Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**SECOND TERM EXAM (Paper 1)**

**Std VIII SSRVM Duration: 2 hours Marks 80**

**Solve any 5 of the given questions. All questions carry equal marks. (at least one novel question is compulsory)**

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

**Question 1. 16**

***“A man who makes his friends leave their homes upon a cold night like this must have a great opinion of himself.”***

1. Who said the above line to whom? Who does ‘a man’ refer to? 3

Ans: The above line was said by John Knightley to Emma. ‘A man’ refers to Mr Weston who had invited them for dinner.

1. What did the speaker say about the above line? 3

Ans: The speaker, John Knightley said that a man who makes his friends leave their homes on such a cold night must be thinking too highly of himself. He further said that he was certain it was going to snow and if it had been a call of business or duty he would think it was a hardship whereas all they were doing was to spend several hours in another man’s house saying or doing the same old things. John then ended his monologue predicting that by the time they would return the weather would worsen.

1. Where did Emma’s carriage stop? Why? 2

Ans: Emma’s carriage stopped at the vicarage as they had to collect Mr Elton

as he had been invited by John Knightley to travel with them to Mr Weston’s dinner.

1. What did Emma tell the person who got into the carriage? What was the person’s reaction? 3

Ans: Emma told Mr Elton that Harriet was not well .Mr Elton showed no concern for Harriet whatsoever. He was very cheerful as he got into the carriage and continued to be so.He continued speaking of other things with great enjoyment.

1. Why was Emma annoyed with the person who got into the carriage? 3

Ans: When Emma told Mr Elton that Harriet was not well, he showed no concern for Harriet whatsoever. He was very cheerful as he got into the carriage and continued to be so. Inspite of Emma telling him that Harriet was no better he continued speaking of other things with great enjoyment. He seemed to have forgotten Harriet altogether in his joy at the thought of the party. Seeing his indifferent attitude towards Harriet, Emma was annoyed.

1. Write the meanings of the following words: 2
2. persuade - coax, convince b) rebuked - scolded

**Question 2:**

***“Do call upon her” 16***

1. **Who said the above to whom? Who does ‘her’ refer to? 3**

Ans: Mr Weston (Frank Churchill’s father) said the above line to his son Frank

Churchill. Here ‘her’ refers to Jane Fairfax, who had returned to Highbury.

1. **Where were the speaker and the listener? Why had they gone there? 2**

Ans: The speaker and the listener were both at Emma’s house, in Hartfield. As

Frank had come to Highbury for the first time after the marriage of Mr Weston

and Miss Taylor , the father and son had gone to Hartfield to meet Emma and her

father.

1. **Why did the speaker tell the listener to call upon ‘her’? Where was ‘she’ currently? 3**

Ans: Mr Weston knew that his son, Mr Weston had met Miss Fairfax at Weymouth.

Jane had been living a comfortable life with the Campbells but now she was at Highbury with her grandmother and aunt and had barely enough to live on. Thus Mr Weston told Frank to visit her without delay as it would look like an insult.

1. **What were Emma’s feelings after the first meeting with the listener? When and why**

**did she meet him next?**

Ans: Emma was very pleased after the first meeting with the listener ( Frank) and was looking forward to future ones. The next meeting of Emma with Frank happened immediately the next day. Frank had gone to Hartfield with Mrs Weston ( Miss Taylor) and he asked both the ladies ( Emma and Miss Taylor) to show him more of the village. 3

1. **Write in short the conversation between Emma and the listener ( in the above line)**

**about ‘her’. 3**

Ans: Emma and Mrs Weston were taking Frank around Highbury when they passed Miss Bate’s house. That is when both started talking about Jane Fairfax. Emma asked him how Jane was looking to which Frank said that she was looking ill but added that she had been always pale. Then Emma went on to ask him if he saw Jane often at Weymouth. Frank did not answer immediately. Later he picked up the conversation and did not give any direct answer. He then disclosed the fact that he had met her and the Campbells quite frequently and liked them all.

