**TU/ CODL**

**TEZPUR UNIVERSITY**

**SEMESTER END EXAMINATION (SPRING) 2020**

**MEG 303: AMERICAN LITERATURE I**

Time: **3 Hours** Total Marks: **70**

*The figures in the right-hand margin indicate marks for the individual question.*

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1. Answer the following questions (not more than two sentences):

2x4= 8

1. What do you understand by the term “Great American Novel”? Give one example.
2. **Mention two qualities of American Scholar as desired by Emerson.**
3. The title *The Sound and the Fury* by William Faulkner is taken from one of Shakespeare’s tragedies? Which is it? Who utters these words in the drama?
4. What is the meaning of the ‘scarlet letter’ that Hester Prynne wears in her forehead in the novel *The Scarlet Letter*?

2. Write briefly on **any three** of the following in not more than 50 words: 5x3= 15

1. The myths of America
2. Role of Nature in the formation of American scholar
3. Depiction of ‘New England’ in Frost’s poetry
4. The character of Hester Prynne in *The Scarlet Letter*

3. How do Emerson and Whitman dream of a culturally independent

America through American Scholars and Poets? Substantiate with

examples from the essays prescribed for your study**.** 10

4. a) What is ‘stream of consciousness’? How does the four sections help in

making *The Sound and the Fury* an ideal stream of consciousness

novel*.* 5+10= 15

***or***

b) What idea of the American South do you find from *The Sound and the*

*Fury*? How does Faulkner draw a parallel between the fall of the

Compson family and that of the Old South in the novel?

5+10=15

**P.T.O.**

5. Discuss *Death of a Salesman* as a modern tragedy. How do you

differentiate the character of Willy Lowman from any tragic character of

Shakespeare? 9+3= 12

6. a) Give a critical study of Langston Hughes’ “The Negro sings of Rivers”.

How does he assert the Blacks age old connection to the soil of

America? 10

***or***

b) Critically analyse the major thematic concerns of Emily Dickinson’s

poetry drawing illustrations from the poems prescribed.

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