

MAEG 1005

M.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, JUNE 2015.

Non - Semester

First Year

English

AMERICAN LITERATURE

Time : Three hours

Maximum : 100 marks

SECTION A — (5 × 8 = 40 marks)

Answer any FIVE of the following.

1. What is the effect of the comparison between the speaker's father and Nazis in "Daddy"?
2. How does Adrienne Rich portray the woman looking back her life with a mixture of rebellion and acquiescence?
3. How does Anne Sexton identify herself with the farmer's wife? Explain.
4. How does Randall Jarrell view the animals in the zoo and contrasts her role in the world with that of animals?

5. How is Isabel's rejection of Lord Warburton important to Osmond's view of her in *The Portrait of a Lady*?

6. Discuss Nettie as an example of fighting spirit in *The Color Purple*.

7. Write a note on the absurd elements in the play *Who Is Afraid of Virginia Woolf*?

8. What impression have you formed of Thoreau's character from his book *Walden*?

SECTION B — (5 × 12 = 60 marks)

Answer any FIVE of the following.

9. Consider Whitman's "When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard bloom'd" an elegy.

10. Show that fact and fancy are the two polarities of Frost's poetry.

11. How does Robert Lowell focus on the irrationality and terror of the early America rather than the repression in "After Surprising Conversions"?

12. Discuss the conflict between the Puritan law and the laws of nature or human law as illustrated in *The Scarlet Letter*.

13. How does the economic decline of the Joad family correspond to the disintegration of their family in *The Grapes of Wrath*?

14. How are dreams mollified and substituted in *A Raisin in the Sun*?

15. Does Willy Loman die a martyr? How do Linda's and his sons' interpretations of his death differ?

16. What is self-reliance according to Emerson?