissance.
- (h) Name the two children games that prompt Dupin to solve the case.
- (i) Why is the Parisian police unable to locate the purloined letter?
- (j) What does the falcon symbolize in the poem, *Crow Testament*?

3. Answer any *four* of the following questions :

5×4=20

- (a) Comment on the significance of the title, *The Glass Menagerie*.
- (b) "Since then—'tis Centuries—and yet
Feels shorter than the Day
I first surmised the Horses' Heads
Were toward Eternity—"
Explain with reference to the context.
- (c) Write a short note on *either* Harlem Renaissance *or* Transcendentalism.
- (d) Write a note on the use of the river as a symbol of freedom in *Huckleberry Finn*.
- (e) Attempt a character sketch of the neighbour in the poem, *Mending Wall*.
- (f) Who is the narrator of *The Purloined Letter*? Write a note on his significance in the story.
- (g) Discuss *Crow Testament* as a critique of Christianity.
- (h) Write a note on the symbolic value of the title, *Evolution*.

4. Answer any *four* of the following questions :

10×4=40

- (a) Critically evaluate the character of Amanda in the context of the American middle-class society.
- (b) Fitzgerald's protagonist in *The Crack-Up* seems to hold on an impossible hope. Do you agree? Elucidate your argument with reference to the text.
- (c) Discuss Bradstreet's *The Prologue* as an assessment of herself as a poet.
- (d) Discuss 'transitoriness of life' as an important theme in the poem, *Because I Could Not Stop for Death*.
- (e) Critically analyze either *O Captain! My Captain!* or *A Passage to India*.
- (f) Discuss how the character of Jim qualifies as a heroic figure.
- (g) How does the poem, *I Too* reflect the racism and discrimination of the American society and yet become a voice of individual resistance and perseverance as well?
- (h) Analyze *The Purloined Letter* as a tale of rational thinking.

- (i) Write a critical appreciation of the poem, *Mending Wall* giving special attention to the contradiction between what the narrator preaches and what he practises.
- (j) Comment on the theme of oppression of indigenous Americans and their cultural appropriation in the poetry of Sherman Alexie.

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