Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**CHAPTER 1:**

1. Who is Gonzalo? Why does he think the ship he is on will not sink in the tempest?

Ans. Gonzalo was the old councilor. Knowing the complexion (talent) of the boatswain, Gonzalo argued that the passengers would come to no harm if the boatswain himself would drown. Which means, if boatswain remained alive and in charge, the ship won’t sink. Gonzalo continued to remain optimistic in the face of all chaos.

1. Who has brought about this tempest? What does he say about his past to his daughter?

Ans. Prospero has brought about this tempest with his magical powers. He told his daughter Miranda, that it was due to his brother, Antonio’s foul play that compelled them to leave Milan. But on their way out, they received much help from people who really cared for them. Prospero entrusted his brother with the management if the state and became a stranger to his own kingdom. Taking this as an opportunity, Antonio learnt how to manipulate his officials into going against Prospero. Prospero was unaware of the treachery against him and neglected all worldly duties, dedicating himself to the improvement of his mind. Soon Antonio began to think of himself as the rightful Duke of Milan and his ambition grew unbounded. He knew about the enmity between Alonso and Prospero and offered Alonso a handsome tribute and undue homage and in return, asked for Milan to be conferred upon him and that, Prospero be deported from the kingdom. So, at midnight, Prospero and his daughter were pushed out of the gates of Milan.

1. Why does Ariel think he should be freed from his master’s service? From what torments had his master freed him twelve years ago?

Ans. Ariel thought that for the constant toils that he had performed at his orders, Prospero owed him his liberty. Prospero reminded Ariel of the torment he had freed Ariel from. Years ago, several acts of sorcery had caused Sycorax to be banished from the city of Algiers. She and Caliban, her son had been left on this island by sailors. Sycorax had then employed Ariel to do her bidding, who was too delicate to perform the earthy tasks she would set him. He had refused and in a fit of mad rage, Sycorax had imprisoned him in a tree. He remained there for twelve years till Prospero went to live on the island, heard his desperate howls for help and set him free.

1. Who is Caliban? What reasons does he give for the displeasure he feels towards Prospero?

Ans. Caliban was Sycorax’s son. Caliban said to Prospero that the island belonged to him. He recalled that Prospero and Miranda had taken great care of him, fed him berried and taught him their language. Caliban had returned the favour by familiarizing them with the island, showing them where the fresh springs were and leading them to the fertile areas and steering them away from the brine pits. But Prospero grew intolerant and confined his benefactor in a rocky cave, keeping him from the rest of the island of which he was once master.

1. Why does Ferdinand agree to follow Prospero’s orders? Why does Prospero want to punish him?

Ans. Ferdinand agreed to follow Prospero’s orders as he had expressed his desire to make her Queen of Naples. Prospero wanted to punish him because he thought Ferdinand to be an impostor who had come to the island to try and win it from his master. He also intended to put obstacles in Miranda and Ferdinand’s path so they would find each other even more valuable than they already did. According to Prospero, Miranda is a foolish girl for thinking that there are no other men like him, having only Caliban for comparison.