

16P251

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Name.....

Reg. No.....

**SECOND SEMESTER M.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, MAY-2017**

(Regular/Supplementary/Improvement)

(CUCSS - PG)

**CC 15P EN2 E07 - AMERICAN LITERATURE**

(English Language and Literature)

(2015 Admission Onwards)

Time: Three Hours

Maximum: 36 Weightage

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

1. What is the epigraph of Tennessee Williams' *A Street Car Named Desire*?
2. Why is Pearl called the "elf child"?
3. What was the original title of *Death of a salesman*?
4. Where does the action of *The Scarlet Letter* take place?

(4 x 1/2 = 2 weightage)

5. What was Thoreau's primary act of disobedience?
6. Who rescues Tashtego when he falls over board inside the whale's head?
7. Why did Poe choose a raven as a central symbol of his poem?
8. What does the beating of the drum signify in *The Emperor Jones*?

(4 x 1/2 = 2 weightage)

II. Answer any **six** of the following questions in a paragraph of **150** words each:

9. The historical context of Whitman's "A Passage to India".
10. The treatment of insanity in *Moby Dick*.
11. The mythical implications in *Dutchman*.
12. Civil war in *America*.
13. Thoreau's ideologies of government in "Civil Disobedience".
14. *Death of a Salesman* as a Slippery Play.
15. Use of folk-lore and Afro-American myth in *Tar Baby*.
16. The question of faith in "For the Union Dead".
17. Silver Bullet in *The Emperor Jones*.
18. Significance of the title "Home Burial".

(6 x 2 = 12 weightage)

III. Write an essay of 450 words each, choosing one from each section:

**Section A**

19. How does Crane display his sense of depression in Poem: "To Brooklyn Bridge"?
20. How far does "The Emperor of Ice Cream" deal with the theme of power?
21. "Ginsberg's 'America' was one of the first widely read literary statements of political unrest in the post-World War II United States". Explain.

**Section B**

22. Discuss the characteristics of the three major narrators of Faulkner's novel?
23. Explain the transcendental philosophy in "Self-Reliance"
24. *Moby Dick* is an imagined representation which mediates between an individual and his or her environment. Elaborate.

**Section C**

25. "Death of a Salesman is a social commentary upon the contemporary society." Substantiate
26. Explain the slow change from individual experience to collective unconscious in *The Emperor Jones*.
27. *A Streetcar Named Desire* is a fine example of Tennessee Williams' mastery in handling the themes of fantasy and reality. Elucidate.

**Section D**

28. Discuss the major themes in 20th century American Poetry
29. "20th century American Drama focuses on the struggle, tensions and traumas of the individual." Do you agree? Why?
30. Discuss the elements of realism in American Literature.

(4 x 5 = 20 weightage)

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