

**M.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION –
DECEMBER, 2018.**

First Year

English

AMERICAN LITERATURE

Time : 3 hours

Maximum marks : 75

PART A — (3 × 5 = 15 marks)

Answer any **THREE** of the following in about
50 words each.

1. What are the themes employed by Robert Lowell in "Skunk Hour"?
2. Describe Sofia's attitude towards Billy and Eleanor Jane.
3. How had Abigail been previously employed in *The Crucible*?
4. Describe Whitman's relationship with his readers throughout *Leaves of Grass*.
5. What is the significance of sexuality in the play *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf*?

PART B — ($3 \times 10 = 30$ marks)

Answer any THREE of the following in about
150 words each.

6. What are the philosophical elements in the poem “Birches”?
7. How are Rosicky’s flashbacks to his past experiences in London and New York significant?
8. How does Newland Archer change throughout the story?
9. What is Thoreau’s opinion on wealth and consumption? Why does he say that the rich are less likely to practice civil disobedience?
10. Critically summarize Tennessee Williams *The Glass Menagerie*.

PART C — ($2 \times 15 = 30$ marks)

Answer any TWO of the following in about
300 words each.

11. How is *The Age of Innocence* a novel about being trapped in time?
12. Summarize the basic idea of Emerson’s “The American Scholar.”
13. Explain the significance of the title *Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*