Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**Test: The Adventure of the Speckled Band, The Wall,**

**Whose place is it anyway,**

**Std VIII-PPS Set B**

**Marks 30 40 min**

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

***Question 1***

***‘Two years have passed since then, and my life has been lonelier than ever.’***

1. ***What does the word ‘then’ refer to? Who is the speaker of these lines? Where are they spoken? (2)***

***Ans: The word ‘then’ refers to the death of Julia. The speaker of these lines is Helen. These words are spoken in Holmes’ house.***

1. ***Mention what happened two days ago? (3)***

***Ans: Two days ago some repairs were started in Helen’s room and she had to move into the chamber in which her sister died.***

***Question 2***

***It was nearly one o’clock when Holmes returned from his excursion…***

1. ***Where had Holmes been to? Why? (2)***

***Ans: Holmes had been Doctors’ Commons where he hoped to get some information that would help them solve the case.***

1. ***What information did he get there? (3)***

***Ans: He got to see the will of the deceased wife and he got to know that each daughter could claim an income of two hundred and fifty pounds in case of marriage. Therefore if both girls had married, the doctor would have had a mere pittance. Even if one of them was getting married, it would ruin him.***

***Question 3***

1. ***Why are polar bears declining? (1)***

***Ans: Polar bears are declining as Arctic ice dissolves.***

1. ***Explain the term: ‘borrowed time’ (1)***

***Ans: ‘borrowed time’ means extra time asked from humans for the animals’ survival.***

1. ***Which animals are mentioned in the first stanza? (4)***

***Ans: Golden mole, pine marten, polecat, hippos and the cheetahs of Botswana.***

***Question 4***

***What message does the speaker convey in the last stanza of the poem? (4)***

***Ans: The speaker says that we should remember those creatures also with whom we share the Earth. We should also honour and value their true worth as we cannot let our best friends simply vanish without trace. So he urges everyone to work together and restore their rightful place.***

***Question 5***

1. ***How have the coaches contributed in Dravid’s life? (2)***

***Ans: The coaches have helped Dravid to become a better cricketer and a better person.***

1. ***Who are the other people to whom he conveys his gratitude? (3)***

***Ans: He conveys his gratitude to all his senior cricketers, heroes and role models for inspiring him and leaving a legacy that he was very conscious of.***

***Question 6***

***And I have no doubt that I will take great pleasure in watching you achieve great things***

1. ***Who is ‘you’ here? What does he hope from the Indian cricket team regarding the field? (3)***

***Ans: Here ‘You’ refers to the Indian cricket team. He hopes that the team will be a strong force both on the field and off the field.***

1. ***Name the three cricketers mentioned by Dravid in the text. Where would he and his father look for information about their cricket performances when he was young? (2)***

***Ans: Sunil Gavaskar, Kapil Dev and G R Viswanath are the three cricketers mentioned by Dravid. His father and he would listen to the commentary on the radio or would pick up newspaper in the morning to see what these cricketers had done.***