Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**ANSWER KEY**

1. If Solanio has the same ventures as Antonio, what would he do to assure himself? 3

Ans. Solanio says that if he had such a venture forth the better part of his affections would be with his hopes abroad. He would be still plucking the grass to know where the wind sits; peering in maps for ports and piers and roads and every object that might make him fear misfortune to his ventures out of doubt that would make him sad.

1. How does Bassanio describe Portia? 4

Ans. Bassanio calls Portia as rich, fair and virtuous. He says that she is not less in value to Cato’s daughter Portia. The world is not ignorant of her worth and renowned suitors come from all the four directions. Her sunny locks hang on her temples like a golden fleece and Belmont has become Colchis’ strand. Many Jasons come in quest of Portia and he believed because of the fair speechless messages that she had given, he would be the one who would be fortunate to marry her.

1. Which metaphorical expressions are given to the bangles in the first stanza? What do they symbolize about women’s lives? 3

Ans. The metaphorical expression given in the first stanza is ‘Rainbow tinted circles of light’. The poet has compared the bangles indirectly to rainbow-tinted circles of light. The poet says that the bangles are shining symbols of the happy and cheerful lives of the happy daughters and happy wives who buy them.

1. How has the poet described the red bangles? 3

Ans. Some brides wear red bangles on the day of their marriage. In the Indian traditional

marriage ceremony, the bride and the groom take seven vows around a fire. The bright

red bangles of the bride are like the amber coloured flame of the marriage fire.

1. What does Chief Seattle think about the White Chief’s offer? Why? 2

Ans. Chief Seattle thinks that the White Chief’s offer is wise. Chief Seattle is very well aware of the fact that this tribe is receding and thus does not require all the land of an extensive countryside.

1. How are the young Red Indians described by the Chief? 3

Ans. The Orator says that the young red Indians, like youth, were very impulsive. Their anger which was sometimes based on reason but at times baseless led to aggression. The youth would the seek ‘revenge’ and if they died in the process, they looked at it as a form of martyrdom or sacrifice.

1. What are the Red Man’s feelings towards their ancestors? How do the Whites regard their ancestors? 2

Ans. The Red Man considers the ashes of their ancestors sacred and their graves holy ground. Whereas, the whites seem to wander far away from the graves of their ancestors, that too without regret.