Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**Question Bank: Night Mail**

1. **Which border is the poet talking about?**

Ans. The poet is talking about a specific border between England and Scotland.

1. **What does the night mail bring? For whom?**

Ans. The night mail brings the cheque and the postal order, letters for the rich and letters for the poor, for the shop at the corner, for the girl next door.

1. **What does the train do at Beattock?**

Ans. The train takes a steady climb at Beattock.

1. **Who is against the night mail? Does it affect her?**

Ans. The gradient is against her. No, it does not affect her, she is still on time.

1. **From where does the night mail pass?**

Ans. The night mail is past cotton grass and moorland border.

1. **What is the night mail shovel while moving?**

Ans. While moving, the night mail shovels white steam over her shoulder. ‘

1. **How does the night mail pass through the silent miles? What does ‘wind-bent’ grasses signify?**

Ans. It snorts noisily as she passes through the silent miles of the wind-bent grasses. Wind-bent’ grasses signify that perhaps it was breezy.

1. **What do the birds do when the night mail passes?**

Ans. The birds turn their heads as she approaches and stare from bushes at her blank-faced coaches.

1. **What type of dogs are mentioned? What are they doing? What are they not able to do?**

Ans. The sheep dogs cannot change the direction of the night mail, they slumber on with paws across.

1. **What happens in the farm?**

Ans. As the night mail passes, no one wakes up in the farm, but a jug in a bedroom gently shakes.

1. **What does the night mail do as dawn freshens? Which city does she enter?**

Ans. As dawn freshens, her climb is done. She descends down towards Glasgow.

1. **What is seen in Glasgow?**

Ans. It is seen that the night mail moves towards the steam tugs yelping down a glade of cranes, towards the fields of apparatus set on the dark plain like gigantic chessmen.

1. **What kind of place is Glasgow? Justify with evidence.**

Ans. Glasgow is a harbour. It is evident as steam tugs are yelping down a glade of cranes. It is an industrial city as fields of apparatus the furnaces set on the dark plain like gigantic chessmen.

1. **Who waits for her?**

Ans. All Scotland waits for her.

1. **Where do the men long for news?**

Ans. In dark glens, beside pale-green lochs, men long for news.

1. **From which different places, letters arrive?**

Ans. Letters from banks, letters from Scotland from the South of France, letters of condolence to Highlands and Lowlands, notes from overseas to Hebrides.

1. **Which official letters are received by people?**

Ans. The official letters are received by people are letters from banks, receipted bill invitations new stock, application for situations, new which are circumstantial and news that are official.

1. **Mention the different relations from whom one expects letters.**

Ans. Letters of joy from girl to boy, letters from uncles, cousins and aunts, letters that express timid lovers’ declaration, letters to visit relations are the letters from whom one expects letters.

1. **What are the different hues mentioned in the poem?**

Ans. The different hues written on the paper are the pink, the violet, the white and the blue.

1. **How is the print described in the poem?**

Ans. The print is described as typed and spelt all wrong.

1. **What is written on those colourful papers?**

Ans. Letters are chatty, catty, even boring, it is adoring sometimes, it is cold and official. At the same time people express their heart’s outpouring too. Some of the letters are clever, stupid, short and long.

1. **Those thousands who are still asleep, what are they doing?**

Ans. The thousands who are still asleep are dreaming of terrifying monsters, the messages, or are dreaming of friendly tea beside the band in Cranston’s or Crawford’s.

1. **What would happen when the thousands of people would wake up?**

Ans. The thousands of people shall wake up soon and everyone would hear the postman’s knock with quickening of the heart as they are eager to receive the letters.

1. **What question is asked by the poet at the end of the poem?**

Ans. At the end, the poet asks a rhetorical question and says that there won’t be a single person who will bear the postman’s knock without a quickening of the heart as nobody could bear to feel himself forgotten.