

LOYOLA COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), CHENNAI – 600 034

M.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION – ENGLISH LITERATURE

THIRD SEMESTER – NOVEMBER 2009

EL 3804 - DRAMA (BRITISH & AMERICAN) FROM 1900

Date & Time: 05/11/2009 / 9:00 - 12:00 Dept. No.

Max. : 100 Marks

PART A

*Explain with reference to the context the following and answer the questions given below:
(10x2=20 marks)*

1. "My lady and my saint!"

How genuine is this remark?

2. "Instinct, dear young lady. Instinct, and experience of the world."

What prompts the speaker to make this statement.

3. "You have deceived me. You are my rival."

Is this statement tragic or funny?

4. "No, anyway, this isn't my birthday."

Bring out the implications in this remark.

5. "I am telling you, Webber, you're a washout."

Identify the speaker and explain the context of this statement.

6. "You've never known the value of a dollar and never will! You've never saved a dollar in your life!"

Is the listener as helpless as he is made out to be?

7. "None of us can help the things life has done to us...and you have lost your true self forever."

What is the pet philosophy of the speaker?

8. "The past is the present, isn't it? It's the future, too. We all try to lie out of that but life won't let us."

How is time a continuum in the opinion of the speaker?

9. "Old people are very good at listening; old people don't like to talk."

What is the satirical implication in this statement?

10. "Boy, you know what you are, don't you? You're the American Dream, that's what you are."

How does the young man qualify to be the perfect example of the American Dream?

PART-B

Answer Five of the following questions choosing not less than two from each section:
(5x8=40 marks)

Section-1

11. Discuss Oscar Wilde's **The Importance of Being Earnest** as a Comedy of Manners?
12. Critically comment on the theme and characterization in Sean O'Casey's **Juno and the Paycock**?
13. Explain the role of the Shakesperean minor characters in Stoppard's play **Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead**.
14. Discuss the problem of Time and Waiting in **Waiting for Godot**.

Section-2

15. Trace the theme of illusion and reality in **A Street Car Named Desire**.
16. Is Willy Loman in **Death of a Salesman** a canonized hero or a vulgarized one?
17. "**A Raisin in the Sun** lays bare the truth of Afro-American people's lives on the stage. " Elucidate.
18. "Fences can keep people 'in' as well as 'out'. Consider the significance of the title, **Fences** by August Wilson.

PART C

Attempt answers for the following questions in about 300 words each: 2x 20 =40

19.a) " A play can be a vehicle for debating views on life. Critically assess **Arms and the Man** in the light of the above comment."

Or

b) Does Pinter's **The Birthday Party** deal with some deep dread at the heart of modern living?

20.a) Consider Eugene O'Neill's **Long Day's Journey Into Night** as expressionist drama.

Or

b) Critically examine Edward Albee's **The American Dream** as Absurd Drama.l
