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**M.A. (Final) EXAMINATION, 2018**

**ENGLISH LITERATURE**

**Eighth (C) Paper**

**(American Literature)**

**Time allowed: Three hours**

**Maximum marks: 100**

**Minimum pass marks: 36**

*Attempt any five questions in a" selecting at least one from each unit.  
Question no. 1 is compulsory. All questions carry equal marks. Answer  
questions nos. 2 to 10 in maximum 500 words each.*

**Unit-I**

1. Explain with reference to context any four of the following in not more than 125 words each: 5x4

(a) There is a difference between one and another hour of life in their authority and subsequent effect. Our faith comes in moments; our vice is habitual. Yet there is a depth in those brief moments which constrains us to ascribe more reality to them than to all other experiences.

(b) I think heroic deeds were all conceiv'd in the open air;  
and all free poems also,  
I think I could stop here myself and do miracles,  
I think whatever I shall meet on the road I shall like,  
and whoever beholds me shall like me,  
I think whoever I see must be happy.

(c) Its a measly manner of existence. To get on that subway on the hot mornings in summer. To devote your whole life to keeping stock, or making phone calls, or selling or buying. To suffer fifty weeks of the year for a two week vacation, when all you really desire is to be outdoors, with your shirt off.

(d) The Eyes around - had wrung them dry-  
And Breaths were gathering firm  
For that last onset - when the king  
Be witnessed in the room-

(e) And then, he drank a Dew,  
From a convenient Grass-  
And then hopped sidewise to the wall  
To let a Beetle pass-

(f) It has to be living, to learn the speech of the place.  
It has to face the men of the time and to meet  
The women of the time, It has to think about war.  
And it has to find what will suffice.

### **Unit-II**

2. Describe how Emerson, in his essay "The Over-Soul", explain that the soul "abolishes" time and place, two worries of society that limit the fullness of our existence.
3. Discuss Hawthorne's "The Scarlet Letter" from a Puritanical point of view.
4. Write a note on the Gothic elements in Poe's "The Fall of the House of Usher".
5. Is Hart Crane's "Poem to Brooklyn Bridges" optimistic or pessimistic in tone ? Support your answer with illustrations from the text.

### **Unit-III**

6. Is the poem "Song of the Open Road" Whitman celebrates the out-of-doors, and the road in particular, as a space where men can come together in a meaningful way, where status and social markers matter less. Elaborate on this idea with reference to the poem.
7. Write an analytical note on the major theme of Miller's "Death of a Salesman". Give illustrations from the text.
8. Williams, in "A Streetcar Named Desire", uses the contrast between Blanche and Stanley to represent different aspects of American society. Discuss with the help of illustrations from the text.

### **Unit-IV**

9. Examine and discuss how nature and faith are connected in "A Light exists in Spring". Support your answer with examples from the text.
10. "Sunday Morning" voices Stevens' long-running personal debate on the existence of God. Elaborate the statement with reference to the text.
11. "A Farewell to Arms" is a love story as well as a war novel. Discuss the role of love in the novel. How does love affect the characters' perceptions of war ?

### **Unit-V**

12. Write a critical appreciation of Frost's poem, "Mending Wall".
13. Thomas Sutpen's failures necessarily reflect the weaknesses of an idealistic South. Discuss with reference to the text.
14. "The Emperor Jones" is mainly based on a moral that one should not pretend to be someone who is not. Discuss.
15. Should Sylvia Plath be considered a confessional poet. Discuss the proposition in reference to the poems prescribed.