

STELLA MARIS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS) CHENNAI 600086
(For candidates admitted during the academic year 2015-16 & thereafter)

SUBJECT CODE: 15EL/MC/AL65

B. A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, APRIL/MAY 2021
BRANCH XII - ENGLISH
SIXTH SEMESTER

COURSE: MAJOR CORE
PAPER: AMERICAN LITERATURE

TIME: 1 ½ HOURS
MAX. MARKS: 50

SECTION A

I. Answer any three of the following in about 150 words. (3x5=15)

1. Identify and comment on any one image Frost employs in "Birches".
2. How does Hughes represent time in "A Negro Speaks of Rivers"?
3. Discuss any one instance of mirroring in the plot structure of *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*.
4. How does Amy Tan portray the Chinese-American community in "Two Kinds"?
5. Comment on the tone and language employed by e e cummings in his poem "next to of course god america"

SECTION B

II. Answer any two of the following in about 400 words. (2x10=20)

6. Is Huck Finn's moral growth portrayed convincingly by Mark Twain? Give reasons in support of your answer.
7. Elizabeth Bishop and Hemingway each portray a human-animal conflict in their texts. Which one do you relate to better and why?
8. Hemingway's Santiago observes that, "A man can be destroyed but not defeated." How does the novella portray this triumph of the human spirit?
9. Choose any text prescribed for study and discuss how it offers a critique of the American nation.

SECTION C

III. Analyse the following passage in about 600 words with reference to theme, structure, tone and imagery. (1x15=15)

10.

Equinox
Joy Harjo

I must keep from breaking into the story by force
for if I do I will find myself with a war club in my hand
and the smoke of grief staggering toward the sun,
your nation dead beside you.

I keep walking away though it has been an eternity
and from each drop of blood
springs up sons and daughters, trees,
a mountain of sorrows, of songs.

I tell you this from the dusk of a small city in the north
not far from the birthplace of cars and industry.
Geese are returning to mate and crocuses have
broken through the frozen earth.

Soon they will come for me and I will make my stand
before the jury of destiny. Yes, I will answer in the clatter
of the new world, I have broken my addiction to war
and desire. Yes, I will reply, I have buried the dead

and made songs of the blood, the marrow.
