

Roll No.

75232

**M. A. English 3rd Semester
(CBCS Scheme w.e.f. Dec.-2022)
Examination–December, 2024**

AMERICAN LITERATURE

Paper : 22ENG23C2/22ENG59C2

Time : Three hours] [Maximum Marks : 80

Before answering the questions, candidates should ensure that they have been supplied the correct and complete question paper. No complaint in this regard, will be entertained after examination.

Note : Attempt *five* questions in all selecting *one* from each unit. All questions carry equal marks.

1. Attempt *four* in all selecting *two* out of the given four from each part :

UNIT – I

Part-I : Write short notes in about 150 words :

- (a) Henry James
- (b) Herman Melville
- (c) Edgar Allan Poe
- (d) Frederick Douglass

Part-II :

- (e) Uncle Tom's Cabin
- (f) Beloved
- (g) The Great Gatsby
- (h) On the Road

UNIT – II

2. Explore the religious and spiritual aspects of "Song of Myself." How does Whitman's view of spirituality differ from conventional religious beliefs of his time ? What role does transcendence play in his poetry ?
3. Dickinson's poems often delve into the inner world of the human psyche. Discuss her use of symbolism and metaphor to represent inner thoughts, emotions, and states of mind in her poetry. Give reference from the prescribed poems. <https://www.mdustudy.com>

UNIT – III

4. Discuss the theme of racial discrimination in "A Raisin in the Sun." How do the characters in the play experience and respond to racism, and how does it shape their aspirations and dreams ?
5. Lorraine Hansberry was a pioneering African-American playwright. Explore how her own experiences and perspectives as an African-American woman influenced the themes and characters in "A Raisin in the Sun."

UNIT – IV

6. In "Civil Disobedience," Thoreau criticizes the role of government and the majority rule. How does he challenge the idea that government is always just and benevolent ? What are his main objections to the government of his time, and how do they resonate with modern concerns ?
7. Fitzgerald touches on the theme of nostalgia in his essay "Echoes of the Jazz Age". How does he view the longing for the past, and what role does nostalgia play in shaping the attitudes and behaviours of the people of the Jazz Age ?

UNIT – V

8. How does the theme of loneliness in John Steinbeck's "Of Mice and Men" intertwine with the backdrop of the Great Depression, and how do various characters' experiences of loneliness shape their actions and desires throughout the novella ?
9. Analyse the role of gender and societal expectations in Faulkner's stories. How do the female characters, such as Emily Grierson and Nancy, navigate their roles in a patriarchal society, and how does Faulkner comment on gender dynamics in the South ?