Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**Second Term Examination**

**Std- VIII Marks 80 Duration: 2 hr**

**Answer Any 6 questions from Q1-Q7**

**Question 8 is compulsory**

***Question 1 12***

***I have been waiting for you for a long time…***

1. Who is the writer of this book? 1

What is Calypso? Give the meaning of Calypsonians: 1

1. Where does the scene take place? After how long does the narrator meet the speaker? 3
2. Describe the B.Wordsworth’s house. 3
3. What happened a year later when the narrator went to B.Wordsworth’s house? 4
4. V.S.Naipaul. Calypso is a type of the music. Calypsoians are Carribean musicians who sing songs called Calypso.
5. The scene takes place at the corner of Miguel Street. The narrator meets the speaker after a week when he came back from school one afternoon.
6. B. Wordsworth’s lived in a one-roomed hut which was in Alberto Street. It was placed right in the centre of the lot. The yard seemed all green. It had no more furniture than George’s front room but it looked cleaner and and healthier. It looked lonely too.
7. He could find no sign of the poet’s house. It hadn’t vanished just like that. It had been pulled down and a big two-storeyed building had taken its place. The mango, the plum and the coconut tree had all been cut down and there was brick and concrete everywhere.

***Question 2***

***‘From time to time he dug a six-penny coin out of a waistcoat pocket and stared at it ruefully…’ 12***

1. Name the story from which the extract has been taken. What is the pseudonym of the writer? 2
2. Why was ‘he’ staring at the coin ruefully? What was he looking for? What caused him to be with only six-penny coin? 3
3. How contrasting were those two men who greeted Philip at the platform? 3
4. Philip is a narcissistic. Comment and justify. 4
5. A shot in the dark. Saki
6. He was staring at the coin ruefully as he had only been left with that much of money. He was looking for his coin-purse. He had forgotten his coin-purse when he wanted to seal a letter. His coin purse also had a seal of crest on it. He had some loose change in his pocket but after he paid for a taxi and his ticket, he was only left with six-pence.
7. Philip was greeted noisily by Claude People, an important lawyer; but very sedately by a tall footman who had travelled by the same train.
8. In the last part of the story Sletherby thought that he would have an entertaining story to recount at dinner that evening and his clever little trap would earn him applause. And, everyone will think highly of him. They will also consider him as a man of wisdom by giving him a huge round of applause for his resource and astuteness.

***Question 3 12***

***Then in 2001 disaster struck again.***

1. Elaborate the disaster. 3
2. What had happened in the year 2000? 3
3. Mention any four geographical features of California. 2
4. How long was Kevin stuck on pitch 15? What did Tommy do in such a situation? Why? 4
5. Tommy was working with a table saw when he had an accident and chopped of the top of his index finger. Despite the pain he acted quickly and put the piece of his finger in ice. When he got to the hospital the doctors were able to sew the finger back together. However they told Tommy that it would never recover fully.
6. In year 2000, Tommy and three other climbers were in Kyrgystan climbing in the Pamir-Alai mountain range when they were shot at and then captured by Uzbekistani rebels. After six days of being held hostage Tommy managed to overpower a guard and get free. The four climbers had to trek 29 km before they found help. The suffering and the fear they had experienced had a deep effect on Tommy and the other climbers. This experience made him realise that if he could cope with being held hostage, he could cope with anything.
7. Huge range of geographic features- a long coast line, dry Mojave Desert, lots of fertile farmland, massive mountains, and deep valleys. California is home to the tallest trees in the world, the coast redwood, oldest tree in the world- the bristlecone pine. (Any 4)
8. For ten days he was stuck on pitch 15. Tommy did not go ahead without Kevin. He not only wanted to support Kevin and boost his morale but also did not want to achieve the feat all alone.

***Question 4 12***

***I nearly called out in my joy and excitement…..***

1. What is the name of the book? Name the writer? 2
2. Mention any three clues to indicate that Sherlock was not ill. 3
3. Why did Culverton Smith want to kill Holmes? What were the two reasons for Smith’s arrest? 3
4. Explain the line: You are not yourself. A sick man is but a child 4

1. The Adventure of the Dying Detective- Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. 2
2. Dr Watson, being a doctor, had never heard of such an illness. Sherlock doesn’t give any details even to his landlady and also would not let his doctor-friend examine him. He even reached the conclusion without any doctor’s confirmation. To avoid Dr Watson’s proximity he says that he has caught a very contagious disease. The dying man Sherlock leaps like a tiger to lock the door and the next moment he staggers back to his bed. Holmes wisely directs Watson not to come along with Culverton Smith. Inspector Morton smiles after he asks Doctor Watson about his well-being. Holmes asks Watson to hide behind his bed, he tells the doctor to light up the candle. **(ANY 3)**
3. Mr Culverton Smith wanted to kill Holmes because the former had murdered Victor Savage and the latter knew all the secrets about the killing. The two reasons were; on the charge of the murder of Victor Savage and the other was the attempted murder of Sherlock Holmes.
4. The sentence means that a person is not behaving according to his/her age or as per the person’s personality. The other part means that whenever a matured person falls ill, he starts

behaving like a child does to fulfil his childish demands.

