

2026

English (Core)

Paper Code : EN-CE-6324

Paper Name : American Literature

Time : 3 hours

Full Marks : 70

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

1. Answer the following questions : 1×10=10
 - a) Who introduced the concept of Frontier Experience ?
 - b) What is the name of the book in which Walt Whitman's *Song of Myself* was published ?
 - c) How is death portrayed in *Because I could not Stop for Death*?
 - d) What is the final possibility suggested for a dream deferred in *Harlem* by Langston Hughes ?
 - e) Which river 'sang' to the speaker in *The Negro Speaks of Rivers*?
 - f) Why did the narrator kill the old man in *The Tell Tale Heart* ?
 - g) For how many days did Santiago go without catching a fish ?
 - h) What is the pseudonym used by Harriet Jacobs in her autobiography, *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl* ?
 - i) What nickname does Jim give Laura in *The Glass Menagerie*?
 - j) How old is Lil Bit at the beginning of the play, *How I learned to Drive* ?
2. Answer the following questions : 2×5=10
 - a) How does Dickinson view Nature in her poem, *This is My Letter to the World* ?
 - b) What does Hughes mean by a 'dream deferred' ?
 - c) Why does Linda find Mr. Sands' attention preferable to Dr.

Contd..

Flint's advances ?

- d) Why does Tom go to the movies in *The Glass Menagerie* ?
- e) Why did the Uncle Peck want to teach Lil Bit to 'drive like a man' ?

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

- a) Write a short note on Transcendentalism.
- b) How does *Harlem* reflect the social realities of African Americans ?
- c) Write a brief character sketch of the narrator in *The Tell Tale Heart*.
- d) "Good fences make good neighbors." Elaborate the main idea contained in the quoted line from your reading of *Mending Wall*.
- e) How does the glass unicorn represent Laura ?
- f) Comment on the role of chorus in the play, *How I learned to Drive*.

4. Answer *any three* questions of the following : 10×3=30

- a) Write a critical appreciation of the poem, *The Prologue*.
- b) Discuss *Song of Myself* as a celebration of self and nature.
- c) Critically analyse the symbolic significance of rivers in *The Negro Speaks of Rivers*.
- d) "A man can be destroyed but not defeated"
Discuss the main theme of the novella, *The Old Man and the Sea* in the light of the above statement.
- e) Examine *The Glass Menagerie* as a memory play.
- f) Critically Examine *How I Learned to Drive* as a psychological drama focusing on the impact of memory and trauma on the lives of the character.

