Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**Assignment: Emma Chapter 3**

1. **What was Mr Knightley’s opinion about Emma’s friendship with Harriet Smith?**

Ans: Mr Knightley did not approve of Emma’s friendship with Harriet Smith. He thought it would not do either of them any good. According to him Harriet was ignorant and inexperienced and therefore Emma could not learn anything from her. Moreover, Harriet would soon become discounted with the places where she really belonged if she spent more time at Hartfield.

1. **What did Mrs Weston say about the friendship between Emma and Harriet?**

Ans: Mrs Weston believed that the friendship would do mutual good to both the, girls. As Harriet would give Emma a new object of interest, it would make Emma happy. According to her it would benefit Harriet as Emma wanted to raise the status of Harriet.

1. **What comment did Mr Knightley make about the reading habits of Emma?**

Ans: Mr Knightley told Mrs Weston that Emma had meant to read more since she was twelve years old and had enlisted a lot of names of books that she intended to read. He said that those lists were very well chosen and neatly arranged but Emma had hardly read a few of those. He believed that Emma could never complete anything that needed patience and industry. He further told Mrs Weston that if she could not persuade Emma to read, surely Harriet couldn’t.

1. **According to Mr Knightley, why was Emma spoilt?**

Ans: According to Mr Knightley , Emma was spoiled by being the cleverest of her family. At ten, she could answer questions which puzzled her sister at seventeen. Emma was quick, self-confident whilst Isabella, her sister, was slow and shy. Ever since she was twelve, Emma had been mistress of her house and of all the people in the house.

1. **When Mrs Weston mentioned Emma’s beauty , what was Mr Knightley’s reaction?**

Ans: When Mrs Weston mentioned Emma’s beauty , Mr Knightley said that he had no fault to find with Emma’s appearance and he loved to look at her.

1. **What were Emma’s thoughts about her friendship with Harriet?**

Ans: Emma was very positive about her friendship with Harriet. She was certain that she had turned Harriet’s thoughts in the right direction and that Mr Elton was falling in love with her.

1. **What did Emma decide to do in order to attract Mr Elton to Harriet? What did she do?**

Ans: One day Emma decided to draw a portrait of Harriet in order to attract Mr Elton to her. She wanted to start work on it immediately so she took out her portfolio of drawings so that the best size of paper could be selected.

1. **What were the contents of Emma’s portfolio? Was she a talented artist? Was she honest about her skill to herself and to others?**

Ans: Emma’s portfolio contained miniatures, half lengths, whole lengths, pencil sketches , crayon drawings and water colours. Emma was not a talented artist. She knew her limitations as an artist but was quite content to allow her reputation as an artist to be higher than she deserved.

1. **What resolution had Emma taken? Why had she taken it? Why does she want to break it now?**

Ans: When Emma had made a portrait of Isabella , she had to do it hurriedly as Isabella did not have the patience to sit longer and wanted Emma to draw her four children. Further , when Emma drew Isabella’s husband’s portrait, Isabella criticised it. Emma couldn’t bear the criticism and put the portrait away unfinished. Emma resolved never to draw any more portraits. But Emma wanted to break her resolution for the sake of Harriet and this time there were no husbands or wives involved.

1. **What were Elton’s views about Emma’s decision to make a portrait of Harriet? What impression did Emma get?**

Ans: Mr Elton thought that Emma’s decision to make a portrait of Harriet was an excellent one and repeated that it was the right time as no husbands and wives involved.

1. **How did Elton behave after the portrait was partly done at the end of the first day ?**

Ans: After the portrait was partly done at the end of the first day, Mr Elton was full of praise for what Emma had achieved. He begged to be allowed to be present the next afternoon when Emma was to continue her work.

1. **What were the views of Mr Knightley and Mrs Weston about the portrait of Harriet?**

Ans: Mrs Weston said that Harriet’s eyebrows and eyelashes were different in the portrait but that added to her beauty. Mr Knightly, on the other hand said that Emma had made Harriet appear too tall.

1. **What can you say about Mrs Weston’s feelings towards Emma from this chapter? Give reasons for your answer.**

Ans: In this chapter, it is evident that Mrs Weston loves Emma unconditionally. She never doubts Emma’s decision. So when Emma strikes a friendship with Harriet who is not from the same background, Mrs Weston supports it saying it is good for both parties. Further , when Mr Knightley points out that Emma didn’t read inspite of Mrs Weston’s encouragement, she said that she was not a suitable teacher for Emma. Later when Emma makes a portrait of Harriet she is all praises for it though it is not a perfect one. Mrs Weston also tells Mr Knightley that Emma is the most beautiful person in Highbury.

1. **What were Mr Woodhouse’s thoughts about the portrait?**

Ans: Mr Woodhouse was full of praise for the portrait but he was worried because in the picture Harriet was sitting out of doors with only a small shawl round her shoulders and he was afraid that she might catch a cold.

1. **Write all instances that made Emma believe that Mr Elton was deeply in love with Harriet?**

Ans: Mr Elton told Emma that Harriet was beautiful earlier but Emma had added a graceful manner to her beauty. When Emma decided to make a portrait of Harriet, Mr Elton supported her decision and emphasised on the line that there were no husbands and wives at ‘that’ moment hinting that there was a possibility later. He stood watching the portrait being made.When the portrait was partly done , he was full of praise and begged to be allowed to be present the next afternoon when Emma was to continue her work. Finally, when the picture had to be framed, Mr Elton offered to take it to London and called it a ‘precious’ parcel.All these instances made Emma believe that Mr Elton was deeply in love with Harriet.

1. **What happened the next afternoon? Why was Harriet in a bad state?**

Ans: The next afternoon, Harriet came to Hartfield in a state of agitation. That morning while Harriet was out, Mr Martin had called at Mrs Goddard’s house and left a small parcel for her. Inside was some music from Elizabeth Martin and a letter to Harriet written by Mr Martin with a proposal of marriage.

1. **What were Emma’s views about the letter sent by Mr Martin?**

Ans: Emma was amazed to find that the letter was very well written. It was short but it showed good sense and left Emma in no doubt of Mr Martin’s love for Harriet. She told Harriet that the letter was so good that she thought one of his sisters must have helped him to write it. Emma also admitted that it was much better written than she had expected.

1. **What advice did Harriet ask Emma about the proposal? What did Emma think she was asking about?**

Ans: Harriet asked Emma whether she should refuse Mr Martin. Emma thought that Harriet was consulting her only as to how to phrase her letter as she was sure Harriet would refuse.

1. **What was the threat that Emma gave to Harriet if she would accept Mr Martin’s proposal? What did Harriet assure her?**

Ans: Emma told Harriet that she would not continue to be her friend if she married Mr Martin as she could not have a farmer’s wife as a friend. Harriet told Emma that that would have been dreadful and she would not give up the pleasure and honour of Emma’s friendship for anything in the world.