

(6 pages)

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M.A. (CBCS) DEGREE EXAMINATION,
NOVEMBER 2021

First Semester

English

Elective - LITERATURE AND PANDEMICS

(For those who joined in July 2021 onwards)

Time : Three hours

Maximum : 75 marks

PART A — (10 × 1 = 10 marks)

Answer ALL questions.

Choose the correct answer :

1. *A Litany in Time of Plague*, the poem by Nashe, is a perfect example of his powerful imagery and the _____.

- (a) Grim realism (b) Magical realism
(c) Tragedy (d) Comedy

2. What was Christina Rossetti's pen name?
- (a) Geoffrey Crayon (b) Ellen Alleyne
(c) Henry Wade (d) Silence Dogood
3. _____ is not a theme in *Night Soil Men*.
- (a) Nature (b) Illness
(c) Death (d) Prejudice
4. The main street of Memphis is held with piles of _____
- (a) Pedestrians (b) Masks
(c) Sponges (d) Coffins
5. How soon after being afflicted do victims die?
- (a) Twenty-four hours (b) Eight hours
(c) Thirty minutes (d) Immediately
6. How long do the visitors stay in the fortified castle?
- (a) Forty-eight hours
(b) One week
(c) Not even a full evening
(d) Several months

7. Who does the narrator of *The Plague* offer as a “hero”?
- (a) Joseph Grand (b) Cottard
(c) Tarrou (d) Othon
8. When does the car thief go blind?
- (a) At church
(b) While jogging
(c) While shopping
(d) While driving the stolen car
9. Where does Beth Emhoff live?
- (a) Connecticut (b) Illinois
(c) New York (d) Minnesota
10. *I Am Legend* is based on the novel by _____
- (a) Richard Matheson (b) Richard Parker
(c) Steven Soderbergh (d) Albert Camus

PART B — (5 × 5 = 25 marks)

Answer ALL questions, choosing either (a) or (b).
Each answer should not exceed 250 words.

11. (a) Describe the literary elements in the poem
Soon: A Poem on AIDS by Vikram Seth.

Or

- (b) What is the theme of *The litany in time of plague*?

12. (a) Explain the scientific process in the *Night Soil Men*.

Or

- (b) Write a short note on the *City of corpses*.

13. (a) Explain the Versions of Reality in *The Masque of the Red Death*.

Or

- (b) Write a short note on the short story *My Hero is you*.

14. (a) Who is the antagonist of the story *The plague*?

Or

- (b) When the other members of the group begin getting their sight back, the doctor's wife breaks into tears, why do you think she reacts this way?

15. (a) What is the conflict of the movie Contagion?

Or

- (b) Did the mannequin move in *I Am Legend*?

PART C — ($5 \times 8 = 40$ marks)

Answer ALL questions, choosing either (a) or (b)

Each answer should not exceed 600 words.

16. (a) Write a detailed summary of the poem *Soon: A Poem on AIDS* by Vikram Seth.

Or

- (b) Elaborate the analysis of Thom Gunn's *Lament*.

17. (a) Discuss the theme Class and Prejudice in the *Night Soil Men*.

Or

- (b) Write an essay on the *City of corpses*.

18. (a) Analyse the theme mortality in *The Masque of the Red Death*.

Or

- (b) Attempt an essay on the short story *My Hero is you*.

19. (a) In *The Plague*, how does religion affect the mind and decisions of the town? Illustrate.

Or

- (b) What is the purpose of Saramago's use of proverbs, folk sayings, and clichés throughout the novel *Blindness*? Illustrate.

20. (a) Character Analysis of Dr. Leonora Orantes in *Contagion*.

Or

- (b) Attempt an essay on the screenplay *I am Legend*.
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