

2024
SRCMUJ
4th Semester Examination
M.A.
ENGLISH
ENG-401
American Literature

Full Marks: 40

Time: 2 Hours

The figures in the margin indicate full marks. Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words as far as practicable.

1. Answer *any two* of the following questions **5×2**

- a) What is commonly known as the “The Great Depression” in the history of America and how is it represented in the post-1940 American drama?
- b) Briefly comment on the theme of “youth versus old age” in *The Old Man and the Sea*.
- c) Analyze the role of memory in *The Glass Menagerie*. How does Tom's role as both a character and narrator influence the way the story is told?
- d) “Daddy, daddy, you bastard, I’m through.” - Explain.

2. Answer *any three* of the following questions **10×3**

- a) Compare and contrast the characters of Captain Ahab and Ishmael in *Moby Dick*.
- b) Analyze the theme of escape in *The Glass Menagerie*. How do the characters seek to escape their realities, and what are the consequences of their attempts? Provide specific examples from the play to support your analysis.
- c) How does *Death of a Salesman* bring out the ironies of American Dream?
- d) Describe the effectiveness of the extended metaphor of the journey of a ship and its captain for the nation and its leader in "O Captain! My Captain!" within the context of American history.

e) Briefly discuss Robert Frost's use of the contrasting elements of 'fire' and 'ice' in his poem "Fire and Ice".

P.Y.Q. 2024