Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**Test: A Face in the dark, After Blenheim**

**Batch: 9TH VCR Duration: 30 Mins Marks: 20**

**Answer the following questions according to their weightage:**

1. What are the names of Kaspar’s grandchildren? What are they doing? 3

Ans. The names of Kaspar’s grandchildren are Wihelmine and Peterkin. Wihelmine was playing in the green lawn beside the cottage. Peterkin was rolling some large, round object which he had found near the rivulet.

1. Who was praised after the battle? Why? 2

Ans. The Duke of Marlbro from the English army and Prince Eugene of Savoy were praised after the battle. These were the heroes of the Battle of Blenheim as they had played a very vital role in defeating their enemy – the French.

1. What message is the poet conveying through the poem ‘After Blenheim’? 4

Ans. The poet has clearly brought out the futility of the war through the poem. The description of the outcome of the battle mentioned in the poem is heart wrenching and is accounted for. The poet has conveyed this through the fact that the old man, the central characted narrating the horrors of war, has no answer to convince that war is an inevitable reality. The poet has also another strong point to bring forth that the order of generation lacked curiosity whereas the young ones always challenged anything that had adverse effects on society and humanity at large.

1. Describe Mr. Oliver from the story ‘A Face in the dark.’ 2

Ans. Mr. Oliver was a bachelor and an Anglo-Indian teacher. He was not a nervous or imaginative type of person who would easily get frightened.

1. How is the school described in the media? Name the medium. 2

Ans. The school is described as the ‘Eton of the East’. The medium was a magazine called Life.

1. Explain the line: ‘But for Mr. Oliver it did not end here.’ 3

Ans. The line means that the suspense behind the faceless boy should have ended there but for Mr. Oliver, another mystery remained to be unfolded. This line adds a twist to the story and keeps the reader engaged in reading the story further.

1. What did Mr. Oliver do when he saw the boy’s face? What happened then? 4

Ans. After seeing the faceless boy, Mr. Oliver’s torch fell down from the trembling hand, he turned and scrambled down the path. He ran blindly through the trees and called for help. He later came across the watchman and told him what he had seen. The watchman further raised the lamp to his face and asked Mr. Oliver if the boy’s face was as his, faceless. That was when the wind blew the light out.