

AF-6210-A

BEV 531

B.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, NOVEMBER 2008

V Semester

ENGLISH VOCATIONAL

American Literature

Duration : 3 Hours

(2004 Onwards)

Maximum : 100 marks

Section- A

(20 x 1 = 20)

Answer any twenty of the following questions.

1. What is Raven ?
2. Why does Poe call December as “bleak” ?
3. Explain ‘Plutonian Shore’
4. How old are the tamed bullocks ?
5. How does the Ox charge at the tamer ?
6. Why does the speaker imagine that his horse thinks him strange ?
7. What do woods represent ?
8. What adventures do stanzas 3 and 4 in “Hugh Selwyn Mauberley” use ?
9. How many Mauberley poems are there ?
10. What according to Stevens, was a small part of the pantomime ?
11. What was the only moving thing among twenty snowy mountains ?
12. Where has Winterbourne lived most of his life ?
13. Who is the brother of Daisy Miller ?
14. How many members of the Usher family has survived from generation to generation ;

15. Why does Roderick decide to bury his sister in the house ?
16. Why does the Barber who comes to shave Henry almost kill him ?
17. What is the name of the good natured doctor who agrees to operate on Henry's leg ?
18. Where does Catherine accompany Henry before he leaves for the front?
19. Whom does the Younger family await a cheque from in 'A Raisin in the sun' ?
20. When Walter finally uses some money to invest in a liquor store, what happens ?
21. Where did Ben end up when he went looking for his father ?
22. How much money does Charlie usually give Willy each week ?
23. On what day of the week does Willy die ?
24. Which place does Daisy love to visit ?
25. Who is Roderick's sister ?

SECTION - B

(45 Marks)

(Detailed Texts)

2. Attempt an essay to a length of about 3 pages on ONE : (15)
 - a. How does the Raven come to be identified with the person's problems?
 - b. How does 'stopping by woods on a snowy evening' examine the modern man's inability to stay in touch with nature ?
 - c. Contrast the untamed bullocks with that of the tamed steers.

3. Write an essay on any one of the topics in 3 pages: (15)
- a. Why does Stevens say, “a man, a woman and a black bird are one”?
 - b. Critically analyse the character of Winter Bourne.
 - c. Consider ‘The fall of the house of Usher’ as a Gothic tale.
4. Attempt an essay of around 3 pages on ONE topic of your selection : (15)
- a. How does Willy’s retreat into the past, a form of escape from his unpleasant present reality?
 - b. Why does Willy reject Charlie’s job offer?
 - c. Critically evaluate Susan Sontag’s “One Culture and the New Sensibility.”

SECTION - C

(15 Marks)

(Non - Detailed texts)

5. Write a full-fledged essay (3 pages) on any ONE (15)
- a. How does love affect the characters’ perceptions of war in ‘A Farewell to Arms’?
 - b. How does the title ‘A Raisin in the sun’ relate to the dream of each of the character?
 - c. Why does Edmund Wilson say, “All our intellectual activity is an attempt to give a meaning to our experience”?

SECTION - D

(20 Marks)

Read the following poem and answer the questions :

The Tempter, all impassioned, thus began:
O sacred, wise, and wisdom-giving Plant,
Mother of science! now I feel thy power
Within me clear; not only to discern
Things in their causes, but to trace the ways
Of highest agents, deemed however wise.
Queen of this universe! do not believe
Those rigid threats of death: ye shall not die:
How should you? by the fruit? it gives you life
To knowledge; by the threatener? look on me,
Me, who have touched and tasted; yet both live,
And life more perfect have attained than Fate
Meant me, by venturing higher than my lot.
Shall that be shut to Man, which to the Beast
Is open? or will God incense his ire
For such a petty trespass? and not praise
Rather your dauntless virtue, whom the pain
Of death denounced, whatever thing death be,
Deterred not from achieving what might lead
To happier life, knowledge of good and evil;
Of good, how just? of evil, if what is evil
Be real, why not known, since easier shunned?
God therefore cannot hurt ye, and be just;
Not just, not God; not feared then, nor obeyed:
Your fear itself of death removes the fear.
Why then was this forbid? Why, but to awe;
Why, but to keep ye low and ignorant,
His worshippers? He knows that in the day
Ye eat thereof, your eyes that seem so clear,
Yet are but dim, shall perfectly be then

Opened and cleared, and ye shall be as Gods,
Knowing both good and evil, as they know.
That ye shall be as Gods, since I as Man,
Internal Man, is but proportion meet;
I, of brute, human; ye, of human, Gods.
So ye shall die perhaps, by putting off
Human, to put on Gods; death to be wished,
Though threatened, which no worse than this can bring.

- a. Answer the following questions in one or two sentences :

(5 x 2 = 10 Marks)

1. Pick out the terms of praise from the lips of Satan
2. Why does Satan term the 'Warning' as 'threat'?
3. What evidence does Satan quote to Eve that she would not die after tasting the fruit?
4. What is termed as petty trespass by Satan?
5. What phrase does Satan use to praise and convince Eve to commit the crime?

- b. Write an essay on the following question :

How does Milton present the temptation scene at the garden of Eden?

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