Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

Assignment: On the Grasshopper and Cricket

1. **Which season is described in the first eight lines of the poem? How is it described?**

Summer season is described in the first eight lines of the poem. When the birds are faint with the hot sun, they will hide in the cooling trees. A voice of grasshopper will be heard around the new-mown mead. This grasshopper moves from one hedge to the other and it takes the lead in the summer luxury. According to the poet, it has never done with its delights because it rests beneath a pleasant weed when tired out with fun.

1. **Where do birds rest on a hot summer day? Why?**

They birds rest in the cooling trees as they are faint/weak in the hot sun.

1. **How do the grasshopper’s actions differ from other birds?**

The grasshopper runs from hedge to hedge in the new-mown mead whereas other birds hide in the cooling trees to seek shelter from the hot sun.

1. **Where is the grasshopper moving? Where does he rest when he is tired?**

The grasshopper moves from hedge to hedge. He rests under some pleasant weed.

1. **What creates the silence on a cold evening? Why?**

Frost has created a silence on a cold evening. As it is very cold, the surrounding is deserted without any presence of any creature.

1. **Who is making a sound in winter? From where?**

The insect cricket is making a sound in the winter. It is making a shrilling sound from a place called ‘stove’.

1. **Explain the line ‘the poetry of the earth is never dead’ with examples in the poem.**

The sentence means nature’s music is never quiet. Sometimes the music is in a form of insects’ sound even if it is hot summer or chilly winter. For eg: In the hot sun, the grasshopper runs from one hedge to another while making a sound. On the other hand, the cricket’s shrills coming from ‘stove’ increases although frost has wrought silence everywhere.

1. **Give two examples of Personification from the poem.**

A voice will run- Human quality of ‘running’ is given to ‘a voice’

When the frost has wrought a silence- Human quality of ‘creating silence’ is given to ‘frost’

1. **Name and explain the figure of speech in the following line**

**From hedge to hedge about the new-mown mead**

Repetition- The word ‘hedge’ is repeated

Alliteration- The starting sound ‘m’ is repeated in the words ‘mown’ and ‘mead’

1. **What do the ‘Grasshopper’ and the ‘Cricket’ symbolize?**

Grasshopper and Cricket symbolise hot summer and cold winter respectively. Also they symbolise the day and the night. In any weather condition or any part of the day, the nature of the earth is always producing music. It is never quiet or silent.