

**B.A. 4th Semester (Honours) Examination, 2019****ENGLISH****(American Literature)****Paper : 401/C-8****Course ID : 40311****Time: 2 Hours****Full Marks: 40***The figures in the margin indicate full marks.**Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words as far as practicable.***Unit-I**

1. (a) Discuss the role of memory in the novel *Beloved*. 10  
Or,  
(b) "In the play *The Glass Menagerie* symbols play a vital role". Discuss.
2. (a) How does Faulkner present the theme of racism in his short story "Dry September"? 10  
Or,  
(b) 'Whitman's' "O Captain! My Captain!" is an elegy with a difference.' Discuss.
3. (a) Discuss the emergence of the idea of the "American Dream" in the historical context of the birth of a nation. 10  
Or,  
(b) Assess the contribution of Mark Twain as a pioneer of realism in American fiction.

**Unit-II**

4. Answer *any five* questions: 2×5=10
- (a) Comment on the significance of the 'menagerie' in the *Glass Menagerie*.  
(b) What is special about the character of Laura?  
(c) Why did Sethe escape from the plantation?  
(d) What is the significance of the 'antelope' metaphor in *Beloved*?  
(e) Bring out the symbolic significance of the 'ship' in the poem "O Captain! My Captain!".  
(f) Why does Hawkshaw jump from the car?  
(g) What is the significance of the title of Fitzgerald's essay "The Crack-up"?  
(h) How would explain the significance of the cracked plate in "The Crack-up"?  
(i) Comment briefly on the role of Melendon in "Dry September".  
(j) What does the physical journey to India symbolize in Whitman's poem?