Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**FIRST TERM EXAM**

**Std: IX-BB Duration: 2 hrs Marks: 80**

**Attempt five questions in all.**

**You must attempt at least one question from each of the Sections A, B and C**

**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***

***“Why, look you, how you storm!”***

1. What happens just before this dialogue? 3
2. How does the speaker react to Antonio’s anger? 3
3. What condition does Shylock place before Antonio to give him an interest free loan? 3
4. How does Shylock convince Antonio to sign this bond? 3
5. What are the reasons that Shylock gives for hating Antonio? 4

***Question 3 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

**SECTION B- POETRY**

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

***Question 4 16***

***He plants a home for the heaven anigh***

1. Why does the poet call the tree a ‘heaven anigh’? 3
2. Explain ‘treble of heaven’s harmony’. 3
3. Explain the meaning of the word ‘twilight’. Why has the poet mentioned ‘happy twilight’ in the poem? 3
4. In the second stanza, what does he plant who plants a tree? 3
5. Is the poem relevant even in today? 4

***Question 5 16***

***One half their lives was reading books! The nursery shelves held books galore!***

1. What does the word ‘their’ refer to? Where else were the books kept? Why? 3
2. Which tales were found in the books read by children? 3
3. Which writer’s name is mentioned in the poem? Enlist any two names of the characters and two short stories. 3
4. What epithets has the poet used for the television screen? Why? 3
5. Despite the children throwing tantrums, why does the poet advise the parents not to fear? 4

***Question 6 16***

***Who will buy these delicate, bright rainbow tinted circles of light***

1. Name and explain the figure of speech in the above line. What is linked to the happiness of daughters and wives? 3
2. In the second stanza, some bangles are said to be like buds. Why? What do the symbolise? Give the comparison. 3
3. Which bangles are compared to the mountain mist? Why? 3
4. Which bangles does a bride wear on her wedding day? What are the bangles compared to? 3
5. What does the poet mean by “Whose hands have cherished, whose love has blest”? 4

**SECTION C- PROSE Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:**

***Question 7 16***

***“The torch fell from his trembling hand.***

1. Who is ‘he’ here? What did he immediately do after the given line? 3
2. What happens at the end of the story? 3
3. Where did the flickering light fall? What happened next? 3
4. Was there any difference in Mr Oliver’s voice while asking the miscreant the second time? Why? 3
5. Did Mr.Oliver prove himself to be as described by the writer? 4

***Question 8 16***

***“The younger man roused himself sharply at the sound of her voice….”***

1. Who is the younger man here? Did he know the lady? How? 3
2. How did the man react to her voice? Why? 3
3. Where would the young man not be in the near future? What did the other man answer? What was the reality? 3
4. What did the glum-faced man say to cut short the conversation between the other two? What could be the reason for his action? 3
5. Bring out the fact that ‘appearances can be deceptive from the story ‘Hearts and Hands’. 4

***Question 9***

***“What is to be done with the children? That was the question now”***

1. How many children did the woman leave behind? Describe them briefly. 4
2. Can charity be based on convenience? Substantiate your answer with respect to the story. 4
3. Discuss the internal conflicts faced by Mr Joe Thompson in the story ‘Angel in Disguise’ 8