



ANDHRA UNIVERSITY TRANS-DISCIPLINARY RESEARCH HUB

AMERICAN LITERATURE

Unit I

History of American Literature – Major Trends

Unit II

Aspects of American Literature – Narration – Plot – technique

Unit III

American poetry – Rhetoric – Narration

Unit IV

American Novel – Narration – picaresque mode

Unit V

American short story – Plot – Characters

Unit VI

Criticism – Autobiographical Element – Existentialism

Idealism with special reference to **The old man and the Sea by Hemmingway**

Unit VII

Feminism – Gender and racial discrimination with special reference to **The Bluest Eye** – by Tony Morrison and **Meridian** by Alice Walker

Unit VIII

Fantasy novel – (Science Fiction) with special reference to **the Future Shock** by Alvin Toffler

Reference Books:

1. Both, Wayne:- The Rhetoric of Fiction
2. E.M. Foster :- Aspects of the novel
3. Percy Lubbock:- The Craft of Fiction
4. Richian Chase:- American Novel and its Tradition
5. Beach J.W. The Twentieth Century Novel.



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MODEL PAPER

PRE – PH.D. EXAMINATIONS ENGLISH

AMERICAN LITERATURE

Time: 3 Hours

Maximum Marks: 100

Answer any **Five** among the following questions.
Each question carries 20 marks.

1. Write a brief note on early American English Literature and the proliferation of the American Novel.
2. Based on what you have read in *The Old Man and the Sea*, how would Ernest Hemmingway's existential philosophy compare to that of Emerson and Thoreau?
3. Explain the significance of the lines "But to find out the truth about how dreams die, one should never take the word of the dreamer." In Toni Morrison's *The Bluest Eye*.
4. How does Alvin Toffler's *The Future Shock* work on the level of a Science Fiction narrative along with being a fantasy novel? Elucidate.
5. Write a short note on the history of the 20th century American Novel.
6. What are the major characteristics of 19th century American Literature? Expand.
7. E. M. Foster says, "The final test of a novel will be our affection for it, as it is the test of our friends, and of anything else which we cannot define." Do you agree? Defend your answer.
8. What are the main features of modern American poetry? Expand your answer with suitable examples.