LOYOLA COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), CHENNAI – 600 034

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

THIRD SEMESTER – **NOVEMBER 2012**

# EL 3500 - AMERICAN LITERATURE

 Date : 02/11/2012 Dept. No. Max. : 100 Marks

 Time : 9:00 - 12:00

**PART – A**

1. **Answer the following in about 50 words each: (10×2 =20 marks)**
2. Briefly explain Frost’s philosophy as expressed in his poem.
3. Comment on Emerson’s ideas on the immortality of the soul.
4. Comment on the titular significance of Wallace Steven’s poem.
5. A perusal of his poetry shows that Taylor was a thorough going Calvinist. Elaborate.
6. Identify Paine's [liberal philosophy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Liberalism) in ***The American Crisis.***
7. Discuss the character of Laura Wingfield.
8. How does Levertov celebrate the existence of animals?
9. What makes The Mayflower Compact the first governing document of Plymouth Colony?
10. What is Poe’s unity effect?
11. Poetry is a matter of skill and honesty in any form according to Marianne Moore. Do you agree?

**PART – B**

1. **Answer any FIVE of the following in about 150 words each: (5×8 =40 marks)**
2. Sandburg is called "indubitably an American in every pulse-beat". Comment.
3. Critically appreciate ***The Raven*** as a narrative poem.
4. How does Levertov emphasize bring out the idea of animals as old joy that returns in holy presence?
5. Discuss Cotton Mother’s influence on early New England.
6. **Death of a Salesman** is a tragedy about the differences between a New York family's dreams and the reality of their lives. Elucidate.
7. How does Albee explore the theme of isolation in **The zoo story?**
8. Bring out the narrative style in Poe’s short story.
9. What picture of the 18th century town in Puritan New England does Hawthorne present in “The Minister’s Black Veil”?

**PART – C**

1. **Answer the following in about 400 words each: (2×20 =40 marks)**
2. ‘Analysis of 20th century American poetry ranges from applying large-scale themes that address needs for the whole human race to intricate detail about the poets unique experiences and life’s journey.’ Substantiate.

**(OR)**

1. Why is ***The Glass Menagerie***called a memory play?
2. How is Willy Loman’s retreat into the past a form of escape from his unpleasant present reality in Miller’s play?

**(OR)**

1. *Of Mice and Men* teaches a grim lesson about the nature of human existence. Evaluate.

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