Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**FIRST TERM EXAM**

**Std: IX-BB Duration: 2 hrs Marks: 80**

**Attempt five questions in all.**

**You must attempt at least one question from each of the Sections A, B and C**

**SECTION A- DRAMA**

**Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:**

***Question 1: “Your father was ever virtuous, and holy men at their death have good inspirations”***

1. What pointed question is asked just before this speech? Who asks the question? 3
2. How does the speaker justify the actions of the ‘father’? 3
3. What question is asked by the speaker at the end of the speech? 3
4. Name the suitors mentioned in the scene. 3
5. What does scene tell you about the character of Portia? Substantiate. 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: “Father in. I cannot get a service, no! I have never a tongue in my head”***

1. How does Launcelot describe his palm? What does his palm tell him about wives? 3
2. What instructions does Bassanio give Leonardo? How does he respond? 3
3. Who enters the scene at this point? What does he request Bassanio? 3
4. What is Bassanio’s response to this request? 3
5. How does Gratiano address Bassanio’s apprehensions? 4

**SECTION B- POEMS**

**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:***

***I gazed and gazed but little thought***

***What wealth the show to me had brought.***

1. What did the poet see at once? Where? What was he doing then? 3
2. Who else dances with the daffodils? Who was better? How does he feel with these daffodils? 3
3. What are the daffodils compared to, in the second stanza? How? 3
4. Explain: ‘flash on that inward eye’ 3
5. Bring out the contrast of emotions that the poet feels in the beginning and at the end of the poem. 4

**SECTION C- PROSE**

**Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:**

***Question 7:***

***The boy appeared to be crying.***

***His head hung down, he held his face in his hands,***

1. How can one identify that he was a school boy? Where was he sitting? What was he not supposed to do? 3
2. What happened due to the strong wind? How different was Mr Oliver? 3
3. What was Mr Oliver carrying? What was the problem with it? 3
4. Where was the school located? How is the school described in the media? Name the medium. 3
5. What did Mr Oliver do when he saw the boy’s face? What happened then? 4

***Question 8:***

***“Death touches the spring of our common humanity.***

***This woman had been despised, scoffed at and angrily denounced***

***by nearly every man, woman and child in the village.***

1. How did the people of the village treat the woman during her life? What was their attitude towards her after her death? 3
2. How and where did the mother die? How many children did she have? 3
3. What did people carry with them when they visited the woman’s house on her death? Why did no one follow the dead cart? 3
4. Who was the dead woman’s youngest child? How had she become a disabled person? 3
5. Who was Joe Thompson? What type of a person was he? What doubt did Joe Thompson have when he decided to take the youngest child home? 4

***Question 9:***

***As they passed down the aisle of the coach the only vacant seat offered***

***was a reversed one facing the attractive young woman.***

1. Describe the appearance of the linked couple. 4
2. In your opinion state how minor characters play an important role in the story? 4
3. O. Henry presents various ironical situations in the story. Comment. 8