**Answer key**

1. What wearies Antonio at the start of the scene? 3

Ans. Antonio is confused about the reason of the origin of his melancholy. He wishes to learn how he caught it, found it, came by it, what stuff it is made up of and whereof it is born.

1. What are the insecurities that Salerio talks about which would make him think of his merchandise? 4

Ans. Salerio says that the wind cooling his broth would blow him to an ague when he would think what harm a great wind might do at sea. If he would see a sandy-hour glass run he would think of shallows and of flats and see his wealthy Andrew docked in sand, vailing her high tops lower than her ribs to kiss her burial. When he would go to the church, the holy edifice of stone would remind him of the dangerous rocks, which would when touch his vessel would scatter all her spices on the stream and enrobe the roaring water with silks.

1. Explain the meaning of ‘bridal laughter’ and ‘bridal tear’. 3

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 symbolizes her worry and sadness. s

1. Describe the role that a middle-aged woman plays. 3

Ans. The middle-aged women have become the matriarchs of the family. They have fulfilled all their commitments. They have given birth and nurtured their children and accomplished all their duties towards their household and family. Such women feel satisfied having met all expectations in life.

1. Why can’t Red and White Americans be brothers? 3

Ans. Red and White Americans cannot be brothers as there is a vast disparity between them. The orator says that the God was partial towards the White Americans because both are not equally powerful. The White man’s God leads and protects his people like a father leads an infant son. Hence, they cannot be brothers.

1. What role do the Red Indians play after their death? 4

Ans. The Red Indians are very attached to their descendants as well as their lands. Their spirits return from the heavens to their lands. They return to the beautiful valleys and mountains and lakes. These spirits also descend on their lands to visit, guide, comfort and console the Red Indians who are alive and fighting for their lands.