

This question paper contains 3 printed pages]

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S. No. of Question Paper : 3009

Unique Paper Code : 2031303

F-5

Name of the Paper : American Literature

Name of the Course : B.A. (Hons.) English

Semester : III

Duration : 3 Hours

Maximum Marks : 75

(Write your Roll No. on the top immediately on receipt of this question paper.)

All questions are compulsory.

(a) "Anything dead coming back to life hurts." Discuss how Toni Morrison's *Beloved* explores remembering and forgetting with reference to this statement.

Or

(b) Write a note on Schoolteacher.

10

2. (a) "It must not be supposed that the life of a personage naturally so active as Phoebe could be wholly confined within the precincts of the old Pyncheon House." In the light of this statement, comment on Phoebe's growth into adulthood/womanhood.

Or

(b) Write a note on the significance of Alice Pyncheon.

10

P.T.O.

3. Identify and critically comment on the following lines :

10

(a) My father does not feel my arm, he has no pulse nor will;

The ship is anchor'd safe and sound, its voyage closed and done;

From fearful trip, the victor ship, comes in with object won;

Exult, O shores, and ring, O bells!

But I, with mournful tread,

Walk the deck my captain lies,

Fallen cold and dead.

Or

(b) Nor can I, like that fluent sweet tongued Greek

Who lisped at first, in future times speak plain.

By art he gladly found what he did seek,

A full requital of his striving pain.

Art can do much, but this maxim's most sure:

A weak or wounded brain admits no cure.

4. (a) Critically examine the portrayal of slavery in *Beloved*. How does Morrison show Sethe and Paul D as self-defining agents of their own humanity ?

15

Or

(b) Analyse the importance of storytelling in *Beloved* as a novel that grapples with "unspeakable thoughts, unspoken".

5. (a) Comment on 'Puritanism' as a theoretical framework of the text, *The House of the Seven Gables*. 15

Or

- (b) *The House of the Seven Gables* can be read as a novel or a romance or both. Do you agree? Give a reasoned answer.
6. (a) What role does imagination play in the story "The Purloined Letter"? At what point/s do characters appear to be using (or misusing) their imaginations? 15

Or

- (b) Does McLendon have any redeeming qualities in "Dry September"? Discuss the extent to which you can feel sympathy for him.