Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**SECOND TERM EXAM**

**Std IX-EURO Duration: 1.5 hours Marks 60**

**Solve any five of the given questions. All questions carry equal marks.**

**Section A- Drama**

**Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:**

***Question 1 12***

***“Mislike me not for my complexion, the shadowed livery of the burnished sun to...”***

1. Who is the speaker of these lines? Where does the scene take place? 2
2. Explain:- The shadowed livery of the burnished sun 3
3. Is Morocco proud of his colour? Justify with examples from the scene. 3
4. What does this scene tell us about the character of Morocco? 4
5. Prince of Morocco. A room in Portia’s house, Belmont.
6. He says that the dark complexion is given by the burnished sun to whom he is a neighbour. He calls this dark complexion as a shadowed livery.
7. Yes, Morocco says that he is proud of his colour and would not want to change it. The only situation in which he would be willing to change his colour would be to steal the thoughts of Portia.
8. Prince of Morocco considers himself to be brave and better than the fair people from the North. But if an incision is made in them, it would be easily proved whose blood is redder. He implies that he is Morocco says that the native girls of his country love the bravery which he has. This bravery has scared even the most valiant people around full of valour and bravery than any fair man. Morocco swears by his scimitar and brags that he would slew the Sophy and a Persian Prince who had won three battlefields against Sultan Solyman. Morocco says that he would overstare the sternest eyes that looked at him. And outbrave the most daring heart on earth. He would pluck the young sucking cubs from the she-bear to prove his bravery. He claims that he is a deserving candidate and compares himself to Hercules also thanks Portia for giving him a fair chance.

***Question 2 12***

***“The first, of gold, who this inscription bears; who chooseth me shall gain what many men desire.”***

1. Who chose this casket? Which word does he focus on? Why? 2
2. How does the suitor interpret the words inscribed on this casket? 3
3. What is spoken about the watery kingdom? 3
4. Summarise the scroll found by the speaker. 4
5. The Prince of Morocco chose this casket. He focuses on the word ‘desires’ and reasons that the world desired her.
6. The suitor Morocco focuses on the word ‘desires’. He states that the world desires Portia and the suitors are coming from the four corners of the world to woo Portia. The Hyrcanian deserts the wilds of Arabia and the watery kingdom the ocean is no barrier to stop these suitors from coming to Belmont.

1. The water kingdom refers to the ocean. It is called as spitting in the face of heaven. The meaning implied is that the rough sea is no barrier to the suitors and they cross the ocean as if it a brook to see fair Portia.
2. The scroll informs the reader that all that glisters is not gold. It is a very common saying. Many people have sold their life to just behold the gold casket. Even if the tomb is gilded it infolds worms. If the person choosing the casket was wise and not just bold and had the judgement of an old person and not just young limbs his answer would not have there in the form of a scroll. Finally the scroll wishes the reader a farewell and says that his suit is cold.

***Question 3 12***

***The third one sat in tattered clothes he gave his coat a hitch***

1. Why did the second person refuse to give his log? What kind of a person does he seem to be? 2
2. What are the different types of discriminations highlighted in the poem? What can such discriminations or prejudices do to mankind? 3
3. What symbolizes human sin in the poem? What is the sin mentioned here? 3
4. Explain the figure of speech and symbolism in the following line: 4

‘Their logs held tight in death’s still hands, was proof of human sin.’

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. This line is a Personification. Here the non – human thing or the idea of ‘death’ is assigned the human characteristic of possessing ‘hands’. Jesus sacrificed himself on the wooden logs to wash away human sins. On the contrary, here the humans are sinning by holding on to the logs and not saving each other.

***Question 4 12***

***Cheering on all the young women and men then the final event of the day was approaching…***

1. Who are these young women and men? Where have they come from? Why? 3
2. Which games are being referred to? What is the significance of such games? 3
3. How did the athletes stand before the race began? 3
4. Were all the contestants determined to win? How do you know? 3
5. The young women and men are differently abled children who are participating in ‘Special Olympics’. These children had come from many different countries across the world to run for the gold, silver and bronze.
6. The poet is referring to the ‘Special Olympics’. These games are held for persons who are differently abled to motivate them and boost their morale. The contestants come from many different countries and undergo training for weeks and months before the game.
7. The loudspeakers called the names of the nine participants of the next event. All the nine young athletes stood on the starting line. Each of them was determined to win therefore was ready and waiting for the sound of the gun which would be the signal to begin the race.
8. Yes, all the nine contestants were determined to win as all of them were poised for the sound of the pistol which was the signal to begin the race. As soon as the pistol exploded, the contestants too exploded and ran vigorously. Thus it is evident that all the contestants were determined to win.

***Question 5***

***For the next few minutes we talked together…. 12***

1. Whom does the word ‘we’ refer to? How are they connected to each other? 2
2. What did both friends realise at the end of their conversation that night at the Olympics village? What was ironical about their feelings? 3
3. Who was the founder of modern Olympics? What did he say? 3
4. Do you think Jesse played a role in adding to his own anxiety at the Olympics in 1936? Substantiate. 4
5. The word refers to Jesse Owens and Luz Long. Both of them were the participants in the Olympic Games held in Berlin.
6. After their conversation was over both friends realised that a real friendship had been formed. It was ironical that both would compete against each other the next day and would try to beat the other Jesse knew that Luz wanted him to do his best even if it meant his winning.
7. The founder of modern Olympics was Pierre de Coubertin. He said that the important thing in Olympics was not to win but to take part. Similarly, the essential thing in life is not conquering but fighting well.
8. Yes, Jesse added to his own anxiety in the Olympics in 1936. Though the anger he had at the Aryan superiority theory of Hitler is understandable, his wanting to prove Hitler wrong by his performance was a stress factor that actually pulled him down. He painted everyone with the same brush and did not factor in people like Luz Long who epitomized fairness and sportsmanship.

***Question 6***

***How he took them up in his arms, and blessed them… 12***

1. What do the words ‘he’ and ‘them’ refer to? 2
2. Who spoke these words? To whom? Why? 3
3. Which phrase does the speaker keep repeating? Why? 3
4. Justify the title ‘An Angel in Disguise’. 4
5. ‘He’ here means Jesus Christ, the Saviour. ‘Them’ word refers to the little children.
6. These words are spoken by Joe to his wife Jane. Joe gave his wife the biblical reference to make her realize that even God loved children. Joe wanted to invoke sympathy and love in his wife’s heart for the poor, sick and desolate child Maggie.
7. The speaker repeats ‘for a single night’ thrice. Joe wanted his wife to believe that he would leave her at the poorhouse after completing the formalities the next day also to convince her to take care of Maggie only for that one night.
8. Joe and Jane’s life had been void of happiness as it was without the laughter and sunshine of children. Maggie was an angel who filled the dull and dreary chambers of not only their home but also their heart with her love and gentleness. She was disguised in the form of a sick, helpless and miserable body which was visible to all others but the love, gentleness and sweetness hidden in her was unfolded only to the Thompsons. Thus the title of the story is aptly ‘An angel in disguise’.