Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**FIRST TERM EXAM**

**Std IX-JK Duration: 2 hours Marks 80**

**Attempt five questions in all. Attempt at least one question from each section**

**Section A- Drama**

**Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:**

***Question 1 16***

***“Nature hath fram’d strange fellows in her time.”***

1. Who is the speaker of these lines? Where are they spoken and to whom? 3
2. How does the speaker explain nature’s strange ways regarding people? 3
3. Who was Nestor? Explain his significance. 3
4. What assurance does Antonio give Salerio and Solanio after they share their insecurities? 3
5. How does Salerio explain the contrast of Antonio’s melancholy when Antonio says he is not in love? 4

***Question 2 16***

***“God made him, and therefore let him pass for a man.”***

1. Who is being spoken about? How is he described? 3
2. How is the appearance of the English lord described? 3
3. Which example does Portia give to Nerissa to prove that she abides by her father’s condition? 3
4. What request does Portia make to Nerissa to avoid her getting married to the German lord? 3
5. What is Nerissa’s formula for ideal happiness? What example does she give to substantiate it? 4

***Question 3 16***

***“I am debating of my present store, and, by the near guess of my memory…”***

1. Who is ‘I’ here? Was he/she really debating of his/her present store? Justify. 3
2. Give an idea about the argosies of Antonio. 3
3. Which custom is Antonio willing to break? Why? 3
4. What does Shylock tell Bassanio about his financial condition while thinking about giving the loan? 3
5. What analogy does Shylock give Antonio to justify charging of interest? 4

**Section B- Poetry**

**Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:**

***Question 4 16 His blessing on the neighbourhood***

***Who in the hollow of his hand…***

1. What does ‘His blessings’ refer to? What are His hands holding? Who is the planter compared to? Why? 3
2. Why is the tree considered to be a friend to the sun and sky? Mention what does the tree offer. 3
3. According to the poet how does a nation grow? 3
4. Out of which emotions does the planter plant a tree? 3
5. Why is the first line of each verse repeated? Do you think the title of the poem is appropriate? Justify. 4

***Question 5 16 “In bleak and bitter cold”***

1. Name the figure of speech used in the above given line. 3
2. Why did the first and the second person not give their logs? 3
3. Who is the third person? How is he dressed? What did he do? Why? 3
4. What was each man in the group aware of? 3
5. What are different types of discriminations highlighted in the poem? How can they affect the mankind? 4

***Question 6*** ***16*** ***“Bangle sellers are we who bear Our shining loads to the temple fair”***

1. Who is the narrator of the poem? Where does he go? Why does he go there? 3
2. Who are the prospective customers of the bangle seller? What terms does the poet use for them? Why? 3
3. How does the poet describe the red bangles? 3
4. How do the emotions of the bride connect to the bangles she wears? 3
5. Which women are referred to in the last stanza? What does the poet say about them? 4

**Section C- Prose**

**Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:**

***Question 7. 16***

***“Death touches the spring of our common humanity.***

***This woman had been despised, scoffed at and angrily denounced***

***by nearly every man, woman and child in the village.***

1. How did the people of the village treat the woman during her life? What was their attitude towards her after her death? 3
2. How and where did the mother die? How many children did she have? 3
3. What did people carry with them when they visited the woman’s house on her death? Why did no one follow the dead cart? 3
4. Who was the dead woman’s youngest child? How had she become a disabled person? 3
5. Who was Joe Thompson? What type of a person was he? What doubt did Joe Thompson have when he decided to take the youngest child home? 4

***Question 8 16***

***Now the red man implored, “Please, please I will speak slowly, please try to***

***understand me. Can’t you understand even a simple word of English?***

***Everyone in this country seems to know English.”***

1. Where was Muni when this man met him? What was Muni doing? Which village did he belong to? 3
2. What did this man stop there? What caught his attention? 3
3. What had Muni just finished telling this man? 3
4. What is Muni’s response? Did Muni know any English? How did Muni introduce himself? 3
5. What information does this man give Muni about himself? How does this extract show the misconception foreigners have about people in this country? 4

***Question 9 16***

***As they passed down the aisle of the coach the only vacant seat offered***

***was a reversed one facing the attractive young woman.***

1. Describe the appearance of the linked couple. 4
2. In your opinion state how minor characters play an important role in the story? 4
3. O. Henry presents various ironical situations in the story. Comment. 8