 LOYOLA COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), CHENNAI – 600 034

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

THIRD SEMESTER – APRIL 2012

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

Date : 17-04-2012 Dept. No. Max. : 100 Marks

Time : 1:00 - 4:00

**PART-A**

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

1. “I believe you would rather be my servant than my husband.”

What prompts the speaker to make this assessment?

1. “Yes: that’s Don Quixote: not a doubt of it.”

Who is referred to as Quixotic here and why?

03. “A man who has spoiled all his chances in life through an incurably romantic disposition.” Identify the speaker and the occasion that warrants this confession.

04. “Oh, Meg, two men came up to me on the beach last night.”

Is there anything more to this statement of a fact?

05.. Everywhere you go these days it’s like a funeral.”

Explain the significance of this statement.

06. “Now that you’re here, I don’t suppose you could go away and maybe come back some other time”. Explain the ridiculousness of the situation.

07. “There’s too much hostility in the world these days as it is”.

How is hostility at home related to hostility in the world?

08. “It’s been heaven to me. This home has been a home again”.

Is it home, sweet home, for all concerned?

09. “How can anyone of us forget?... that’s what makes it so hard – for all of us. We can’t forget. Why has the speaker not learnt the art of forgetting?

10. “Only the past when you were happy is real”. What is the pet philosophy of the speaker?

**PART- B**

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

**Section-1**

11.Discuss the characterization in **Waiting for Godot** .

12.Examine the theme and wit in **The Importance of Being Earnest.**

13.Critique **Juno and Paycock** as a comedy of manners.

14.Discuss the role of Lulu in Pinter’s **The Birthday Party.**

**Section-2**

15. Arthur Miller’s “Death of a Salesman” is a portrait of an American dreamer. Substantiate this view.

16. Like all of Wilson’s characters, Maxson in “Fences” is a complex man who, while having moral

lapses, also worked hard to provide for his family. Do you agree with the view?

17. What is your impression of the character of Blanche?

18. “What happens to a dream deferred?

Does it dry up

Like a raisin in the sun?”

Connect these lines of Langston Hughes’ poem with Lorraine Hansberry’s “A Raisin in the Sun”

**PART- C**

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

19. a) Critically examine **The Birthday Party** as an Absurd play.

(or)

b) Discuss **Arms and the Man** as a debate on Idealism and Realism in love and war.

20. a) In Edward Albee’s “The American Dream,” there is an undercurrent of compassion for the fellow

human beings underneath the aggressive text. Discuss.

(or)

b) Eugene O’ Neill, like Abraham Lincoln, has portrayed the tragic vision of America, through his

magnum opus, “A Long Day’s Journey Into Night”. Do elucidate.

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