1. **Write the meanings of : a) resentment b) resembled 2**

Ans: a) hostility b) looked alike

**Question 3: 16**

**“As his motor coach rolled southeast towards the German capital, he stared out from the window with increasing amazement.”**

1. **Who does ‘he’ refer to ? Where had he reached? Why was he there? 3**

Ans: ‘He’ refers to Jesse Owens. He had reached Berlin for participating in the

1936 Olympics.

1. **Which year does the extract mention ? What major event took place in the year? 2**

Ans: The extract mentions the year 1936. The Olympics had taken place in the year.

1. **What was happening around the world during that year? 3**

Ans: The year 1936 was a year of were the ‘troubled times’ as a lot of things were not going right during that period. Ethiopia was conquered by Italy while Brazil was struck by a political divide. Unemployment was on the high in Europe and America. The worst thing was the invasion of the Nazis on Germany and their cruelty.

1. **What had the person mentioned in the above line been warned against? By whom? 2**

Ans: The listener, Owens’ , had been warned by his coach o expect racist abuse from Nazi supporters among the Berlin crowds. But Owens had come to the Olympics determined not to allow it to affect his performance.

1. **How did ‘he’ respond to the warning? 3**

Ans:: Initially, Owens also wondered whether he should go to Berlin as he was aware of all the problems . Further his coach had also warned .But the Olympic Games offered him the opportunity to show his skills to the entire world so he finally decided to go and he was determined not to allow all the negativity to affect his performance.

1. **Explain : the black American made a mockery of the Nazi claims of German**

**racial supremacy. 3**

Ans: Hitler was of the strong belief that the Germans being the ‘superior race’ would win all competition and establish the fact that they were above the others. Jesse Owens, a Black – American, proved him wrong by winning four gold medals and defeating the German competitors. Thus Owens, a soft spoken black American athlete crushed Hitler’s dream and made a mockery of the Nazi claims of German racial supremacy.

**Question 4: 16**

***“It became extremely difficult to go on my usual walk.”***

1. Who does ‘my’ refer to? Which place is mentioned in the above line? 2

Ans: ‘My’ refers to the author of the lesson ‘Darjeeling’. The place mentioned in the

above line is the Mall ,which was half an acre of flat surface.

1. Where had the speaker gone? How did he travel to the place? 2

Ans: The speaker had gone to Darjeeling. He had travelled by train up to

Jalpaiguri and then had taken a taxi from there to Darjeeling.

1. Why is the place mentioned in the lesson an unpredictable spectacle for the

visitors? 4

Ans: The place mentioned in the lesson is Darjeeling. The mist in Darjeeling was very unpredictable. It would let him have a glimpse of a village and then reveal nothing for a long time. Many a tourists would feel a waste of time and money as the sudden and continuous rain would stop them from sightseeing. An early morning and a very difficult drive to the Tiger Hill, a wonderful spectacle, was also risky as many a times the unpredictable mist would hide the spectacle.

1. As per the given line, why was it difficult for the writer to go on his usual walk? 4

Ans: As the writer became a frequent visitor to the Mall during his long stay in Darjeeling, he had become a known face among the people there. He would grin on meeting the Tibetan carpet-seller, the pastry maker , the girls knitting sweaters for sale and the photographer who would take one’s picture with Kanchenjunga in the background. Thus his usual walks were now interrupted on meeting known people so he was finding it difficult to go on his usual long brisk walks.

1. Describe the above place in detail. 4

Ans: The above place, the Mall, is half an acre of flat surface rimmed with park benches on which local beggars and holiday tycoons relaxed side by side. The place was full of young men , pretty girls , Buddhist monks counting their prayer-beads, pink- coloured children and stout gentlemen having a ride on skinny undersized ponies.

**Question 5: 16**

***“He is a creature mild and vicious”***

1. Who said the above line to whom? Who does ‘he’ refer to ? 3

And: The elephant said the above line to all the animals of Bingle. ‘He’ refers to man.

1. What all qualities of ‘he’ does the speaker enlist along with the ones mentioned

above? 4

Ans: According to the elephant, man has a lot of contrasting qualities. He is mild and vicious. He is practical but at the same time capricious. Sometimes he is very puzzling as he is good and bad.

1. Why is the speaker talking? What does he expect to do through his talks? 3

Ans: The elephant had learnt that man was trying to destroy the habitat of animals and rendering them homeless.The elephant arose and with a modest trumpet call he drew the attention of all the other beasts in the forest called Bingle. He wanted to bring to their notice how man was conniving to take away their habitat and hoped that they would all reach to an agreement and pose a united fight against man.

