

**P.G. Semester-IV Examination, 2023****ENGLISH**

Course ID : 40358      Course Code : ENG 408ME(H)

Course Title : American Literature II

Time : 2 Hours      Full Marks : 40

*The figures in the right-hand margin indicate marks.*

*Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words as far as practicable.*

*Answer all the questions.*

**UNIT-I**

1. Answer any **one** of the following questions:

1×12=12

- a) Critically comment on the symbolism associated with the story of the quest to escape into an ideal world in *The Catcher in the Rye*.
- b) Discuss Holden's role as the narrator of his own story through his selecting and shaping the experiences into a fictional form.
- c) How does Alice Walker address issues of gender and sexuality in *The Color Purple*?

- d) Discuss the importance of the relationship between Celie and Shug in *The Color Purple*.

**UNIT-II**

2. Answer any **one** of the following questions:

1×12=12

- a) How does the "road not taken" constantly baffle the imagination? Discuss.
- b) Comment on how Marge Piercy uses symbolism, diction, and imagery to critique the destructive expectations of society from a girlchild in the poem 'Barbie Doll'.
- c) Critically analyse how Miller's *Death of a Salesman* presents the masculine identity at crossroads in postwar America.
- d) Examine the use of the flashback technique in Miller's *Death of a Salesman*.

**UNIT-III**

3. Answer any **four** of the following short questions:

4×4=16

- a) Would you consider Holden Caulfield an adolescent lonely traveller? Briefly elaborate.

- b) "If a body catch a body coming through the rye".  
—Critically comment on Holden's misremembering of Burns's poem.
  - c) Write a brief note on the importance of Doris Baines in *The Color Purple*.
  - d) Elucidate on the significance of the opening line of *The Color Purple*.
  - e) Comment on the significance of "As the stir cracks and crazes their enamel".
  - f) Explain the context and significance of the following lines:  

Her good nature wore out  
like a fan belt.
  - g) Comment on Arthur Miller's use of Egyptian mythology in his depiction of Happy in *Death of a Salesman*.
  - h) Discuss the function of the images of water and the sea in *Death of a Salesman*.
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