Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**FIRST TERM EXAM**

**Std IX-PPS Duration: 1 hour 30 min Marks 60**

**Set A**

***Question 1***

1. Antonio. These words are spoken to Shylock. Antonio uses the word ‘again’ as he flares up after being provoked by sarcastic way of Shylock’s taunts. Shylock expects Antonio to be ashamed but he flares up and says that he will call him dog, spit on him and spurn him again.
2. Bassanio is not comfortable with the condition of the bond. He does not trust Shylock would ever offer friendship without any malicious intent. This shows that Bassanio is a good friend. Though he is in need, he would certainly not stake his friend’s life for his wishes.
3. Shylock tells Antonio that often he has berated him in the Rialto about his moneys and usances. He has borne it with a patient shrug. Antonio has called him misbeliever, cut-throat dog and spat upon his Jewish gabardine. He has done all this just because Shylock charges interest. Antonio also has spat on his beard and kicked him as one would spurn a stray dog over his threshold.
4. Antonio tells Bassanio not to fear as he would not forfeit the bond. He expected in two months a return of three times the value of the bond. That was a month before the bond would expire.

***Question 1 12***

1. Bassanio compares finding meaning in Gratiano’s speech to searching of two grains of wheat in two bushels of chaff. Even if you find them after a day’s search they are not worth the effort. Similarly even if you find meaning in the nonsensical talk of Gratiano, it is not worth the effort to listen to the nonsense.
2. Gratiano tells Antonio that his melancholy should not be used as a bait. He says that many people use it to develop an opinion of wisdom, gravity and profound conceit. But this opinion is like trapping a fool gudgeon and is not worth the effort.
3. The merchant vessels of Antonio are described as signiors and rich burghers of the flood. It seems their movement is like a pageant of the sea as they overpeer the petty traffickers which are the smaller boats. It seems that they do curtsy to Antonio’s vessels when they fly by them with their woven wings.
4. Gratiano says that Antonio does not look well. He has too much respect upon the world those people who buy it with much care lose it. He also says that Antonio looked marvellously changed.

***Question 3 12***

1. Nerissa is the speaker of these lines. Neapolitan Prince, Count Palatine, Falconbridge, Scottish Lord, the Duke of Saxony’s nephew, Monsieur Le Bon
2. The English lord is called as a dumb-show. He is oddly suited with his doublet bought from Italy, his round hose bought from France, his bonnet from Germany. His behaviour has been borrowed from everywhere according to her.
3. We are aware that Portia is not happy about the condition of the caskets but she still decided to abide by it. She says that even if she grows as old as Sibylla, she would die as chaste as Diana unless she can be obtained by the manner of her father’s will.

***Question 4***

1. The narrator of the poem is one of the bangle sellers who bear their shining loads (bangles) to the temple fair.
2. The tokens meaning bangles are said to be delicate, bright and rainbow-tinted circles of light.
3. The buds are pink in colour like the blush on a maiden’s face. So, the pink bangles are compared to buds. The pink buds symbolise small girls who are about to enter the adolescent age. Just like the buds are about to bloom into flowers, these girls are about to blossom into young adolescents.
4. In the last stanza, the poet mentions the women who have experienced all aspects of womanhood. As they have accomplished all their duties, there is a sense of pride they feel. Thus, purple and gold bangles are suited for them. Also, these bangles are spotted with grey which is a colour symbolising maturity.

***Question 5***

1. The person who plants the tree, plants a friend of sun and sky. The tree towers high towards the sky and appears as if it is extending its hand of friendship to the sun and the sky. The tree is a friend in the true sense of the word because it is beneficial to the environment as it reduces the temperature and purifies the atmosphere.
2. The tree is towering high into the sky. Moreover, there is a lot of harmony and peace surrounding the tree. The birds nest in the tree and sing in twilight and this fills the atmosphere with music that is very soothing. All this makes the tree like a heaven close by.
3. When a person plants a sapling, it grows into a tree after some years. The seeds enclosed in the fruit of the tree get scattered and give birth to more trees resulting in the creation of forests. This cycle continues and thus the tree passes on a legacy in the form of a forest.
4. The term ‘growth from sea to sea’ refers to the growth of the entire world. A person who plants a tree plants the seed of growth and prosperity. Trees are the symbol of life as they purify the air and maintain ecological balance. One tree gives rise to many more leading to growth of forests across all the nations of the world.

