

P16B003

Name :.....

Reg. No.....

VIMALA COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), THRISSUR
SECOND SEMESTER M.A DEGREE EXAMINATION APRIL 2017
VCCSS-English
VPEG2E21: AMERICAN LITERATURE

Time: 3 hours

Max. Weightage: 36

Section A

*Answer **all** the following questions in a word, phrase or a sentence*

Each question carries 1/2 weightage

1. To whom does Hawthorne apply the term "The Leech"?
2. What does Stanley buy Blanche for her birthday?
3. With which movement was Ginsberg associated?
4. What is the opening statement of the novel *Moby Dick*?
5. What does Emerson say about consistency?
6. Describe the throne of Emperor Jones.
7. What are the engineering feats that inspired Whitman's "A Passage to India"?
8. According to Thoreau, what is the ultimate condition in which one is to break the law?

(8x1/2= 4 weightage)

Section B

*Write a short note each in a paragraph of 150 words on any **six** on the following:*

Each question carries 2 weightage

9. The theme of death in Emily Dickinson's poetry
10. The dialects used in *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*
11. A brief character sketch of Linda Loman
12. "Lady Lazarus" as a Holocaust poem
13. Symbolism of the sea in *Moby Dick*
14. Innocence and corruption in *The Sound and the Fury*
15. The role of tom-tom drums in *The Emperor Jones*
16. Character sketch of Clay and Lula in *Dutchman*
17. The wall as a symbol in "Mending Wall"
18. The concept of prison in "On Civil Disobedience"

(6x2=12 weightage)

Section C

Write essays on **four** of the following in 450 words, choosing **one** from each section:
Each question carries 5 Weightage

Part A

19. Attempt an analysis of Ginsberg's "America".
20. Do you think there is a tone of conscious irreverence in "Buffalo Bill"? Justify.
21. Consider Wallace Stevens as a modern American poet with reference to the poem prescribed.

Part B

22. How does "Self-Reliance" help us to understand the Emersonian doctrine of individualism?
23. Discuss *The Scarlet Letter* as an indictment of Puritan society.
24. How does Thoreau justify the moral need for civil disobedience?

Part C

25. Discuss symbolism in *The Death of a Salesman*.
26. Why was *The Emperor Jones* critically acclaimed, and what was so amazing about it?
27. Compare and contrast the character of Mitch and the other men in *A Street Car Named Desire*.

Part D

28. Discuss the treatment of women in American novels with special reference to any two prescribed novels.
29. Write an essay focusing on the prescribed texts to show on how the roles of the male and the female in American society changed with time
30. Discuss how race becomes a major theme in American literature with special reference to *Emperor Jones* and *Dutchman* and *Tar Baby*.

(4x5=20 Weightage)