

STELLA MARIS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS) CHENNAI – 86
(For candidates admitted from the academic year 2023 – 2024)

B.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, APRIL 2026
ENGLISH AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS
SIXTH SEMESTER

COURSE : MAJOR CORE
PAPER : AMERICAN LITERATURE
SUBJECT CODE : 23CE/MC/AL65
TIME : 3 HOURS

MAX. MARKS: 100

Q. No	SECTION A		
I.	Answer any four questions in about 150 words each. (4 x 5 = 20)	CO	KL
1.	What does the “transparent eyeball” in Emerson’s <i>Nature</i> Chapter 1 mean?	1	1
2.	What is Imagism? Illustrate with reference to “The Red Wheelbarrow.”		
3.	Describe the qualities of the people in “Chicago” as depicted by Carl Sandburg.		
4.	How does Silko’s “In Cold Storm Light” reflect the poet’s indigenous culture?		
5.	Explain why Amy Tan chose to name her essay, “Mother Tongue”.		
II.	Answer any two questions in about 250 words each. (2 x 10 = 20)	CO	KL
6.	Comment on the relationship between Santiago and Manolin in Hemingway’s <i>The Old Man and the Sea</i>	2	2
7.	How does Faulkner portray the expectations placed on women in the post-Civil War South through Emily’s life in “A Rose for Emily”?		
8.	Discuss how Cummings and Ginsberg criticise American society and politics in their poems.		
III.	Answer any one question in about 350 words. (1 x 20 = 20)	CO	KL
9.	Explain how “Mother Tongue” reflects the Chinese immigrant experiences in America.	3	3
10.	What do the “flashbacks” in <i>Death of a Salesman</i> reveal about Willy’s character?		
IV.	Answer any one question in about 350 words. (1 x 20 = 20)	CO	KL
11.	Analyse how Hemingway uses the sea as a symbol to reflect Santiago’s struggles and resilience in <i>The Old Man and the Sea</i>	4	4
12.	Discuss how the poem “The Negro Speaks of Rivers” represents the African-American history and identity.		
V.	Choose any one of the following texts and answer the sub-questions in about 350 words each. (1 x 20 = 20)	CO	KL
13.	Mark Twain’s <i>The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn</i> i) Evaluate how Huck’s relationship with Jim challenges the racial perceptions of the society during the period they lived in. (10) ii) Huck’s rejection of the civilised society at the end of the novel is an act of rebellion. Present your argument with instances from the text. (10)	5	5, 6
14.	Arthur Miller’s <i>The Death of a Salesman</i> i) Evaluate how Willy Loman’s belief in the American Dream influences his relationships with his family. (10) ii) Is Willy’s failure to achieve the American Dream a result of his personal flaws or the expectations of society? Support your answer with instances from the text. (10)	5	5, 6