

Central University of Jammu
Department of English and Comparative Literature
Question Paper
End Semester Examination
MA Semester IV

(Re-appear)

Course Title: American Literature II
Course Code: MECL 404

Time: 3hrs.
Marks: 100

The paper contains 3 sections A, B, C. All sections are compulsory

Section A

Marks: 10

1. "Mending Wall" is a metaphorical poem written in:
 - a. Free Verse
 - b. Heroic couplet
 - c. Blank Verse
 - d. Terza rima
2. "After Apple Picking" philosophizes on:
 - a. Love
 - b. Sacrifice
 - c. Life
 - d. Life and work
3. A Sestina has:
 - a. Six stanzas
 - b. Seven Stanzas
 - c. Six lines
 - d. Five lines
4. "The Fish Houses" is a poem about:
 - a. The past
 - b. Knowledge
 - c. Memory
 - d. All of the above
5. William Faulkner received the Nobel Prize in the year
 - (a) 1949
 - (b) 1951
 - (c) 1950
 - (d) 1960
6. When Honey is on the floor of the bathroom, what does she start doing?
 - a. Singing aloud
 - b. folding towels

- c. Peeling labels off bottles
- d. Crying

7. What is the ethnicity of Frank Alpine

- a. Jewish
- b. Russian
- c. Greek
- d. Italian

8. Where Frank Alpine and Helen Bober meet frequently:

- a. The Library
- b. The Park
- c. At the movies
- d. In a Pub

9. Who saves Denver's life in the woodshed?

- a. Stamp Paid
- b. Baby Suggs
- c. The Schoolmaster
- d. Paul D

10. Who are the "men without skin":

- a. Their saviours
- b. Slave masters
- c. Black slaves
- d. White Men

Section B

Marks: 30

Answer any five of the following in about 150-200 words.

1. Write your comments on, "Good fences good neighbours make," as the central idea of "Mending Wall."
2. Is nature gendered in "Brazil, Jan1, 1502"? Comment briefly.
3. Comment on William Faulkner's idea in his "Nobel Prize Acceptance Speech", that the abiding theme of literature is the human heart.
4. For Hemingway, nature is a place for recharging one's energies. Is this true for "The Snows of Kilimanjaro"? Comment.
5. George seems to gain power by the end of the play *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*. Will he be able to keep it?
6. Write a short note on the significance of Frank's love for St. Francis of Assisi in *The Assistant*?
7. Write a short note on Baby Suggs.
8. Discuss briefly Paul D's heart as a "Tobacco tin."

Section C

Marks: 60

Answer the following five questions in about 250- 300 words.

1. Robert Frost says in "Birches," "...Earth's the right place for love." Discuss the 'wisdom' revealed in his poetry in the light of this statement.

OR

Discuss Elizabeth Bishop's poetic technique with reference to her assertion that "it takes a great skill to make it seem natural."

2. "The world breaks everyone...But those that will not break it kills." Does the death of Harry in "The Snows of Killmanjaro," bear out this statement?

OR

Langston Hughes believes that the 'Black' writer must not write for the 'white' reader but for himself. Do you agree? Discuss.

3. In *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, George and Martha's deepest dissatisfactions are reflected in their conflicting descriptions of their imaginary son. Discuss.

OR

In *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* sex and infidelity are mostly used as weapons. Discuss.

4. In *The Assistant*, Bernard Malamud offers a perspective on Judaism and Christianity through the relationship of Morris Bober and Frank Alpine. What is this perspective? Discuss.

OR

Discuss the relationship between Frank Alpine and Helen Bober in *The Assistant*?

5. Discuss *Beloved* as a slave narrative.

OR

Discuss the role of *Beloved* in exorcising the past for Sethe.