



IV Semester B.A. Examination, May 2017  
(CBCS) (2012-2013 and Onwards)  
OPTIONAL ENGLISH (Paper – IV) (Fresh + Repeaters)  
American Literature and Facets of Language

Time : 3 Hours

Max. Marks : 100

**Instruction :** Answer *all* the Sections.

## SECTION – A

- I. Annotate **any three** of the following : (3×5=15)
- I find letters from God dropt in the street, and every one is sign'd by God's name,  
And I leave them where they are, for I know that wheresoe'er I go,  
Others will punctually come for ever and ever.
  - I wonder if when Years have piled –  
Some Thousands – on the Harm –  
That hurt them early – such a lapse  
Could give them any Balm –
  - My instep arch not only keeps the ache,  
It keeps the pressure of a ladder-round.
  - I read in the papers about the Freedom Train  
I heard on the radio about the Freedom Train  
I seen folks talking about the Freedom Train  
Lord, I've been a-waitin' for the Freedom Train !
  - Leaving behind nights of terror and fear  
I rise  
Into a daybreak that's wondrously clear  
I rise



## SECTION – B

## (Poetry)

- II. A) Answer **any one** of the following : (1×15=15)
- Emily Dickenson examines the nature of human suffering in 'I measure every Grief I meet'. Substantiate.
  - Critically analyze the poet's change of tone from uncertainty to optimism in the poem 'Freedom Train'.
- B) Write a short note on **any one** of the following : (1×5=5)
- Whitman's understanding of God.
  - Wallace Stevens' instruction on modern poetry.
  - The use of Similes in Maya Angelou's 'And Still I Rise'.



## SECTION – C

## (Drama)

- III. A) Answer **any one** of the following : (1×15=15)
- Discuss 'The Glass Menagerie' as a memory play.
  - Comment on Amanda's bond with Tom and Laura in the play 'The Glass Menagerie'.
- B) Write a short note on **any two** of the following : (2×5=10)
- Jim O Connor.
  - Tom's frequent visit to the movies.
  - Laura's disability.
  - The autobiographical element in the play.

## SECTION – D

## (Essays and Short Stories)

- IV. A) Answer **any one** of the following : (1×15=15)
- Bring out the dilemma of Sergeant Marx in reconciling the roles of a Jew, top sergeant and a human being in Philip Roth's story 'Defender of Faith'.
  - Comment on Douglass' attempts to educate himself.
- B) Write a short note on **any one** of the following : (1×5=5)
- Father Hooper's black veil.
  - The Red man's relationship with his ancestors.
  - Thoreau's suggestions for a better government.

## SECTION – E

## (Facets of Language)

- V. Read the poetry and prose passages and answer the questions set on them : (2×10=20)
- A) I Wandered lonely as a cloud  
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,  
When all at once I saw a crowd,  
A host, of golden daffodils ;  
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,  
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.
- Continuous as the stars that shine  
And twinkle on the Milky Way,  
They stretched in never-ending line  
Along the margin of a bay :  
Ten thousand saw I at a glance,  
Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.
- The waves beside them danced ; but they  
Out-did the sparkling waves in glee :  
A poet could not but be gay,  
In such a jocund company :  
I gazed – and gazed – but little thought  
What wealth the show to me had brought :



For oft, when on my couch I lie  
In vacant or in pensive mood,  
They flash upon that inward eye  
Which is the bliss of solitude ;  
And then my heart with pleasure fills,  
And dances with the daffodils.

- 1) What is the theme of the poem ? 2
- 2) Identify the similes in the poem. 2
- 3) Identify the hyperbole in the poem. 2
- 4) Identify the personification in the poem. 2
- 5) Identify the alliteration in the poem. 2

OR

Whose woods these are I think I know.  
His house is in the village though ;  
He will not see me stopping here  
To watch his woods fill up with snow.

My little horse must think it queer  
To stop without a farm house near  
Between the woods and frozen lake  
The darkest evening of the year.

He gives his harness bells a shake  
To ask if there is some mistake.  
The only other sound's the sweep  
Of easy wind and downy flake.

The woods are lovely, dark and deep,  
But I have promises to keep,  
And miles to go before I sleep,  
And miles to go before I sleep.

- 1) Comment on the theme of the poem. 2
  - 2) Identify an example of conjunction. 2
  - 3) Identify an example of hyperbole. 2
  - 4) Identify an example of refrain. 2
  - 5) Identify an example of alliteration. 2
- B) The river Krishna rises in western Maharashtra state in the Western Ghats range near the town of Mahabaleshwer, not far from the coast of the Arabian Sea. It flows east to Wai and then in a generally south easterly direction past Sangli to the border of Karnataka state. There the river turns east and flows in an irregular course across north-central Karnataka and then to the southeast and into southwestern Telangana state. It then veers southeast and then northeast, forming a portion of the border with Andhra Pradesh state. Turning east it flows into Andhra Pradesh to its delta head at Vijayawada, and from there flows southeast and then south until it enters the Bay of Bengal. The Krishna has a large and highly fertile delta continuous with that of the Godavari



River to the northeast. Although it is not navigable, the Krishna provides water for irrigation ; a weir at Vijayawada controls the flow of water into a system of canals in the delta. Because it is fed by seasonal monsoon rains, the river's flow undergoes great fluctuation during the year, limiting its usefulness for irrigation. The two largest tributaries are the Bhima (north) and the Tungabhadra (south). The latter has a dam at Hospet, completed in 1957, forming a reservoir and supplying hydroelectric power. Other hydroelectric installations along the river include those along the Telangana – Andhra Pradesh border at Srisaïlam and Nagarjuna Sagar.

- 1) What is the passage about ? 2
- 2) How is the central idea conveyed in the passage ? 2
- 3) Comment on the cohesive devices used in the passage. 2
- 4) What kind of sentence structures is used in the passage ? 2
- 5) Is the relationship between the addressor and addressee formal or informal ? Give reasons. 2

OR

The Ajanta Caves were carved in the 2<sup>nd</sup> century BC out of a horseshoe-shaped cliff along the Waghora River. They were used by Buddhist monks as prayer halls (Chaityagrihas) and monasteries (viharas) for about nine centuries, then abruptly abandoned. They fell into oblivion until they were rediscovered in 1819. The caves are numbered from east to west, 1 through 29. Today, a terraced path connects the cave, but in ancient times each was independently accessed from the riverfront. A viewing platform across the river affords an excellent view of the entire Ajanta site. The natural beauty of the area makes it clear why the monks chose the site for their spiritual pursuits.

Preserved inside the caves are many masterpieces of Buddhist art. Some reflect the earlier Theravada tradition of depicting the Buddha only in symbolic form such as a throne or footprints. Others, the Mahayana caves, feature colourful murals and statues depicting the life (and former lives) of the Buddha and various Bodhisattvas. The caves also depict scenes from everyday life and many include inscriptions indicating a prince or noble who gifted the cave to the monks.

- 1) What is the passage about ? 2
- 2) How is the central idea conveyed in the passage ? 2
- 3) Comment on the cohesive devices used in the passage. 2
- 4) What kind of sentence structures is used in the passage ? 2
- 5) Is the relationship between the addressor and addressee formal or informal ? Give reasons. 2