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SECOND SEMESTER M.A. DEGREE (REGULAR/SUPPLEMENTARY) EXAMINATION, APRIL 2024

(CBCSS)

English

ENG2C07—AMERICAN LITERATURE

(2019 Admission onwards)

Time: Three Hours

Maximum: 30 Weightage

- I. Annotate any *two* of the following. Each question carries 2 weightage:
 - 1 Two months after marching through Boston,

half the regiment was dead;

at the dedication,

William. James could almost hear the bronze Negroes breathe.

- 2 Let the wenches dawdle in such dress
 - As they are used to wear, and let the boys

Bring flowers in last month's newspapers.

Let be be finale of seem.

3 "Get thee back into the tempest and the Night's Plutonian shore!

Leave no black plume as a token of that lie thy soul hath spoken!

Leave my loneliness unbroken!- quit the bust above my door!

Take thy beak from out my heart, and take thy form from off my door!"

4. Living in the Borderlands means you fight hard to resist the gold elixir beckoning from the bottle,

the pull of the gun barrel,

the rope crushing the hollow of your throat.

 $(2 \times 2 = 4 \text{ weightage})$

Turn over

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- II. Write short essays on any *two* of the following in 200 words :
 - 5 The symbolism of the white whale in Moby Dick.
 - 6 The relationship between Huck and Jim.
 - 7 Race relations in Baraka's Dutchman.
 - 8 Theme of death in Plath's "Edge".

 $(2 \times 3 = 6 \text{ weightage})$

III. Write essays on any four of the following in 450 words choosing one at least from each section :

Section A

- 9 Comment on the elements of realism and anti-realism in *The Glass Menagerie*.
- 10 How does O'Neill portray the dynamics of power and oppression in the play, and how do these themes manifest in Jones' character.

Section B

- 11 "Self -reliance" is an expression of that fierce individualism that was a striking feature of Transcendentalism—Elucidate.
- 12 Analyse the ways in which Morrison examines the intersections of race, class, and gender in the *Tar Baby*.

Section C

- 13 Discuss the themes of spirituality and transcendence as expressed in Whitman's "Passage to India".
- 14 Discuss the characteristics and defining features of American confessional poetry with special reference to the poets prescribed for study.

 $(4 \times 5 = 20 \text{ weightage})$