Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**FIRST TERM EXAM**

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

**Set C**

**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***

***“Well, keep me company but two years more …”***

1. To whom are these lines said? What will happen, if the speaker keeps company for two more years? How does Antonio react to this? 3
2. What has Bassanio wasted his money on, according to his own confession to Antonio? 3
3. How does Bassanio describe the uselessness of Gratiano’s speech? 3
4. Why should melancholy not be used as a bait? 3
5. How does Bassanio describe Portia? 4

***Question 2 16***

***“Mislike me not for my complexion, the shadowed livery of the burnished sun to...”***

1. Who is the speaker of these lines? Whom are they spoken to? Where does the scene take place? 3
2. Explain: The shadowed livery of the burnished sun 3
3. Is Morocco proud of his colour? Justify with examples from the scene. 3
4. How does Portia react to this speech of Morocco? 3
5. What does this scene tell us about the character of Morocco? 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***

***“In hushed and happy twilight heard”***

1. Which question does the poet ask? Why does he ask the question repeatedly? 3
2. What does the poet mean by ‘mother-croon’? Why is it sung in hushed voice? 3
3. In the third stanza, what does he plant who plants a tree? What stirs in the heart of the man who plants a tree? 3
4. What does “far-cast thought of civic good” mean? Why does the poet say that the man who plants a tree “holds the responsibility of all our land”? 3
5. Why does the poet say that the nation’s growth depends upon the wealth of the trees? 4

***Question 5 16***

***“Each one possessed a stick of wood or the story’s told”***

1. What is the significance of the word ‘trapped’ used in the first line? 3
2. Who is the first person mentioned in the poem? Who is sitting opposite to her? Why does the person hold back their log? 3
3. Why did the second person not give his log? What do we understand about him? 3
4. Did the black man give his stick of wood? Why? 3
5. How is the title of the poem significant? 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***

***“The Indian’s night promises to be dark.”***

1. What does the ‘night’ refer to in the given line? Why does he say that it will be dark? 3
2. Why does the orator say that he does not to mourn at the untimely fate of his people? 3
3. What does Chief Seattle say about their sacredness to the soil? 3
4. Why does the orator say that the white man will never be alone? 3
5. What is the role played by the Red Indians after their death? 4

***Question 8 16***

**“There was a pontoon bridge across the river”**

1. Describe the old man and the place where he was sitting. 3
2. What does the narrator do for a living? What is the role given to him? 3
3. Initially, how was the old man responding to the narrator’s questions? 3
4. What was the narrator looking at while talking to the old man? What thoughts did he have? 3
5. What is the advice given by the narrator to the old man? What is the old man’s response to that? 4

***Question 9***

1. How was Muni’s financial condition? Give examples. 4
2. How does Muni feel to give away his goats? What does he plan to do? 4
3. Is language a barrier in the story? Justify your answer by giving examples. 8