

(6 pages)

Reg. No. : .....

Code No. : 30873

Sub. Code : EMEN 22

B.A. (CBCS) DEGREE EXAMINATION,  
APRIL 2024.

Second Semester

English - Core

AMERICAN LITERATURE

(For those who joined in July 2023 onwards)

Time : Three hours

Maximum : 75 marks

PART A — (10 × 1 = 10 marks)

Answer ALL questions.

Choose the correct answer :

1. In "The American Scholar," Emerson discusses the idea of "self-trust," which aligns with which Indian philosophical principle?  
(a) Atman (b) Dharma  
(c) Jnana (d) Karma

2. Which colony, established in 1620, is known for the Mayflower Compact and the celebration of the first Thanks giving?  
(a) Jamestown (b) Plymouth  
(c) Roanoke (d) Massachusetts Bay
3. What historical event does "O Captain! My Captain!" commemorate?  
(a) The American Revolution  
(b) The Civil War  
(c) The French Revolution  
(d) The Industrial Revolution
4. What is the central theme of Edgar Allan Poe's poem "The Raven"?  
(a) Love (b) Death  
(c) Nature (d) Hope
5. Which phrase is repeated multiple times throughout the "I Have a Dream" speech?  
(a) "I have a dream"  
(b) "Let freedom ring"  
(c) "We shall overcome"  
(d) "Justice for all"

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6. What literary movement is Ralph Waldo Emerson associated with?  
(a) Transcendentalism (b) Realism  
(c) Romanticism (d) Modernism
7. Who is the narrator of *The Glass Menagerie*?  
(a) Tom Wingfield (b) Laura Wingfield  
(c) Amanda Wingfield (d) Jim O'Connor
8. What is Laura's nickname for her collection of glass animals?  
(a) The Crystal Kingdom  
(b) The Glass Zoo  
(c) The Glass Menagerie  
(d) The Crystal Palace
9. What does the letter 'A' symbolize in the novel?  
(a) health (b) adultery  
(c) progress (d) virtue
10. What is the occupation of Roger Chillingworth?  
(a) lawyer (b) Scholar  
(c) Physician (d) Merchant

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PART B — (5 × 5 = 25 marks)

Answer ALL questions by choosing (a) or (b).

Each answer should not exceed 250 words.

11. (a) Mention the major challenges faced by early European settlers in establishing colonies in America.  

Or

(b) Bring out the contribution of puritan literature to the development of American literary traditions.
12. (a) Discuss the theme of immortality in "Because I could not stop for Death" by Emily Dickinson.  

Or

(b) Explain the significance of the title "O Captain! My Captain!".
13. (a) Identify the theme of racial equality in Martin Luther King Jr.'s speech "I Have a Dream."  

Or

(b) How does Emerson define self-reliance and what role does it play in shaping individual identity and moral character?

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[P.T.O.]

14. (a) Examine the character of Amanda Wingfield in Tennessee Williams' *The Glass Menagerie*.

Or

(b) How does Mr. Wingfield's absence shape the dynamics of the family and influence the characters' perceptions of themselves and each other?

15. (a) Roger Chillingworth is a complex and morally ambiguous character in *The Scarlet Letter* – Illustrate it.

Or

(b) Evaluate Pearl as a symbol of innocence and ambiguity in *The Scarlet Letter*.

PART C — (5 × 8 = 40 marks)

Answer ALL questions by choosing either (a) or (b).

Each answer should not exceed 600 words.

16. (a) Discuss the notable cultural and intellectual achievements during the flowering of New England.

Or

(b) How did American Romantic writers express optimism and pessimism in their exploration of individualism and the quest for freedom?

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17. (a) Analyze the use of imagery and symbolism in "O Captain! My Captain!".

Or

(b) Examine the role of supernatural elements in "The Raven" by Edgar Allan Poe.

18. (a) Describe the relevance of Emerson's ideas on self-reliance in contemporary society.

Or

(b) Mark the significance of the "I Have a Dream" speech in the context of the Civil Rights Movement.

19. (a) Examine the character of Jim O'Connor in Tennessee Williams' *The Glass Menagerie*.

Or

(b) Analyse the significance of the glass menagerie as a symbol in Tennessee Williams' *The Glass Menagerie*.

20. (a) Evaluate the transformation in the character of Hester Prynne in Nathaniel Hawthorne's *The Scarlet Letter*.

Or

(b) Elaborate on the theme of sin and redemption in Nathaniel Hawthorne's *The Scarlet Letter*.

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