

(8 pages)

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B.A. (CBCS) DEGREE EXAMINATION,
NOVEMBER 2024.

Third Semester

English – Core

AMERICAN LITERATURE – II

(For those who joined in July 2023 onwards)

Time : Three hours

Maximum : 75 marks

PART A — (10 × 1 = 10 marks)

Answer ALL questions.

Choose the correct answer :

1. The meadow mouse symbolizes _____.
- (a) Loneliness
 - (b) Innocence and vulnerability
 - (c) Strength and resilience
 - (d) Chaos and disorder

2. The imagery used to depict the bird's interaction with the environment is _____.
- (a) Bright flowers and sunny skies
 - (b) Grass and dew
 - (c) Cold winds and dark clouds
 - (d) Trees and nests
3. The title "A Raisin in the Sun" symbolizes _____.
- (a) A lost dream
 - (b) Wealth and success
 - (c) Happiness and joy
 - (d) Family unity
4. The major conflict arises between Corie and Paul because of _____.
- (a) Financial troubles
 - (b) Differences in lifestyle and expectations
 - (c) Family issues
 - (d) Career aspirations

5. Thoreau describes the resilience of animals _____ during winter.

- (a) As weak and vulnerable
- (b) As clever and adaptive
- (c) As indifferent to their surroundings
- (d) As overly cautious

6. Emerson believes that _____ is/are the primary source of a scholar's knowledge.

- (a) Books and formal education
- (b) Personal experience and intuition
- (c) Scientific inquiry
- (d) Historical texts

7. The curse associated with the house is _____ —in "The House of the Seven Gables".

- (a) A financial downfall
- (b) A generational curse of guilt and misfortune
- (c) A physical illness
- (d) A haunting by spirits

8. The traumatic event that Sethe experiences is _____ which profoundly affects her life.

- (a) The death of her husband
- (b) The loss of her children
- (c) Her escape from slavery
- (d) The murder of her mother

9. Tom and Huck witness _____ in the graveyard.

- (a) A ghost
- (b) The burial of treasure
- (c) A murder
- (d) A duel between two

10. The community in *Firekeeper's Daughter* struggles with _____.

- (a) Political corruption
- (b) Meth addiction and drug trafficking
- (c) Racism and discrimination
- (d) Environmental destruction

PART B — (5 × 5 = 25 marks)

Answer ALL questions, choosing either (a) or (b).

Each answer should not exceed 250 words.

11. (a) What imagery does Roethke use to describe the mouse?

Or

- (b) Describe the connection between their heart and nature in "My Heart Soars".

12. (a) Explain how "A Raisin in the Sun" address the theme of racism.

Or

- (b) How do the characters of Paul and Corie reflect different approaches to life and relationships?

13. (a) Examine how Thoreau uses imagery to convey the essence of winter in "Winter Animals".

Or

- (b) How does Baldwin's "Stranger in the Village" serve as a critique of both American and European attitudes toward race? What insights does he offer regarding the nature of belonging and alienation?

14. (a) Discuss the significance of the character of Hepzibah Pyncheon. How does she embody the themes of the novel?

Or

- (b) Discuss the significance of the character Sethe and her relationship with her past. How does her experience shape the novel's exploration of trauma?

15. (a) What are the primary themes explored in "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer"?

Or

- (b) Discuss the character of Daunis and her development throughout the novel. How does her identity shape her actions?

PART C — (5 × 8 = 40 marks)

Answer ALL questions, choosing either (a) or (b).

Each answer should not exceed 600 words.

16. (a) Summarise the messages that Wallace Stevens conveys about death in "The Emperor of Ice-Cream".

Or

- (b) Discuss how Maya Angelou redefine traditional notions of beauty and femininity in "Phenomenal Woman".

17. (a) Explain the main themes of "A Raisin in the Sun".

Or

- (b) Analyse the character development of Corie Bratter throughout the play. How does she embody the theme of love versus reality?

18. (a) Analyse Thoreau's philosophical views on nature as expressed in "Winter Animals".

Or

- (b) Bring out the significance of the title "The American Scholar", and explain how Emerson differentiate the American scholar from scholars in other cultures.

19. (a) How does Hawthorne explore the theme of guilt and its impact on the characters, particularly through the figure of Clifford Pyncheon? Explain.

Or

- (b) Discuss how "Beloved" address the complexities of motherhood, particularly in the context of slavery.

20. (a) Outline how Tom and Huck's relationship illustrates the theme of camaraderie.

Or

- (b) Trace the significance of the title "Firekeeper's Daughter". How does it relate to the themes and character development in the novel?