

B. A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, APRIL 2015  
BRANCH XII – ENGLISH  
SECOND SEMESTER

COURSE : MAJOR – CORE  
PAPER : AMERICAN LITERATURE  
TIME : 3 HOURS

MAX. MARKS: 100

SECTION-A

I Analyse any TWO of the following passage with reference to theme, technique  
Ideology choosing one from poetry and one from drama: (2x15=30)

1. Willy: Don't be so modest. You always started too low. Walk in with a big laugh. Don't look worried. Start off with a couple of your good stories to lighten things up. It's not what you say, it's how you say it - because personality always wins the day.  
Linda: Oliver always thought the highest of him---  
Willy: Will you let me talk?  
Biff: Don't yell at her, Pop, will ya?  
Willy (angrily): I was talking, wasn't I?  
Biff: I don't like you yelling at her all the time, and I'm tellin' you, that's all.  
Willy: What're you, takin' over the house?  
Linda: Willy----  
Willy (turning on her): Don't take his side all the time, goddammit!  
Biff (furiously): Stop yelling at her!

Or

2. Linda: Then make Charley your father, Biff. You can't do that, can you? I don't say he's a great man. Willy Loman never made a lot of money. His name was never in the paper. He's not the finest character that ever lived. But he's a human being and a terrible thing is happening to him. So attention must be paid. He's not to be allowed to fall into his grave like an old dog. Attention, attention must be finally paid to such a person.

3. I've known rivers:  
I've known rivers ancient as the world and older than the  
Flow of human blood in human veins  
My soul has grown deep like the rivers.

Or

4. "Home is the place where, when you have to go there,  
They have to take you in."

## SECTION-B

1. Answer any Three in about 250 words each: (3x10=30)

1. Write a note on Frost's poems that reflect an engagement with rural and farm life.
2. Comment on the influence of Harlem Renaissance in Langston Hughes' *The Negro Speaks of Rivers*.
3. Identify the major concerns in Joy Harjo's *Equinox*.
4. What is the metaphorical significance of Maya Angelou's poem *Caged Birds*?
5. Comment on "*next to of course god America*" with reference to its style.

## SECTION-C

Answer any TWO in about 500 words: (2x20=40)

1. Discuss the significance of the religious symbols in *The Old Man and the Sea*.
2. Analyse *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* as a novel of social realism and highlight the satirical tone.
3. Discuss mother daughter relationship in "Two Kinds".
4. Examine *Death of a Salesman* as a tragedy.