



**LOYOLA COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), CHENNAI – 600 034**

**M.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION – ENGLISH LITERATURE**

THIRD SEMESTER – NOVEMBER 2016

**EL 3804 - DRAMA (BRITISH & AMERICAN) FROM 1900**

Date: 01-11-2016  
Time: 09:00-12:00

Dept. No.

Max. : 100 Marks

**I. Explain with reference to the context the following and answer the questions given below.**

**(10x2=20 marks)**

1. “Clean-cut, Midwest farm boy type, almost insultingly good looking in a typically American way. Good profile, straight nose, honest eyes, wonderful smile....”  
Comment on this description.
2. “Oh, I’m so fortunate to have such a husband. Just think: I could have a husband who was poor, or argumentative, or a husband who sat in a wheelchair all day...”  
Why does the speaker say so?
3. “I know what doctors are. They’re all alike. Anything, they don’t care what, to keep you coming to them.”  
What is the contextual situation for such a statement to be uttered?
4. “None of us can help the things life has done to us. They’re done before you realize it, and once they’re done they make you do other things until at last every thing, comes between you and what you’d like to be, and you have lost your true self forever.”  
What is the speaker’s attitude to life in general?
5. Then Nietzsche must be right. “God is dead: of His pity for man hath God died.”  
Critically comment on Nietzsche’s militant atheism in this line.
6. ”We’re taking him to Monty,”  
Is there a hidden significance in this statement?
7. “You’re a plague, Webber. You’re an overthrow.”  
Why is such a verbal abuse hurled at Webber?
8. ” Get out of it. You succulent old washing bag.”  
Explain the context of this insult.
9. “Yes: that’s the secret of success in service.”  
What is the secret?
10. “I’m a professional soldier: I fight when I have to and am very glad to get out of it when I haven’t to.”  
What is the attitude of the speaker as a soldier?

**II. Write paragraphs on any FIVE of the following in about 150 words each: (5x8=40 marks)**

11. Compare and contrast the characters of Blanche Du Bois and Stanley Kowalski ..
12. Comment on the play “Long Day’s Journey Into Night” as a realistic tragedy.
13. How does August Wilson convincingly depict Black American culture in his “Fences”?
14. Critically examine ‘A Raisin in the Sun’ as Protest Literature.
15. Critically comment on the roles of Vladimir and Estragon in “Waiting for Godot”.
16. What kind of a comedy is in “Juno and the Paycock”?
17. Discuss Stoppard’s “Rosencrantz and Gilderstern are Dead” as a philosophical farce.
18. Analyze “The Importance of Being Earnest” as a socio-cultural documentary of Victorian society.

**III. Attempt an answer for the following questions in about 300 words each: (2x20=40 marks)**

19. a) Discuss Arthur Miller’s play, “Death of a Salesman? As an indictment of American society?”

**Or**

- b) Comment on “The American Dream” as Albee’s tirade against American culture.

20. a) Is Shaw’s play “Arms and the Man.” A play of ideas rather than action?

**Or**

- b) Critically examine “Waiting for Godot” as an Existential play.

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