



**ECGS**  
**EDUCATION**

**Practice Paper of MEG-11**

**American Novel**

**Section A: Thematic and Contextual Analysis**

Q:1 American Renaissance: What do you understand by the term 'American Renaissance'? Outline its major achievements.

Q:2 Characteristics of the American Novel: Discuss the characteristic features of the American novel. Support your answer with suitable examples.

Q:3 Historical Fiction: How does James Fenimore Cooper blend history with fiction in The Last of the Mohicans?

Q:4 Urbanization and Identity: Discuss Theodore Dreiser's Sister Carrie as a city novel.

Q:5 The Self-Made Man: Critically comment on Jay Gatsby as the self-improving hero in The Great Gatsby.

**Section B: Character and Symbolism**

Q:6 Imagery and Symbols: Bring out the significance of the use of imagery and symbols in House Made of Dawn.

Q:7 Youth and Maturity: Discuss Holden Caulfield's vision of childhood and adulthood in *The Catcher in the Rye*.

Q:8 Theme of Alienation: Comment on the theme of alienation in William Faulkner's *Light in August*.

Q:9 Motherhood and Empowerment: Examine the concept of motherhood and mothering in *The Color Purple*.

Q:10 Philosophical Nihilism: Critically comment on nihilism in John Barth's *The Floating Opera*.

### **Section C: Memory and Identity**

Q:11 Nostalgia and Memory: Discuss how nostalgia and memories pervade Henry Miller's *Black Spring*.

Q:12 Race and Identity: Analyze the exploration of racial identity in Toni Morrison's *Beloved*.

Q:13 American Dream: Evaluate the critique of the American Dream in F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*.

Q:14 Narrative Techniques: Examine the use of stream of consciousness in William Faulkner's *The Sound and the Fury*.

Q:15 Postmodern Elements: Identify and discuss postmodern elements in Thomas Pynchon's *The Crying of Lot 49*.