

**BA ENGLISH
SIXTH SEMESTER
AMERICAN LITERATURE
BEN – 603B**

(USE SEPARATE ANSWER SCRIPTS FOR OBJECTIVE & DESCRIPTIVE)

Duration: 3 hrs.

Full Marks: 70

[PART-A: Objective]

Time: 20 min.

Marks: 20

Choose the correct answer from the following:

1×20=20

1. Who is the author of the short story *A Clean well-lighted Place*?
a. Katherine Mansfield
b. Ernest Hemingway
c. Margaret Atwood
d. Lorrie Moore
2. What was the name of the Barber in the Short story *Dry September*?
a. Alphonso
b. McLendon
c. Henry Hawkshaw
d. Will Mayes
3. How many Children does Cellie has in the novel *Color Purple*?
a. Three
b. Four
c. One
d. None of the above
4. In which year the Essay *The Crack-up* by F. Scott Fitzgerald was first published?
a. 1920
b. 1957
c. 1936
d. None of the above
5. What is the name of the female protagonist from the novel *Bodily Harm*?
a. Rennie
b. Nettie
c. Barbara
d. Minnie Cooper
6. Is Alice Walker's novel *Color Purple* a social Novel?
a. Yes
b. No
c. May be
d. None of the above
7. The background of the short story *Dry September* is _____.
a. American Bureaucratic society
b. Indo-African society
c. Pseudo-American Society
d. African-American Society
8. 'They told me to take a street-car named Desire' who said this?
a. Stella
b. Blanche
c. Stanely
d. Mitch
9. Blanche was _____.
a. In love with Satnely
b. Truthful in nature
c. An English teacher by profession
d. None of the above
10. *The American scholar* is actually a lecture of Emerson which he delivered in _____.
a. The 18th century in Harvard
b. The 19th century in Oxford
c. The 19th century in Harvard
d. None of the above

11. If the American scholar achieves the 'right state' then they become _____.
 - a. Men thinking
 - b. Man thinking
 - c. Practical man
 - d. Saint
12. Which among the following things is not present in *the Pond in Winter* by Thoreau?
 - a. Solitude
 - b. Nature
 - c. Simplicity
 - d. Crying
13. *The pond* is a part of Thoreau's collection _____.
 - a. The nature
 - b. The scholar
 - c. Walden
 - d. None of the above
14. Which of the following is a work by Sylvia Plath?
 - a. Aunt Jennifer's Tigers
 - b. Haymaking
 - c. Lady Lazarus
 - d. The Negro Speaks of Rivers
15. The attitude of the poet towards Aunt Jennifer in the poem "Aunt Jennifer's Tigers" is that of _____.
 - a. Hatred
 - b. Love
 - c. Sympathy
 - d. Casual
16. The massive weight of 'Uncle's wedding band' is a subtle reference to:
 - a. Male oppression
 - b. Suppression at the hands of her husband
 - c. The heavy gold ring
 - d. The huge gold wedding band makes her uncomfortable
17. What does the phrase 'when dawns were young' in line five of "The Negro Speaks of Rivers" suggest?
 - a. The earth was still new
 - b. The days did not last long
 - c. The speaker was a child then
 - d. The speaker can barely remember
18. "Life is a barren field"
What does Langston Hughes mean by the word 'barren' in his poem "Dreams"?
 - a. Cold
 - b. Large
 - c. Unproductive
 - d. Dry
19. Which of the following is a poem by William Carlos Williams?
 - a. The Hunter in the Snow
 - b. Dreams
 - c. I dream I'm the Death of Orpheus
 - d. Soliloquy of a Solipsist
20. What is an art according to the poet in "Lady Lazarus"?
 - a. Sleeping
 - b. Dying
 - c. Writing
 - d. Knitting

(PART-B : Descriptive)

Time : 2 hrs. 40 min.

Marks : 50

[Answer question no.1 & any four (4) from the rest]

1. "Aunt Jennifer's finger fluttering through her wool
Find even the ivory needle hard to pull.
The massive weight of Uncle's wedding band
Sits heavily upon Aunt Jennifer's hand."

What message does the poet tries to convey through the given stanza? Elaborate. 10
2. How is the interplay between life and death portrayed by the poet in "Lady Lazarus"? 10
3. Why does Langston Hughes describe the rivers as 'ancient' and 'dusky' in his poem "The Negro Speaks of Rivers"? 5+5=10
4. Who is an American scholar? What do you understand by 'Man Thinking'? What are the three influences mentioned by Emerson in *The American Scholar*? 2+2+6=10
5. The term 'desire' in the title hints the main theme of the fiction. What are the desires present in the story? 10
OR
What are the themes present in the essay *Pond* by Thoreau?
6. What is a social novel? Discuss Alice Walker's *Color Purple* as a social novel. What is the significance of the title of the story? 5+5=10
7. "Through the bloody September twilight, aftermath of sixty-two rainless days, it had gone like a fire in dry grass: the rumor, the story, whatever it was" What is referred to as 'the rumor, the story'? Narrate in the light of the short story *Dry September* by William Faulkner. 10
8. Give character sketch of any two of the following characters: 5+5=10
 - a) The Older waiter from *A Clean Well-Lighted Place*
 - b) Minnie Cooper from *Dry September*
 - c) Rennie from *Bodily Harm*
 - d) Alphonso from *Color Purple*

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