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Register Number:

DATE: 18-04-2017

**ST. JOSEPH’S COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), BENGALURU-27**

**IV SEMESTER EXAMINATION, APRIL 2017**

**MA-ENGLISH**

**EN DE: 0314 American Literature II**

**Time: 2 ½ hours** **Max Marks: 70**

**SECTION-A**

**I. Answer any one of the following: (15 x 1 = 15)**

1) Use any two or three texts you studied this semester to illustrate the way American writers have interrogated the “American Dream.” .

2) On the basis of relevant texts, comment on the negotiation between ‘mainstream’ and subculture among ‘hyphenated’ Americans (i.e. those whose ethnicity can be traced back to regions outside the United States).

**SECTION-B**

**II. Answer any THREE of the following: (15 x 3 = 45)**

3) Analyse *Lolita* and *Herzog* as novels that examine American popular culture using parody, wit and dark humour.

4) Comment on the way Lorraine Hansberry’s *A Raisin in the Sun* and James Baldwin’s *Sonny’s Blues* explore the gap between energetic aspiration and sordid reality in the perennial quest of African Americans for dignity and upward mobility.

5) Discuss Faulkner’s ‘A Rose for Emily’ and Frost’s ‘Provide, Provide’ as ironic commentaries on the decadence of Southern aristocracy and tinsel dreams proffered by Hollywood.

6) What Jewish American themes are brought to the fore in How do ‘The Magic Barrel’ by Bernard Malamud and ‘The Conversion of the Jews’ by Philip Roth?

7) What light does Bharati Mukherjee’s story, ‘A Father,’ throw on the way the experience of living in America affects the gender equation in the typical Indian immigrant family?

**SECTION-C**

**III Write short essays on any ONE of the following: (10x1=10)**

8) The satirical energy of Heller’s *Catch-22*.

9) Cisneros and/or Rodriguez on the concerns of Latinos in America.

**EN-DE-0314-A-17**

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