



**GIET UNIVERSITY, GUNUPUR – 765022**  
 MA (English)(Third Semester) Examinations, December – 2022  
**20ECC303 – American Literature 1 : Poetry and Philosophy**

Time: 3 hrs

Maximum: 70 Marks

(The figures in the right hand margin indicate marks.)

**PART – A****(2 x 10 = 20 Marks)****Q.1. Answer ALL Questions**

- What is the central theme of Ralph Waldo Emerson's essay, The American Scholar?
- How does Emerson view society, and how does he feel self-reliance relates to it?
- In the poem, The Road Not Taken, what does the yellow wood symbolize?
- What, according to the poet, are the causes for walls breaking down?
- What are the sounds that the speaker hears in the woods?
- In Walden, why does Thoreau compares himself to a rooster trying to wake his neighbours?
- What is the inner conflict in man as expressed in the poem "Stopping by Wood on a Snowy Evening"?
- Does the title of the poem "After Apple-Picking" refer to the completion of task of life? If not, what does it suggest?
- What does West- running Brook means?
- Is the narrator dying or dreaming in the poem "After Apple-Picking"?

**PART – B****(10 x 5 = 50 Marks)**Answer ANY FIVE questions

Marks

- Give the central idea of the Poem, "After Apple-Picking" and Justify the title. 5
  - Explain the themes in the poem, "The Gift Outright" by Robert Frost? 5
- With reference to the poem, 'Birches', answer why was swinging the best sport for the young boy? How does the poet attempt to escape from the routine life? Why is this escape so necessary for him? 5
  - According to the poet, one should always take the road travelled by others. Explain in your own words. 5
- What questions do you think Whitman is trying to answer or at least deal with Throughout Song of Myself? Why are these questions so important to him? 5
  - In Walden, Chapter 1 (Economy) why does Thoreau describe it as a misfortune when his neighbours inherited farms, houses, barns, cattle, and farming tools? 5
- Bring out the contrast and similarities between the two roads mentioned in the poem, The Road not Taken. 5
  - Contrast Thoreau's Walden with Emerson's "Self-Reliance." 5
- Explain the line, "And miles to go before I sleep," with a short poem summary? 5
  - Bring out the in depth and philosophical elements of the poem, "Birches". 5
- How far can one enunciate Birches being a poem showing the growth of a child from innocence, gradually bending down, embracing the experience and adhering to one's loss of childhood? 5

- b. "I Celebrate Myself" is the first section of Whitman's poem "Song of Myself." In what ways does "I celebrate myself" serve as an appropriate introduction to the themes and poetic vision described in these excerpts? 5
- 8. a. How does Walt Whitman show individualism and idealism in his poem "Song of Myself"? 5
- b. Why did Thoreau live on the shore of Walden Pond, and why did he write Walden? 5

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