

STELLA MARIS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS) CHENNAI 600 086
(For candidates admitted during the academic year 2019 – 2020 and thereafter)

SUBJECT CODE: 19EL/MC/AL65

B. A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, APRIL 2023
BRANCH XII ENGLISH
SIXTH SEMESTER

COURSE: MAJOR CORE
TITLE: AMERICAN LITERATURE

TIME: 3 HOURS
MAX. MARKS: 100

SECTION A

I. Answer any four of the following questions in about 250 words each. (4x10=40)

1. “Do not seek yourself outside yourself.” Discuss this axiom with reference to Emerson’s “Self Reliance”.
2. Comment on the theme of the poem “Fire and Ice”.
3. Discuss how Joy Harjo’s poem “Equinox” explores the theme of old age, death and life.
4. “A Dream Deferred” by Langston Hughes is a powerful poem expressing the feelings of the poet as a black man navigating his career and personal life in a white dominated world. Elucidate.
5. Analyse the character of Willy Loman.
6. Discuss how a mother pushes her daughter to become a child prodigy in the story “Two Kinds” by Amy Tan.

SECTION B

II. Answer any three of the following questions in about 600 words each. (3x20=60)

7. “Birches” is a poem about erotic fantasy. Elucidate.
8. Hughes emphasises the history of Black men and women and what they had to endure throughout the centuries of slavery and discrimination with reference to the poem “The Negro speaks of Rivers”. Comment.
9. Critically analyse the poem “The Fish” by Elizabeth Bishop.
10. Discuss race and identity in Mark Twain’s *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*.
11. Comment on e e cummings’ views on patriotism and war.
12. “A man can be destroyed but not defeated.” Discuss this with reference to *The old Man and the Sea*.
