



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

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

**THIRD SEMESTER – NOVEMBER 2014**

**EL 3500 - AMERICAN LITERATURE**

Date : 31/10/2014

Dept. No.

Max. : 100 Marks

Time : 09:00-12:00

**PART – A**

**I. Answer the following questions in about 50 words each: (10 x 2 = 20 Marks)**

1. Why does 'the road not taken' matter so much to the poet?
2. What do you infer from the speaker's words 'They know not well the subtle ways I keep'?
3. Is poetry a destructive force, according to Wallace Stevens?
4. What was Amanda's reverie about her prime youth in "The Glass Menagerie"?
5. What is the 'American Crisis' that Paine refers to?
6. Tell briefly about the 'Mayflower Compact'.
7. What is the tragic flaw of the salesman-hero, Willy Loman?
8. Portray the animal imagery in "of Mice and Men".
9. What does Poe talk about the subject matter and length of a poem?
10. Bring out the gothic atmosphere in Poe's "The Cask of Amontillado".

**PART – B**

**II. Answer any FIVE of the following in about 150 words each: (5 x 8 = 40 Marks)**

11. Does Carl Sandburg say, "East or West, my native town is the best" in his poem "Chicago"?
12. Bring out the relationship between the critical theory and creative composition in Poe's "The Raven".
13. Consider Edward Albee's "The Zoo Story" an absurd play.
14. Examine the conflict between ideology and reality that Laura perceives in Porter's "Flowering Judas".
15. How does Cotton Mather defend the Salem Trials in "the Wonders of the Invisible World"?
16. Compare and contrast the personalities of George Milton and Lennie Small in "of Mice and Men".
17. Cull out the message conveyed by Thomas Jefferson in "Declaration of Independence".
18. "Tom Wingfield's departure from home is little more than the snap of a twig in the wind".  
Depict the Character of Tom in the back drop of his escapade and in relation to this statement.

**PART – C**

**III. Answer the following questions in about 400 words each: (2 x 20 =40 Marks)**

19. a) Does Miller's play "Death of a Salesman" convey the message about the death of a salesman, Willy Loman or death of the American dream? Substantiate your answer.  
(OR)  
b) What do you understand about the themes, issues, trend and other traits of the 20<sup>th</sup> century American Poetry with reference to the prescribed poems for your study?
20. a) How do the two main characters George and Lennie of the novel "of Mice and Men" embody the American struggle to survive the Great Depression?  
(OR)  
b) How does Stephen Crane picturise the struggle between man and the natural world around him in "Open Boat"?

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