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2 PGDE ENG 6

2012

(Nov.-Dec.)

ENGLISH

Paper : 206

(American Literature)

Full Marks – 80

Time – Three hours

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

1. (a) Attempt any *two* questions : $12 \times 2 = 24$
 - (i) Critically examine Faulkner's use of narrative style in *The Sound and the Fury*.
 - (ii) Attempt a critical note on *The Scarlet Letter* as a story of sin, crime and punishment.
 - (iii) How does the division between the narrator's perception of himself and others perception of him relate to the motif of blindness and invisibility in *Invisible Man* ? Elucidate.

(iv) Examine critically the significance of 'Benjy's section' in *The Sound and the Fury*.

(v) Do you think Roger Chillingworth stands as an embodiment of absolute 'evil' in *The Scarlet Letter*? Justify.

(vi) Examine *Invisible Man* as a critique of both capitalism and socialism.

(b) Attempt any *one* question : $6 \times 1 = 6$

(i) Write a brief note on the twin themes of guilt and redemption in *The Scarlet Letter*.

(ii) Write a brief note on the significance of the title *The Sound and the Fury*.

(iii) Comment on the motif of invisibility in *Invisible Man*.

2. (a) Attempt any *one* question : $15 \times 1 = 15$

(i) Examine how *Fences* redefines the American Dream.

(ii) "Blanche lived in a world in which fantasies and illusions blended seamlessly into reality". Attempt a critical evaluation of the character of Blanche Dubois.

(iii) Bring out the dramatic significance of the Poker game in Scene III and its significance in the development of the play *A Streetcar Named Desire*.

(b) Attempt any *one* question : $5 \times 1 = 5$

(i) Write a brief note on symbolism in *Fences*.

(ii) Explain this line—

“Whoever you are – I have always depended on the kindness of strangers.”

(iii) Write a brief note on the significance of the title *A Streetcar Named Desire*.

3. (a) Attempt any *one* question : $15 \times 1 = 15$

(i) Discuss the theme of universal love in Whitman’s “Song of Myself.”

(ii) Write a critical note on Frost’s treatment of nature in his poetry with special reference to the poems prescribed.

(iii) Discuss Pound as a modern poet with special reference to the poems prescribed.

(b) Explain with reference to context (any *one*) :

5×1=5

(i) I celebrate myself, and sing myself,
And what I assume you shall assume,
For every atom belonging to me as good
belongs to you.

(ii) Now, in its immortality, it plays
On the clear veil of her memory,
And makes a constant sacrament of
promise.

(iii) Friends make pretence of following to
the grave,
But before on is in it, their minds are
turned
And making the best of their way back
to life
And living people, and things they
understand.

4. Attempt any *one* question : 10×1=10

(i) Examine the role and functions of the poet as enumerated in Emerson's "The Poet."

(ii) Discuss the man-nature relationship as enumerated in Emerson's "The American Scholar."

(iii) How does Emerson emphasize on the idea of self-reliance in "The American Scholar?"