Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**Second Term Examination (NES)**

**Std IX Duration: 1 hr 30 min Marks 60**

**Solve any six of the given questions. All questions carry equal marks.**

**Section A- Drama**

**Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:**

***Question 1 10***

1. **To whom are these lines said? What will happen, if the speaker keeps company for two more years? How does Antonio react to this? 3**

These lines are said to Lorenzo. Gratiano says that if he keeps company for two more years he (Lorenzo) would not be able to know the sound of his own tongue. Antonio says he would grow a talker for this gear.

1. **What has Bassanio wasted his money on, according to his own confession to Antonio? 3**

According to Bassanio, he has disabled his estate by showing something which is a swelling pot than what his faint means would allow. He has lived a life full of extravagance which his limited income doesn’t allow. He doesn’t also want to be abridged from such a noble rate.

1. **How does Bassanio describe Portia? 4**

Bassanio calls Portia as rich, fair and virtuous. He says that this Portia is not less in value to Cato’s daughter Portia. The world is not ignorant of her worth and renowned suitors come from all the four directions. Her sunny locks hang on her temples like a golden fleece and Belmont has become Colchis’ strand. Many Jasons come in quest of Portia and he believed because of the fair speechless messages that she had given, he would be the one who would be fortunate to marry her.

***Question 2 10***

1. **Is Morocco proud of his colour? Justify with examples from the scene. 3**

Yes, Morocco says that he is proud of his colour and would not want to change it. The only situation in which he would be willing to change his colour would be to steal the thoughts of Portia.

1. **How does Portia react to this speech of Morocco? 3**

Portia confesses to Morocco that the choosing of her husband is not in her hands. She had to depend on the conditions put by her father. If her father had not hedged her and scanted her by his wit, then Morocco stood a fair chance as any other suitor who had come for her affection.

1. **What does this scene tell us about the character of Morocco? 4**

**Brave-** Prince of Morocco considers himself to be braveand better than the fair people from the North. But if an incision is made in them, it would be easily proved whose blood is redder. He implies that he is Morocco says that the native girls of his country love the bravery which he has. This bravery has scared even the most valiant people around full of valour and bravery than any fair man.

**Brags-** Morocco swears by his scimitar and brags that he had slain the Sophy and a Persian Prince who had won three battlefields against Sultan Solyman.

**Boastful -**Morocco says that he would over-stare the sternest eyes that looked at him. And outbrave the most daring heart on earth. He would pluck the young sucking cubs from the she-bear to prove his bravery. He claims that he is a deserving candidate and compares himself to Hercules also thanks Portia for giving him a fair chance.

**Section B- Poetry**

**Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:**

***Question 3 10***

1. **What had caused the injury to the soldier? 3**

As the soldiers cleared the crest of the hill that they were climbing, there was an explosion in the night. After this explosion he found himself with a small pain in his chest.

1. **Why does the soldier consider himself to be lucky? 3**

The soldier considers himself to be very lucky as he is alive. While others have met a horrible death. Like his comrades, eventually he too is martyred at the end.

1. **Do you think that the soldier is defeated at the end of the poem? 4**

No, the soldier was seriously injured with what he calls as the small pain in his chest. In spite of this injury and the knowledge of all his comrades being dead, he kept on firing at his enemies. He persisted with his best effort till he was overwhelmed by his physical injury.

***Question 4 10***

1. **How are vendors, maidens and pedlars different? 3**

Vendors are people who sell wares on a cart or on a stall. The pedlars or hawkers are the ones who sell goods by going from one place to another. Maidens are young unmarried girls who are grinding aromatic cosmetics like sandalwood and henna and also grinding spices.

1. **Who are mentioned in the previous stanza? What wares are mentioned and why are they displayed richly? 3**

Merchants are mentioned in the previous stanza. Expensive wares like turbans of crimson and silver, tunics of purple brocade, mirrors with panels of amber, daggers with handle of jade are displayed in the bazaar. These products are displayed richly because they are meant for the rich. The poetess wants to prove that in India such luxurious expensive wares also have buyers.

1. **What is the message of the poem? 4**

Through this poem, Sarojini Naidu, the poetess, wants to enthuse deep respect for Indian culture and a zeal to drive away the British, in the minds of Indians. Very subtly, she wants to point out to the Indians that India is full of beautiful products meant for everyone so there is no need to use the foreign goods. She wants to revive the self-esteem of her countrymen and motivate them to unite and boycott foreign goods.

**Section C- Prose**

**Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:**

***Question 5 10***

1. **Who is being spoken about? What is his age? What does he also do? 3**

‘He’ here refers to Kasim’s son. He is four years old and he chases dogs.

1. **Why did Kasim hurriedly leave without completing his conversation with Rizwan? 3**

Kasim wants to leave in a hurry as he believes that there would be some labourers near the ditch. They would be wanting to buy some warm clothes. So it was an appropriate time for doing business.

1. **Were both Rizwan and Kasim sailing in the same boat? Justify 4**

Yes, Kasim and Rizwan both face the problem of hunger. They have to take care of their family responsibilities. These are the visible similarities between them. But Rizwan is educated and lives with his family. Kasim is not educated and has his family in his village. Rizwan has just found employment whereas Kasim is self-employed. These are the apparent differences between them.

***Question 6 10***

1. **Where was Kunwar lying? In what condition? 3**

Kunwar was lying upon the low string charpoy in his mud and grass hut with a floor of trodden earth. He was crying and sometimes coughing from the smoke but was mostly glazed and silent.

1. **What did the sight of the bear track make Sher Singh think? 3**

Sher Singh saw the sight of the bear track in the dust, square front paw and long back one which made him glance around uneasily. He had once seen a man who had been mauled by a bear, his face torn away. Thinking about this Sher Singh quickened his step.

1. **Explain the symbolism of the title ‘Journey by Night’ 4**

The journey that Sher Singh undertook started in the evening. He was supposed to carry his brother to Kalaghat which was fifty miles away, in the night crossing the forest and two rivers. The night here is also symbolic of the difficulties faced by him. The cobra, elephants and other wild animals around pose a challenge to him just as the crossing of the two rivers do. He is able to overcome all these and reach Kalaghat in time. As he is able to successfully undertake the journey through the night and its difficulties.

***Question 7 10***

Mention Major Sandeep Unnikrishnan, Karambir Singh Kang, Vishnu Dattaram Zende, Chhotu Chaiwala, Sandra Samuel and their contribution