



**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH**  
**NAMBOL L. SANOI COLLEGE, NAMBOL**

**BA English Honours VI Semester**  
**EnH: 609- Commonwealth and American Literature**

**UNIT-I (Poetry)**

**A. Explain, with reference to the context, answer the following. Each question carries 7 marks**

1. There are difference of course: (2016)  
the lack of reliable charts; more important, the distraction of small details:  
your shoe among the brambles under the chair where it shouldn't be;
2. Without songs, architecture, history : (2016, 2018)  
The emotions and superstitions  
of younger lands,  
Her rivers of water drawn among  
inland sands,  
The river of her immense stupidity.
3. I who have cursed (2016, 2018)  
The drunken officer of British rule,  
how choose  
Between this Africa and the English  
tongue I love?  
Betray them both, or give back what  
they give?
4. I who have cursed (2016, 2018)  
The drunken officer of British rule,  
how choose  
Between this Africa and the English  
tongue I love?  
Betray them both, or give back what  
they give?
5. A compass is useless; also (2017, 2019)  
trying to take directions  
from the movements of the sun,  
which are erratic;
6. And her five cities, like five (2017, 2019)  
teeming sores

Each drains her: a vast  
                                 parasite robber-state  
 Where second-hand Europeans  
                                 pullulate  
 Timidly on the edge of alien shores

6. Delirious as these worried (2017)  
                                 beasts, his wars  
 Dance to the tightened carcass  
                                 of a drum  
 While he calls courage still  
                                 that native dread  
 Of the white peace contracted  
 by the dead.

7. No wonder Eliot ran away from you (2017,  
 and Pound went crazy 2019)  
 Turning away from your deserts  
 Frost found a small satisfaction  
 then fell silent.

8. Whatever I do I must (2018)  
 keep my head. I know  
 it is easier for me to lose my way  
 forever here, than in other landscapes.

9. Take (2018)  
 Your hand off our shoulders  
 Our names from your computerized  
                                 prize lists  
 and your leprous fingers off our poetry.

10. But still worm, colonel of carrion, (2019)  
                                 cries:  
 “Waste no compassion on these  
 separate dead.”  
 Statistics justify and scholars seize  
 The salients of colonial policy.

**B. Answer the following questions in about 30-40 words each. Each question carries 3 marks.**

1. “In this country the animals (2016,  
 have the faces of people”; 2019)  
 Explain the underlying idea of the above lines.
2. “And being home, memory become so a passion (2016)  
 With which she feeds her broods and straws her nests;”  
 What is the meaning of the above lines?
3. “They have the faces of (2017)

- no-one”  
Explain the meaning of the above lines.
4. “Alone in the bright host of  
her companions,  
Lost in the blue unfriendliness  
of space.” (2017,  
2019)  
Bring out the underlying idea of the above lines.
5. “There was a country where  
fine poems lay” (2017,  
2019)  
Briefly describe the country referred to here.
6. “Good fences make good  
neighbours.” (2017,  
2019)  
Explain the underlying idea of the above line.
7. “Their eyes  
flash once in a car headlights  
and are gone.” (2018)  
Why does the poet say so?
8. “Year after year a speck on the map  
divided (2018)  
By a whole hemisphere, summons  
her to come;”  
Explain the underlying idea in the above lines.
9. “There was a country where,  
when sorrow gazed” (2018)  
Briefly describe the country referred to here.
10. “Stay where you are until our backs  
are turned! (2018)  
We wear our fingers rough with  
handling them.”  
Explain the underlying idea in the above lines.

**c. Each question carries 12 marks.**

1. Give the significance of the title of the poem, *An If of History*. (2017,  
2019)
2. Bring out the central idea of the poem, *The Year of the Foxes*. (2017,  
2019)
3. Write a critical appreciation of the poem. *The Year of the Foxes*. (2018)
4. Dwell on the theme of love, life and death in Walt Whitman’s poem,  
*Out of the Cradle Endlessly Rocking*. (2017,  
2019)

5. Give the central idea of the poem, *Out of the Cradle Endlessly Rocking*. (2018)
6. Write a critical appreciation of Robert Frost's poem, *The Road Not Taken*. (2017, 2019)
7. Dwell on the theme of the poem, *The Road Not Taken*. (2018)
8. Bring out the significance of the title of the poem, *Those Gods are Children*. (2018)

### UNIT-II (Fiction)

**D. Answer the following questions in about 25-30 words each. Each question carries 2 marks.**

1. Why does Santiago call the Marlin 'brother' and 'more noble'? (2017, 2019)
2. Describe Santiago's dream of porpoises. (2017, 2019)
3. Why have Manolin's parents transferred him from Santiago's boat to another boat? (2018)
4. What Christian virtues does Santiago acquire from the fish Marlin? (2018)
5. What does the word 'cross' symbolize in *Devil on the Cross*? (2017)
6. What does the word 'Devil' symbolize in the novel, *Devil on the Cross*? (2018)
7. Explain the symbolic meaning of 'cross' in *Devil on the Cross*. (2019)
8. Describe Peter's attitude towards Marian. (2017, 2019)
9. Who shoots Lennie and why? (2017, 2018)
10. Why does George shoot Lennie? (2016, 2019)
11. How does Peter behave with Marian? (2016, 2018)

**E. Answer the following questions. Each question carries 10 marks.**

1. Bring out the characteristics of Hemingway's code hero with reference to *The Old Man and the Sea*. (2017)
2. How far is the novel, *The Old Man and the Sea* a plea for human fellowship? (2016, 2017, 2019)
3. Discuss the allegorical and symbolic significance of the story in *The Old Man and the Sea*. (2016, 2018)
4. Dwell on the relationship between Santiago and Manolin in *The Old Man and the Sea*. (2018)
5. Examine the characteristics of Hemingway's Code Hero with reference to *The Old Man and the Sea* (2019)
6. Critically assess the theme of the novel, *Devil on the Cross*. (2016)
7. Give a critique of the novel, *Devil on the Cross*. (2017, 2019)
8. Give the significance of the title, *Devil on the Cross*. (2017, 2019)
9. Discuss the appropriateness of the title, *Devil on the Cross*. (2016, 2018)
10. Dwell on the theme of the novel, *Devil on the Cross*. (2018)
11. Critically assess the characters of George and Lennie in *Of Mice and Men*. (2017, 2019)
12. Critically examine the theme of Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men*. (2017)
13. Dwell on theme of Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men*. (2019)
14. Make a comparative analysis of the characters of George and Lennie in *Of Mice and Men*. (2016, 2018)
15. Give a critique of Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men*. (2016, 2018)
16. Dwell on the significance of the title, *The Edible Woman*. (2016)
17. Critically evaluate *The Edible Woman* as a novel of woman's search for humanity and human identity. (2016)
18. Critically discuss the theme of woman's search for humanity and human identity in *The Edible Woman*. (2017, 2019)

19. Bring out the significance of the title, *The Edible Woman*. (2017, 2018)
20. Critically assess *The Edible Woman* as a novel of woman's search for humanity and human identity. (2018)
21. Discuss the appropriateness of the title, *The Edible Woman*. (2019)

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