2022

Jawaharlal Nehru College Library
Estd.-1964
Boko Dist.-Kamrup

ENGLISH

( Honours )

Paper : ENG–HC–3026

**( American Literature )**

*Full Marks* : 80

*Time* : 3 hours

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions*

**1.** Answer any *ten* of the following as directed : 1×10=10

*(a)* Where does Tom work?

*(b)* Tom, at *The Prologue*, refers to a Spanish town that became famous for a painting of Pablo Picasso with the same name. What is the name of the town?

*(c)* With what name Jim used to call Laura at High School?

*(d)* Fitzgerald published *The Crack-up* serially in a magazine in 1936. Name the magazine.

(e) For my ____ pen are too superior things.

( Fill in the blank )

(f) What did the bird drink after eating the Angle Worm?

(g) "They looked like frightened Beads, I thought." What does the expression 'frightened Beads' mean?

(h) What is 'Death' as personified in *Because I Could Not Stop for Death*?

(i) The poem, *O Captain! My Captain!* is an allegory of what significant historical event?

(j) Published in 1892, the final version of *Leaves of Grass* is known by which name?

(k) What does the hunter do to please the yelping dogs in the poem, *Mending Wall*?

(l) Down which river do Huck and Jim travel?





(m) Who adopted Huck Finn?

(n) What does the 'kitchen' symbolize in the poem, *I Too*?

(o) What fruit trees does the narrator own in *Mending Wall*?

(p) What does Dupin intentionally leave at the Minister's apartment so that he'll have reasons to return?

(q) Who is Monsieur G?

(r) In which poem does the word 'powwow' occur?

**2.** Answer any *five* of the following as directed : 2×5=10

(a) How did Laura spend her time instead of attending her classes at Rubicam's Business College?

(b) "..... all life is a process of breaking down, but the blows ..... ." What are the two types of 'blows' that Fitzgerald talks about in the opening section of *The Crack-Up*?

(c) We passed the fields of ____ grain,
We passed the ____ Sun.

( Fill in the blanks )

(d) How did Whitman describe the temples of India?

(e) Why does Huck always run away from his father?

(f) Why did Huck decide to go to the Phelps' farm?

(g) Name two leading figures of Harlem Renaissance.

(h) Name the two children games that prompt Dupin to solve the case.

(i) Why is the Parisian police unable to locate the purloined letter?

(j) What does the falcon symbolize in the poem, *Crow Testament*?





**3.** Answer any *four* of the following questions : 5×4=20

(a) Comment on the significance of the title, *The Glass Menagerie.*

(b) "Since then—'tis Centuries—and yet
Feels shorter than the Day
I first surmised the Horses' Heads
Were toward Eternity—"
Explain with reference to the context.

(c) Write a short note on *either* Harlem Renaissance *or* Transcendentalism.

(d) Write a note on the use of the river as a symbol of freedom in *Huckleberry Finn.*

(e) Attempt a character sketch of the neighbour in the poem, *Mending Wall.*

(f) Who is the narrator of *The Purloined Letter*? Write a note on his significance in the story.

(g) Discuss *Crow Testament* as a critique of Christianity.

(h) Write a note on the symbolic value of the title, *Evolution.*

4. Answer any *four* of the following questions : 10×4=40

(a) Critically evaluate the character of Amanda in the context of the American middle-class society.

(b) Fitzgerald's protagonist in *The Crack-Up* seems to hold on an impossible hope. Do you agree? Elucidate your argument with reference to the text.

(c) Discuss Bradstreet's *The Prologue* as an assessment of herself as a poet.

(d) Discuss 'transitoriness of life' as an important theme in the poem, *Because I Could Not Stop for Death.*

(e) Critically analyze either *O Captain! My Captain!* or *A Passage to India.*

(f) Discuss how the character of Jim qualifies as a heroic figure.

(g) How does the poem, *I Too* reflect the racism and discrimination of the American society and yet become a voice of individual resistance and perseverance as well?

(h) Analyze *The Purloined Letter* as a tale of rational thinking.





(i) Write a critical appreciation of the poem, *Mending Wall* giving special attention to the contradiction between what the narrator preaches and what he practises.

(j) Comment on the theme of oppression of indigenous Americans and their cultural appropriation in the poetry of Sherman Alexie.

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