***Question 6***

1. The poor man was biased against the rich who was in the group. He hated the rich as he thought they were idle and had earned all the wealth only by exploiting the poor. On the other hand, the rich man was only thinking of the wealth in his store and wanted to protect it from the poor who, he thought, were lazy and lacked ambition.
2. The second person refuses to give his log as he sees that in the group there is a person who does not belong to his community and so he does not want to help him. This person seems to be a fanatic who is intolerant of other religions or communities.
3. The poet also talks of racial discrimination through the white lady and the black man, also about the religious intolerance and class discrimination between the rich and the poor man. Such differences lead to envy, hatred, arrogance and revenge eventually destroying the very fiber of humanity.
4. The logs, in the hands of each of the six persons mentioned in the poem, symbolize human sin. The sin refers to the negative qualities of prejudice, hatred, malice, discrimination and revenge in the hearts of the people trapped in a cold night. These traits are called ‘sin’ as they spell doom and destruction of humanity.

***Question 7***

1. The speaker is the narrator who was an army scout. He was watching the bridge and the African looking country of the Ebro Delta and wondered how long it would be before they would see the enemy. He waited to listen to the first noises that would signal that ever mysterious event called contact.
2. The animals mentioned by the other man are of ‘various’ types. There were two goats, a cat and then there were four pairs of pigeons.
3. The narrator asked the old man regarding politics as the old man was not ready to budge from the place and cross the bridge. He wanted to verify if the old man was siding with the fascist forces.
4. The trucks were heading towards Barcelona. They were probably rescuing trucks taking the republican supporters to safety. Barcelona, then, was an area under Republican domination. When the old man is told that, he responds by saying that he knew nobody in that direction.

***Question 8***

1. The red man has come from America. He was wearing khaki clothes and Muni thinks that he is kind of an Impostor who has come to investigate about the murder.

1. When Muni told his wife that he was tired of eating drumstick leaves and he had a desire to chew the drumstick out of sauce, his wife taunted him. She said that he had only four teeth in his jaw. She said so because in that acute poverty he wanted the luxury of eating the drumsticks out of sauce.
2. We can imply that the relations between people of Kritam and Kuppam are not cordial. According to Muni, people of Kuppam can go to any extent and will not stop at anything. He was also sure that his village has always had a clean record and the culprit must be definitely from the other village.
3. The red-faced man i.e. the American man implored Muni to try and understand what he was trying to say. He was frustrated as he had gotten along with English everywhere in the country. He wondered if there were any religious or spiritual scruples against English speech.

***Question 8***

The religion of the White Man was written upon tablets of stone by iron finger of their God so that they couldn’t forget. But the religion of the Red Man was actually the traditions of their ancestors, the dreams of their old men. Their religion was given to them in the solemn hours of night by the Great Spirit. It was written in the hearts of the people.

My words are like the stars that never change. His people are many they are like the grass that covers vast prairies. My people are few. They resemble the scattering trees of a storm-swept plain. Our people covered the land as the waves of a wind-ruffled sea cover its shell-paved floor. Our people are ebbing away like a rapidly receding tide that will never return. His red children whose teeming multitudes once filled this vast continent as stars fill the firmament. Day and night cannot dwell together. The Red Man has ever fled the approach of the white Man, as the morning mist flees before the morning sun. Grim fate seems to be on the Red man’s trail and wherever he will hear the approaching footsteps of his fell destroyer and prepare stolidly to meet his doom, as does the wounded doe that hears the approaching footsteps of the hunter.