

M.A. Examination, 2016
Semester-III
English
Course – VII (Core)
(20th Century American Literature)
(For Regular and Back Candidates)

Time: 3 Hours

Full Marks: 40

Questions are of equal value.

Answer question no. 1 and *any three* questions

1. (a) Critically examine the concept of cultural pluralism in America.
or
(b) The 1960s was a most happening decade in the history of American literature. Do you agree? Answer with suitable references.
2. (a) How far does *The Sun Also Rises* portray the demoralized life of expatriates after world War I?
or
(b) What role does Nick Carraway play in the novel *The Great Gatsby*?
3. (a) How far does Faulkner depict family, community and Southern traditional values in the story *A Rose For Emily*?
or
(b) Bienvenido Santos portrays the characters of Filipino immigrants in America with empathy. Do you agree? Discuss the story “Immigration Blues” in the light of the above remark.
4. Show how Maxine Hong Kingston presents two radically opposite pictures of women in “No-Name Woman” and “The White Tiger”.
5. (a) Would you consider *Piano Lesson* to be family drama that is also an interpretative history lesson about African American life in early 20th century America? Give a reasoned answer.
or
(b) *Desire Under the Elms* is a study of Freudian psychoanalysis. Discuss.
6. (a) Critically examine the significant characteristics of American Beat poetry.
(b) Analyse the different perspectives of 20th century Black poetry as expressed in the poems of Langston Hughes, Adrienne Rich and Rita Dove.