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Reg. No. : .....

Name : .....

Second Semester M.A. Degree Examination, May 2020

English Language and Literature

Core Course : Paper VII

EL 223 – AMERICAN LITERATURE

(2017 Admission onwards)

Time : 3 Hours Max. Marks : 75

I. Answer any **five** of the following in not more than **50** words:

1. The opening of "Buffalo Bill" by E.E. Cummings?
2. Individuality in Maya Angelou's "Phenomenal Woman".
3. The theme of freedom and confinement in *The Glass Menagerie*.
4. Identity Crisis in the play *The Buried Child*.
5. Transcendental elements in Emerson's "Self-Reliance"?
6. Adrienne Rich's views on motherhood.
7. The significance of "Pearl" in *The Scarlet Letter*.
8. The theme of courage in Ernest Hemingway's "The Short Happy Life of Francis Macomber."

(5 × 2 = 10 Marks)

P.T.O.

II. Comment critically on any **two** of the following in not more than **150** words choosing **one** from each section.

SECTION – A

9. Men themselves have wondered

What they see in me.

They try so much

But they can't touch

My inner mystery.

10. One could do worse than be a swinger of birches.

SECTION – B

11. "That's what makes it so hard for all of us. We can't forget."

12. "An institution is the lengthened shadow of one man: as Monachism, of the Hermit Antony; the Reformation, of Luther; Quakerism, of Fox: Methodism, of Wesley; Abolition, of Clarkson. Scipio, Milton called "the height of Rome"; and all history resolves itself very easily into the biography of a few Stout and earnest persons".

(2 × 5 = 10 Marks)

III. Answer any **two** of the following in not more than **150** words:

13. American Civil War.

14. Symbolic significance of sunflower in Allen Ginsberg's "Sunflower Sutra".

15. Francis Macomber's change from beginning to end in "The Short Happy Life of Francis Macomber".

16. Concept of sin, punishment, and redemption in *The Scarlet Letter.*

(2 × 5 = 10 Marks)

IV. Answer any **three** in not more than **450** words choosing one from **each** section.

SECTION – A

17. Discuss death as a mystic experience in the poetry of Emily Dickinson's "There is Something Quieter than Sleep".

18. Critically examine the postmodern lyricism in John Ashbery's poem "Self-Portrait in a Convex Mirror".

19. What are the main flaws of each character in *Long Day's Journey into Night* by Eugene O'Neill? In what sense might each be described as both victim and victimizer?

SECTION – B

20. In Emerson's "Self-Reliance," how does society affect what people value?

21. How does *Catch-22* satirize the absurdity of war and the perspective of justice?

22. Discuss the obvious irony in the story "The Cask of Amontillado": What is the role of luck or fortune?

SECTION – C

23. Examine the salient features of Post War Theatre in America.

24. Discuss the Confessional Movement of poetry in America.

25. Write an essay on Henry James' views on "The Art of Fiction".

(3 × 15 = 45 Marks)