***Question 5***

***“He felt the cheering power of spring, it made him whistle. It made him sing.” 12***

1. What makes Sir Ralph so happy on seeing the buoy? What does he decide to do? 2
2. What instructions does Sir Ralph give to his sailors? Why? 3
3. What is the colour of the buoy? How does Sir Ralph react on seeing it? 3
4. How is the weather before cutting of the Bell? 4
5. Sir Ralph was excessively mirthful on seeing the buoy as he had a wicked plan in his mind. The plan was to cut the Inchcape Bell away from the float.
6. Sir Ralph instructed the sailors to put out a lifeboat and row him towards the Inchcape Rock. He wanted to go near the Inchcape Rock and plague the Abbot of Aberbrothok by cutting away the Inchcape Bell.
7. The colour of the buoy was darker than green. We know it as the buoy was visible as a dark speck on the green ocean. He felt the cheering power of spring which made him whistle and sing. His heart was excessively mirthful and his mirth was hidden in his wickedness.
8. The sea was very calm at the start of the poem. There was no movement in the air. The ship was absolutely still as its sail did not receive any motion from heaven. The keel was completely steady in the ocean. It was because the sails of the ship were not filled by the breeze. This led to the ship being almost stationary. The day has been described as a pleasant day when the sun was shining brightly in the heaven. All things were seemed to be joyful. The sea-birds were screaming while wheeling around and there was joyance in their sound.

**Question 6  *12***

***“And treat these two impostors just the same...”***

1. Which impostors have been mentioned in the poem? Why are they called so? 3
2. Explain: If you can dream- and not make dreams your master. 2
3. List the qualities which ‘make a man’ according to the poet. 3
4. Name and explain the two Figures of Speech in the given line: 4

* If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster

1. Triumph and Disaster are the two impostors mentioned in the poem. They are called so as the sense of victory or sense of defeat are transient and short-lived. They are temporary in life and have no permanent place in a man’s life.
2. The poet says that one should dream and be ambitious to achieve those aspirations. But at the same time one should not become slave to those dreams.
3. According to the poet a man must be calm, self-confident, loyal, truthful, upright, loving, positive-minded and strong enough to reconstruct things from disasters. A man should be forgiving and ready to act positively. He must learn to sacrifice and value action.
4. Antithesis- two opposite words ‘Triumph’ and ‘Disaster’ are mentioned

Personification- The words are given capital letters in the beginning to personify them like proper nouns

**Question 7  *12***

***“That slowly dawned behind the trees, the barren boughs without the leaves…***

1. What slowly dawned? Which game was being played by the narrator and his companion? 2
2. How did the children’s reaction change later? 3
3. What time of day is it? Which season? Where was the brook? Justify with the lines from the poem. 3
4. Why did the children go to the brook? Did they get it there? 4
5. The moon slowly dawned. The game that was being played was hide and seek.
6. The children later laid their staying hand on each other to listen before they dared to look. In the silence, they heard the brook.
7. It is the evening time in autumn season filled with dim moonlight. The brook was by the woods

Because the autumn eve was fair./ And by the brook our woods were there.

1. The well next to their house had dried up and so with a pail they went across the fields to seek the brook. No, they did not get the water there as the brook had been frozen. The drops floated on the pool like pearls and the frozen ice looked like silver blade.

***Question 8***

1. Explain: The brain may devise laws for the blood, but a hot temper leaps o’er a cold decree. 2

A hot tempered man is compared to a hare who jumps over the meshes of the good counsel. Also, in another metaphor hot tempered is the youth who always overpowers the cold law who is referred to as the cripple.

1. What is Portia’s reaction to Count Palatine? 4

According to Portia, Count Palatine does nothing but frown. The expression is as if he wants to say that if Portia does not choose him, she can choose anyone else. He hears merry tales but does not smile and Portia fears that he would prove to be a weeping philosopher (Heraclitus) when he grows old. She says that she would be rather married to a skull than to him.

1. Mention Portia’s reaction to the name of German Lord. 3

Portia says that the German lord is very vilely in the morning when he is sober and most vilely in the afternoon when he is drunk. In his best behaviour he is a little worse than a man and in his worst behaviour he is a little better than a beast.