Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**First Semester Examination**

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

**Section A- Prose**

***At least 1 question to be attempted from every section***

***Question 1***

**“It didn’t take long to get where they were going?”**

1. What does the word ‘they’ refer to? Mention two similarities and differences between them. 3
2. What had Bruno observed there? 3
3. What did Bruno say the very first thing after the observation? Did Shmuel too support him? 3
4. Why had Bruno removed his boots and his socks? 3
5. In what period is the story set in? How did Bruno’s family shift there? Explain the irony given at the end of the story. 4

***Question 2***

**“Where is your husband,” he called…**

1. Who is the speaker of these lines? To whom are they spoken? Where does this scene take place? 3
2. Which tool did the young girl give to the speaker? Why? How? 3
3. What happened after the speaker said the above lines? What did the speaker do? What was Mrs Seaton and her daughters’ reaction? 3
4. Mention in brief how Siegfried behaved while sharpening the knife. 3
5. Describe Siegfried Farnon. 4

***Question 3***

***“Oh my God! Helen! It was the band!”***

1. Who was the speaker of these lines? Where? How is that particular night described? 3
2. What happened next to the speaker? 3
3. What did the step father do when he was called? What was his name? 3
4. How has Helen’s life been for two years? What recent development has taken place in her life? 3
5. How did the step-father react to the recent development in Helen’s life? Why? 4

**Section B- Poem**

***Question 4***

***‘I thank whatever gods may be for my unconquerable soul…’***

1. What does the word ‘whatever’ refer to? Why is the soul called ‘unconquerable’? 3
2. Explain the comparison given in the first line of the first stanza. How is the pit described? 3
3. How did the poet react in the fell clutch of circumstance? What does it show about him? 3
4. Identify the phrases that the poet uses to describe challenges? 3
5. Is the title of the poem justified? Explain. 4

***Question 5***

***‘Stole a maiden from her place …’***

1. What does the word ‘stole’ mean here? What was she going to do? 3
2. How did the other maidens praise the dead warrior? 3
3. What did the nurse do? How old was she? What difference are you able to make out between the maidens and the nurse? 3
4. Explain the term ‘noblest foe’. Which figure of speech is given in the same line? Explain. 3
5. Give an example of a Simile from the poem and explain its meaning. 4

***Question 6***

***So let’s work together and restore their rightful place***

1. What does the word ‘their’ refer to? How are they addressed in the poem? What is happening to them? 3
2. Which animals are mentioned in the first stanza? 3
3. Which issues are the animals facing, according to the third stanza? 3
4. Which tree is mentioned in the poem? What threat can it face? In which stanza is it mentioned? 3
5. Give two examples of Alliteration in the poem. Explain. 4

**Section C- Malgudi Days**

***Question 6***

***I don’t want all that. Shall I succeed in my present search or not?***

1. Who is the speaker of these lines? Whom are these words spoken to? What was the other man about say? 3
2. Why had the astrologer left his village? What would he had done had he not left his village? 3
3. Explain ‘present search’. What did the astrologer respond? 3
4. What solution was offered to Guru Nayak to avoid second threat his life? 3
5. Describe the Town Hall Park. (Any 4 points) 4

***Question 7***

***And we have arithmetic today, which means for a whole period we are going to be beaten***

1. Who is the speaker of the given lines? Who is he talking to? What did the other person suggest? 3
2. In what way was Samuel violent? 3
3. What idea occurred to the speaker as he entered the school gate? 3
4. How did the speaker try to flare up Samuel in the class? 3
5. What is the irony of the story? 4