1. Which two specific creatures does the speaker address? What does he tell them? 4

Ans: The elephant addresses specifically the trout and the leopard. He tells the trout that its dream of having the endless space in the stream will be shattered as man is planning to build a dam inorder to make reservoirs for his selfish need. In the process the soot and filth will push the trout further and they too finally end in death. The elephant then tells the leopard that currently they are happy as they can easily get their prey- the deer and after slaughtering it can go to the streams to quench their thirst. But the elephant warns the leopard that soon it will also be homeless like the other creatures as man will take away their habitat.

1. What appeal does the speaker make in the end? What consequences does he

mention if his appeal is not adhered to ? 2

Ans: At the end the elephant requests all the denizens- in fur ( mammals) and feather(birds) – of Bingle to unite and resist man and fight his cruel intentions and to either live or die together. He says that if his appeal is no adhered to then it will spell doom for the entire animal kingdom

**Question 6: 16**

***“ Where the world has not been broken up into fragments by narrow domestic walls”***

1. Explain ‘narrow domestic walls ‘and how they have fragmented the world. 4

Ans: Narrow domestic walls refer to the superstitions, narrow outlook and beliefs of people. This has led individuals to become self-centered and also made their hearts small and concise.

People have lost faith in one another, leading to fragmenting the world into small pieces.

1. What does the poet compare ‘reason’ to? Why? What figure of speech

is used here? 4

Ans: The poet compares reason to a clear stream. Rational thinking and clarity in thought helps in progress and growth of an individual and a nation collectively. The evil and negative thoughts and the old and superstitious beliefs can only be washed away by such clean and pure ideas . Thus the poet compares such clear thoughts to a clear stream which washes away all the silt as it flows.

1. What kind of heaven does the poet wish his country to wake up into? 4

Ans: The poet wishes his country to wake up into a new dawn. This new light would bring in truth, enlightenment for the countrymen. In this new light the countrymen would see things clearly and also let go of age old beliefs and superstitions which are hindering the growth of these countrymen. The poet dreams of a heaven where countrymen would live with dignity and self-respect. The land will flourish with men and women brimming with values like honesty, hard work and truthfulness. It is then that our country would be a paradise of freedom.

1. Bring out the contrast the poet has used by mentioning ‘clear stream’

and ‘dreary desert’. 4

Ans: The clear stream of water is compared to logical thinking or reasoning. The flow and clarity of thoughts is compared to water. Whereas the dreary desert sand of dead habit’ refers to ritualistic behaviour and blind belief. They are illogical and are like desert, unproductive. There can be no progress if do not follow reason and logic and continue to move in the rut of old customs.

**Question 7: 16**

***“ And it grew both day and night”***

1. **What does the ‘it’ refer to? What does ‘it’ grow into? What helped it grow? 4**

Ans: ‘It’ refers to the anger of the poet- speaker towards his enemy. It grew into a poison tree. Initially the anger was like a seed. As he did not express it, the anger was sowed deep in his heart. He nurtured it with all negative emotions which were like water and nutrition for the plant. He also gave it the sunshine through his fake smiles and deceitful tricks. This helped the seed of anger to grow into a full-fledged tree but with poisonous fruit.

1. **What contrasting situations are mentioned in the first stanza of the poem? 4**

Ans: When the poet was angry with his friend, he expressed his anger openly and his anger disappeared. On the other hand when his enemy hurt him, he did not vent his anger. He bottled up his feelings. As a result the anger kept growing within him.

1. **What universal truth does the poem show? / What is the message of the poem? 4**

Ans: This poem is a learning that if anger is expressed it dies, leaving the person free of negative emotions but if the anger is suppressed, it keeps growing finally destroying the person on whom the anger is.

1. **Does this poem remind you of the story of Adam and Eve? In what way? 4**

Ans: Yes. This poem does remind one of the story of Adam and Eve. It is the reference of the apple that is similar to the forbidden apple which both had eaten and were therefore taken away from paradise. Here the poet’s enemy saw the apple which was shining (the anger of the poet which was camouflaged with his smiles and deceitful wiles) and was carried away by its outward appearance and when he went to get it he is destroyed.