



LOYOLA COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), CHENNAI – 600 034

M.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION – ENGLISH LITERATURE

THIRD SEMESTER – APRIL 2014

EL 3804 - DRAMA (BRITISH & AMERICAN) FROM 1900

Date : 05/04/2014
Time : 01:00-04:00

Dept. No.

Max. : 100 Marks

PART-A

Explain with reference to the context the following and answer the questions given below: (10x2=20)

1. "Why did you leave the organization?"
Explain the context of this question.
2. "Stan, don't let them tell you what to do!"
Bring out the implications beneath this statement.
3. "Why are you wasting everybody's time, Webber?"
Is there a problem with Webber?
4. "There are only two sorts of soldiers: Old ones and young ones."
Comment on this statement.
5. "I don't believe the first man is a coward. I know he is a hero."
Why does the speaker say so?
6. "Ambition! That's the ticket. I have a brother who's very much like you, Daddy... ambitious."
Is ambition an essential ingredient of the American dream?
7. "The woman...said that she...had never been blessed with anything very much like a bumble
of joy."
What do you make of the statement?
8. "How can any one of us forget?...That's what makes it so hard for all of us. We can't forget."
What is the 'forgetting' spoken of here?
9. "He thinks money spent on a home is money wasted. He's lived too much in hotels...He doesn't
Understand a home."
Is "he" as miserly and materialistic as he is made out to be?

10. "He must have been a peculiar man, for your father had to go to work in a machine shop when he
Was only ten years old.
Comment on the empathy of the speaker.

PART-B

Answer Five of the following questions choosing not less than two from each section: (5x8=40marks)

Section-1

11. Discuss **The Importance of Being Earnest** as a satire on Victorian society.
12. Comment on the comic elements in **Juno and the Paycock**.
13. Beckett's **Waiting for Godot** is a telling commentary of the human condition. Discuss with textual evidence.

14. Critically comment on the role of the major characters in Stoppard's **Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are dead** .

Section-2

15. Edward Albee's **The American Dream** is at once, ridiculous and satiric. Discuss.
16. August Wilson's **Fences** explores African-American identity. Elucidate.
17. Lorraine Hansberry's **A Raisin in the Sun** points up the bitterness of the social conditions that forcibly and continuously deferred the aspirations of the Afro-American family in the play. Do you agree with the views?
18. Consider Arthur Miller's **Death of a Salesman** as expressionist drama.

PART-C

Attempt answers for the following questions in about 300 words each:
(2x20=40marks)

19.a) Critically examine Pinter's position on the impossibility of verification in human affairs in **The Birthday Party**. Give examples from the text.

Or

b). "**Arms and the Man** is a Pleasant Play with a profound message..
Substantiate with textual evidence.

20.a) How far do you agree with the view that Tennessee Williams' portrait of Blanche is one of the best ever produced in American drama?

Or

b). "The theatre," according to Eugene O'Neill should reveal to us who we are."
In the light of the statement, do you think the characters in "Long Day's Journey Into Night" are plausible and probable?