

B.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, NOVEMBER 2019
III Year V Semester
American Literature - I (Poetry and Fiction)

Time : 3 Hours

Max.marks :75

Section A ($10 \times 2 = 20$) Marks

Answer any **TEN** questions

PART I

A. Annotate ALL the following in about 30 words ($5 \times 2 = 10$)

1. O God! can I not grasp
Them with a tighter clasp?
2. Why! who makes much of a miracle?
As to me, I know of nothing else but miracles,
3. But a caged bird stands on the grave of dreams,
His shadow shouts on a nightmare scream.
4. Given a year,
I walked on the roof of the West Street Jail.
5. And I could tell
What form my dreaming was about to take.

PART II

B. Answer ALL the questions in about 30 words ($5 \times 2 = 10$)

6. Why is Walt Whitman celebrated as one of the greatest American poets?
7. Name two novels written by Mark Twain.
8. What is Transcendentalism?
9. What is Ernest Hemmingway's contribution to American Fiction?
10. What is typically American about Edgar Allan Poe's writing?

Section B ($5 \times 5 = 25$) Marks

Answer any **FIVE** questions

11. What are miracles according to Walt Whitman?
12. How does the caged bird sing in the poem by Maya Angelou?
13. What is the theme of the poem After Apple Picking?
14. Describe Emily Dickinson's journey in the poem Because I could not stop for Death.

15. Comment on the title of the poem Life is Fine.
16. In the novel The Colour Purple, is it important that Nettie's exile took place in Africa?
17. How important is Nick Carraway as the narrator in The Great Gatsby?
18. Comment on the sea as a character in the novel The Old Man and the Sea.

Section C ($3 \times 10 = 30$) Marks

Answer any **THREE** questions

19. Discuss the poem A Dream within a Dream as a philosophical poem.
20. What are the comparisons the Maya Angelou draws between the caged and the free bird?
21. Elucidate on the themes in the poems prescribed for non-detailed study and comment on what makes them typically American.
22. Discuss Alice Walker's portrayal of male characters in the novel The Colour Purple.
23. Can the novel Gatsby itself help us get free, or does it just leave us stuck in the past?
24. Describe Hemingway's portrayal of Santiago's relationship with the sea.

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