Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**Test: I know why the caged bird sings, Hearts and Hands, Merchant of Venice Act 2 Scene 3, Scene 4**

**Std IX Set C**

**Marks 20 30min**

**Answer Key**

1. Launcelot says that tears are preventing him from speaking. He calls Jessica as the most beautiful pagan and the sweetest Jew. He says that if a Christian does not play a knave and get her he would be much deceived
2. Jessica says it is a heinous sin to be ashamed to be her father’s child. She justifies it by saying that though she is a daughter to his blood, she is not to his manners. She wishes that Lorenzo keeps his promise and then she would become a Christian and his loving wife.
3. Launcelot is going to Shylock’s house after delivering the letter. He is inviting Shylock on behalf of Bassanio for the feast at Bassanio’s house.
4. Lorenzo says that he knows the hand of the person who wrote the letter. He says that it is a fair hand and is whiter than the paper on which it is written.
5. The song of the caged bird is full of fear and hopelessness. It expresses a strong desire for freedom and other unknown things. It shows that the bird has been longing for freedom since a long time. Its freedom of movement is curbed and singing is the only way it can express itself.
6. The poem brings out the contrast between a free bird and a caged one. Whenever the poet shifts from the free bird to the caged one, she uses the conjunction ‘but’ specifically because it denotes contrast.
7. Among the newcomers in the coach there were two young men. One of them was a handsome man with a bold and frank facial expression and manner. The other one was a ruffled, serious looking person, heavily built and roughly dressed. They were handcuffed together and therefore are referred to as the ‘linked couple’.