Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**Pre-Preliminary Exam: Test 5**

**Stories Poems Drama**

1) God lives in the… 1) Where the mind… Merchant

Of

2) Kabuliwala 2) The Inchcape Rock Venice (Act V)

**Std X Set G**

**Marks 40 1 hour**

Attempt ***any five*** out of the six questions

**Q1) “Medea gather’d the enchanted herbs….”**

1. Whose love story does Lorenzo mention after this dialogue? 2
2. Who interrupts their conversation? What message does he get? 3
3. How does Jessica bring about the story of Thisbe? 3

**Q2) ‘You swore to me, when I did give it you’**

1. Who is the speaker? Why is he/she angry? 3
2. What is Portia’s immediate reaction to Gratiano’s defence? 3
3. What does Bassanio wish for, to save himself from this situation? 2

i) Nerissa. She is angry because Gratiano gave away the ring. When he had sworn to her that he would wear it till the hour of his death and it would lie with him in his grave, he should have kept the ring safe for his vehement oaths.

ii) Portia clearly says that Gratiano was to blame for easily parting away with his wife’s first gift. It was a thing stuck on with oaths upon his finger and riveted with faith onto his flesh. She tells Gratiano that he had given his wife too unkind a cause of grief and had she been in the place of Nerissa, she too would have been mad at it.

iii) Bassanio is scared after hearing the confident speech of Portia about him not giving the ring away under any circumstances. He states that it would be best that he cuts off his left hand and swears that he lost the ring defending it.

**Q3) ‘On a buoy in the storm it floated and swung…’**

1. What does the word ‘it’ refer to? Why did ‘it’ float and swing? 2
2. Give an example of Alliteration in the following stanza. Explain. 2
3. How did the weather change during the return journey of Sir Ralph? In contrast how was it earlier 4

i) The word ‘it’ refers to the bell. It floated and it swung in the storm as it was tied to a buoy.

ii) surges’ swell: Starting sound ‘s’ is repeated. Alliteration

iii) Before cutting the Inchcape Rock the weather was beautiful. The sun was shining brightly and all things looked joyful. When he was on his return journey, the weather changed drastically. A thick haze spread over the sky. Even the sun was not visible. Wind had blown as a gale the entire day but in the evening it had died away.

**Q4) ‘Where the world has not been broken up into fragments…’**

1. Whose ‘world’ is being spoken about? What does the word ‘world’ refer to? 2
2. What has led to the breaking of this ‘world’? How can we avoid it? 4
3. Give an example of Personification from the poem and explain. 2

i) The poet Rabindranath Tagore’s world is being spoken about. The world refers to his world i.e. India.

ii) Narrow domestic walls’ refers to the barriers which we have created because of the narrow beliefs or narrow-mindedness in the behaviour or thoughts. Narrow-mindedness pertaining to the caste, class or gender discrimination, the superstitions, orthodox beliefs and practices have broken India into small fragments. Also the criteria of religion, region, language and political boundaries play a major role. These divisions are the ‘narrow domestic walls’ according to the poet.

iii) ‘A tireless striving stretches its arms towards perfection’- The human quality of stretching the arm is given to striving.

**Q5) “It fell like a tree whose roots, instead of going deep into the solid earth...”**

1. What does the word ‘it’ refer to? Why had it been broken? 2
2. Explain the context of this figure of speech 3
3. How was the scenario after this? 3

i) The word refers to the friendship between Alagu and Jumman. A single blast of truth had snapped the bond of their friendship. Their friendship collapsed like a tree whose roots were loosely held in sand instead of going deep in solid earth.

ii) Alagu and Jumman’s friendship is directly compared to a tree. Their tree of friendship whose foundation (roots) were not strong had fallen down due to one blast of truth. It is a simile.

iii) The two friends became over-formal in exchanging courtesies. They avoided meeting each other and if they ever met by chance, it was like a sword meeting a shield. The rankling thought that was there in Jumman’s heart was how he would be able to avenge himself on Alagu for his dark treachery.

**Q6) ‘Conscience is God present in man.’ Explain this quote with reference to the story ‘God lives in the panch’.** **8**

The old aunt striking a conversation with Alagu- The words ringing in his ears if Alagu would not say what is right or just for the sake of friendship- Alagu’s nomination as Head panch and his just verdict keeping his personal feelings aside- knowing well that it could snap his old friendship with Jumman- second time when panchayat takes place- Jumman gets the chance to be the head panch and realises that when one is at a responsible position, one cannot be partial- voice of panch is voice of God.