 LOYOLA COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), CHENNAI – 600 034

**M.A.** DEGREE EXAMINATION - **ENGLISH LITERATURE**

THIRD SEMESTER – APRIL 2011

# EL 3804 - DRAMA (BRITISH & AMERICAN) FROM 1900

Date : 05-04-2011 Dept. No. Max. : 100 Marks

Time : 1:00 - 4:00

**PART-A**

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

1. “What an army! … the officers send for their wives to keep discipline!”

Comment on the implicit satire in this statement.

1. “It’s a funny sight. It’s like slinging a handful of peas against a window pane”.

What sight is the speaker referring to?

1. I dare say you think of us as a couple of grown – up babies, don’t you?”

What occasion does warrant this statement?

1. “He needs special treatment”?

Identify the speaker and explain the context.

1. “Stan, don’t let them tell you what to do!”

Highlight the deeper meaning in this statement.

1. “Although I couldn’t help loving you, I would never have married you if I’ d known you drank so much”.

Does the speaker truly love him in spite of everything?

1. “He thinks money spent on a home is money wasted”.

Is the person addressed really rootless?

1. “It’s just that I wasn’t asleep when you came in my room last night”.

What does the person imply?

1. “That’s the way things are today; you just can’t get satisfaction; you just try”.

Can you get ‘satisfaction’ out of trivial things?

1. “Ambition! that’s the ticket. I have a brother who’s very much like you, Daddy…. Ambition”.

Is the statement about the great American dream?

**PART- B**

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

**Section-1**

1. Comment on **The Importance of Being Earnest** as a comedy of manners.
2. Discuss the theme and comic elements in **Juno and the Paycock.**
3. What are the roles of Nicola and Louka in **Arms and the Man**.
4. Analyse **Waiting for Godot** as a play on the futility of human existence.

**Section-2**

1. Arthur Millers’ **Death of a Salesman** is a portrait of an American dreamer. Elucidate.
2. **‘Fences’** by August Wilson explores “ The dark forest of the soul”. Do you agree with the view?
3. “Never before in the entire history of the American theater has so much of the truth of Black peoples’ lives been seen on the stage”. Is it true with regard to **‘A Raisin in the Sun’**?
4. Explain the tragic vision of Tenessee Williams with reference to **‘A Street Car Named Desire’.**

**PART- C**

Attempt answers for the following questions in about 300 words each: (2x20=40marks)

1. a) Discuss Pinter’s **The Birthday Party** as a comedy with tragic elements.

(or)

b) Critically examine the delineation of Romantic Love in real life in **Arms and the Man.**

20. a) “The health of a nation, a society, can be determined by the art it demands,” so wrote Edward Albee. Consider this statement in the light of his play, **‘The American Dream’.**

(or)

b) **‘Long Days’ Journey Into Night’** is one unending psychological journey for most of the characters. Substantiate the view.

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