Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**Test: The Merchant of Venice Act 1- Scene 2, Scene 3, Cold Within, A Horse and Two goats**

**Std: IX PPS Duration: 30 Mins Marks: 20 SET: B**

1. Which two examples does Portia give to prove her point that doing is not as easy as saying? 2

Ans. Portia says that if doing was as easy as saying, then chapels would have been churches and poor man’s cottages princes’ palaces.

1. Do you think that Portia is a good daughter? Justify. 3

Ans. Yes, Portia is a good daughter. Though she is not happy about the conditions of the casket, she still decides to abide by her father’s will. She says that even if she grows as old as Sybilla she would die as chaste as Diana unless she be obtained by the manner of her father’s will.

1. Give an idea about the argosies of Antonio. 2

Ans. Antonio had an argosy bound to Tripolis another to Indies. He had an argosy at Mexico and one at England. Other ventures were squandered abroad.

1. Mention the analogy given by Shylock to justify charging of interest. 4

Ans. Shylock says when Jacob, the third possessor of Holy Abram, grazed his uncle Laban’s sheep, he did not take any salary. Rather, they were compromised that all the eanlings which were streaked and pied should fall as Jacob’s hire. Jacob pilled certain wands and stuck them in front of the fulsome ewes and eanlings were born as streaked and pied. This was his way of winning thrift. He justifies it saying that any thrift is a blessing if men steal it not.

1. Why did the second person in the poem ‘Cold within’ refuse to give his log? What kind of a person does he seem to be? 3

Ans. The second person refuses to give his log as he sees that in the group there is a person who does not belong to his community and so he does not want to help him. This person seems to be a fanatic who is intolerant of other religions or communities.

1. What is meant by a ‘forlorn group’? Mention which figure of speech is it. 2

Ans. Forlorn group is an isolated or lonely group. The figure of speech is oxymoron as two opposite words have been used together.

1. Language is a barrier in the story ‘A Horse and two goats.’ Give any four examples to justify the statement. 4

Ans. Following points to be mentioned in the story-

Yes the language is a barrier in the story- The foreigner doesn’t understand Tamil and Muni doesn’t understand the ‘parangi language’ that the American speaks. Due to which there are many instances of miscommunication. The American asks about the gas station and on seeing the horse statue exclaims ‘Marvellous’, Muni observes khaki clothes and assumes the foreigner to be a policeman or a soldier. Muni wonders that if he runs then the policeman would catch him. Muni assumes that the American has come to interrogate about his goats. Later when the foreigner asks if he smokes he replies yes, no and put the flame of the lighter out not understanding what was to be done.- the foreigner presents his visiting card in front of Muni and Muni shrinks away from the card thinking it to be a warrant. He assumes that the foreigner was a policeman or a soldier and had come to investigate about the murder. The foreigner asks Muni about the horse but Muni shares the religious information and what the priest had told everyone in the village. Also, once when Muni assures the foreigner that they will catch the murderer and when he is caught…. He goes to show gestures of mincing meat. One can see that the foreigner assumes that he is stopping Muni from chopping wood and asks him to give the axe to him. On asking if there are any spiritual or religious scruples against English speech, Muni makes some indistinct sounds and shakes his head without understanding the questions.-The foreigner tells Muni about he being a modest businessman and that is trade is coffee. Muni is able to understand the word ‘kapi’ and mentions about kapi-otels in the next town. Muni asks the foreigner how many children he has, the foreigner assuming that the price of the horse was asked he replies ‘a hundred’ The foreigner is ready to offer hundred rupees to Muni; on the other hand, Muni thinks that the foreigner wants change and suggests him to go to the village headman who was also a moneylender. At one point, the foreigner shows interest in Muni’s pets and he casually strokes their backs, making Muni realise that the foreigner was interested in his two goats.