Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**Test: The Solitary Reaper, A Boy’s Best Friend**

**Std VIII Duration: 30min Marks 25**

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

**Q.1 Give meanings: (4)**

a. spindly- tall and slender

b. tendons- strong band or cord of tissue forming the ends or the connecting parts of muscles.

c. Hebrides- islands near Great Britain

d. plaintive- mournful

**Q.2 Make sentences: (4)**

a. chant b. solitary c. lunar d.somersaulting

(Personal Response)

**Q.3 Reference to context (10)**

*‘We have something for you Jimmy’*

a. Who is the speaker of the line? How is he related to Jimmy? (2)

Ans: Mr. Anderson. He is Jimmy’s father.

b. What does the speaker have for Jimmy? Where is it now? (3)

Ans: The speaker has a real dog from earth for Jimmy. It is a Scotch terrier puppy. It is the first dog on moon and it is now at the rocket station.

*‘He was frowning too and the desperate look on his face meant that he wouldn’t change his mind.’*

a. Who is he? Why was he frowning? (2)

Ans: ‘He’ is Jimmy. Jimmy had been told about a real dog from earth about his dad and his dad had told him that Robbut would have to be given away since they couldn’t keep two dogs. This made Jimmy frown.

b. Why wouldn’t he change his mind? About what? (3)

Jimmy wouldn’t change his mind about giving Robutt away and about the feelings of the two dogs (the real one and Robutt). He also thought that Robutt understood him, loved him and did everything that Jimmy wanted him to do and so Jimmy was not looking for a replacement for his robot-mutt.

**Q.4 Reference to context (7)**

*Behold her, single in the field*

a. Who is ‘her’ in the poem? What is she doing? (2)

Ans: Her- Solitary Reaper who is a Highland Lass. She is reaping and singing by herself.

*‘Will no one tell me what she sings?’*

a. What does the poet think the solitary reaper is singing about? (3)

Ans: The poet thinks that the solitary reaper is singing about old, unhappy, far-off things and battles long ago, or some more humble lay of a familiar matter or of some natural sorrow, toss or pain.

*‘The music in my heart I bore*

*Long after it was heard no more*

a. Who is saying these lines? What music is he talking about and why? (2)

Ans: The poet William Wordsworth is saying these lines. He is talking about the solitary reaper’s music because it has had a lasting impact on him.