Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**Test: Merchant of Venice (Act 1 Scene 2 Scene 3),**

**The Patriot, Chief Seattle’s Speech**

**Std IX-PPS Set A**

**Marks 20 30min**

**Answer the following questions according to their weightage:**

1. What news does the servant bring in at the end of the scene? (3)
2. What analogy does Shylock give Antonio to justify charging of interest? (4)
3. How does Antonio comfort Bassanio about this insecurity? (2)
4. The patriot says ‘Alack’. What emotion does it signify? Why does the patriot express this emotion? (4)
5. The patriot speaks about reaping a ‘harvest’. What harvest does he speak of? (2)
6. The orator says ‘The Indian’s night promises to be dark’. What does ‘night’ refer to here? Why does he say it will be dark? (3)
7. What is the order of nature? (2)
8. The servant brings news that the four strangers are searching for Portia to take their leave and a forerunner has come from the fifth with news from his side. The forerunner is from the Prince of Morocco who had got the news that the Prince’s master would be there that night.
9. Shylock says when Jacob, the third possessor of Holy Abram, grazed his uncle Laban’s sheep, he did not take any salary. Rather, they were compromised that all the eanlings which were streaked and pied should fall as Jacob’s hire. Jacob pilled certain wands and stuck them in front of the fulsome ewes and eanlings were born as streaked and pied. This was his way of winning thrift. He justifies it saying that any thrift is a blessing if men steal it not.
10. 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.
11. The word ‘alack’ means ‘alas’. This word shows that the patriot expresses regret. He does so because he had asked the people for the sun but it was he who had done the impossible for their sake. In spite of doing for his people , what no one could have done, the very people executed him a year later as if he were a traitor.
12. The patriot uses the word ‘harvest’ to refer to the treatment that was being meted out to him that day. He was being executed like a traitor who had done some misdeeds against his country.
13. The ‘night’ refers to the end of the existence of the Red Indian tribe. The orator says this as there is no hope at all for them as ill fate seems to be on their trail. Wherever they go, the footsteps of their predators follow them. They have surrendered to their inevitable fate.
14. The order of nature is that there is life after death. Death is only transition from one form to another. If a tribe or a nation perishes, another one is sure to be born just like a wave which forms, swells and then ebbs to give way to another surge.