

2025

ENGLISH — HONOURS

Paper : DSCC-4

(American Literature - I)

Full Marks : 75

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks.**Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words as far as practicable.*

Answer the following questions (within 600 words).

1. (a) Attempt a critical appreciation of the poem 'Harlem' by Langston Hughes. 15
Or
 (b) Discuss the theme of death in Robert Frost's poem, 'After Apple Picking'. 15
Or
 (c) Analyse how Plath critiques patriarchy and male authority in her poem 'Daddy'. 15
2. (a) Examine the role of the sea in *The Old Man and the Sea*. 15
Or
 (b) How does Hemingway present the idea that "a man can be destroyed but not defeated" in *The Old Man and the Sea*? Answer with close reference to the text. 15
3. (a) Write a note on the narrative style of 'The Purloined Letter'. 15
Or
 (b) Discuss how Faulkner explores the theme of racial prejudice in 'Dry September'. 15
4. (a) Analyse the father-son conflict between Willy and Biff in *Death of a Salesman*. 15
Or
 (b) Write a critical note on Miller's use of symbols in *Death of a Salesman*. 15
5. Answer **any three** of the following questions (each within 200 words) : 5×3
 - (a) 'O Captain! My Captain! Our fearful trip is done,
 The ship has weather'd every rock, the prize we sought is won.' — Explain.
 - (b) What does the "ladder sticking through a tree
 Toward heaven" symbolize in 'After Apple Picking'?
 - (c) Write a short note on the ambiguous ending of 'Dry September'.
 - (d) Briefly discuss the battle between Santiago and the fish in *The Old Man and the Sea*.
 - (e) Briefly discuss Uncle Ben's character in *Death of a Salesman*.