**ANSWER KEY**

1. How does Salerio explain the contrast of Antonio’s melancholy when Antonio says he is not in love? 4

Ans. Salerio says that he is sad because he is not merry. Suddenly he would laugh and leap and say that he is merry because he is not sad. He swears by two headed Janus that nature had framed strange fellows. Some would evermore peep through their eyes and laugh like parrots at a bagpiper. The others of such vinegar aspect that they would not show their teeth in way of smile though Nestor swears that the jest is laughable.

1. How does Antonio react when he is not able to clearly understand Bassanio’s demand? 3

Ans. Antonio says that Bassanio knows him well and is spending time to wind about his love with circumstance. He says that out of doubt Bassanio is doing his more wrong in making question of his uttermost than he would even if he had wasted his entire wealth.

1. Who is the narrator of the porm? Explain the term ‘Shining loads.’ 3

Ans. The narrator of the poem is one of the bangle sellers. He refers to the stack of bangles that he carries everyday to be sold as ‘shining loads.’ The bangles he carries are bright and colourful as well as in a large quantity.

1. What is meant by ‘bridal laughter’ and ‘bridal tear’? 4

Ans. A newly wed bride goes through a medley of emotions. She is happy because she is on the threshold of a new life anticipating a beautiful relationship with her husband. Thus, the term, ‘bridal laughter’ is used to show her happiness. At the same time, she is also very anxious about a new beginning and sad to leave her family and maiden home. Thus, ‘bridal tear’ symbolized her worry and sadness.

1. What is the mournful memory that the orator speaks of? 3

Ans. The orator recalls the time when his people were large in number. They covered the land like the wind-ruffled sea covers its bed. But that was long ago and now the tribe has reduced and the greatness of the tribe is just a mournful memory.

1. Why according to the orator, if there was a common God, he was partial? 3

Ans. The orator says that if there was a common God, the conditions of both the White man and the Red man would have been the same. Both would have been equally powerful and have equal rights. But that was not the case. The Whites were very powerful and went on capturing land in different countries whereas his people seemed to be like orphans and their number kept on receding. Thus he says that God is partial to the Whites.