Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**FIRST TERM EXAM**

**Std IX-NES Duration: 1 hour 30 min Marks 60**

***Question 1***

1. Antonio. These words are spoken to Shylock. Antonio uses the word ‘again’ as he flares up after being provoked by sarcastic way of Shylock’s taunts. Shylock expects Antonio to be ashamed but he flares up and says that he will call him dog, spit on him and spurn him again.
2. Bassanio is not comfortable with the condition of the bond. He does not trust Shylock would ever offer friendship without any malicious intent. This shows that Bassanio is a good friend. Though he is in need, he would certainly not stake his friend’s life for his wishes.
3. Shylock tells Antonio that often he has berated him in the Rialto about his moneys and usances. He has borne it with a patient shrug. Antonio has called him misbeliever, cut-throat dog and spat upon his Jewish gabardine. He has done all this just because Shylock charges interest. Antonio also has spat on his beard and kicked him as one would spurn a stray dog over his threshold.
4. Antonio tells Bassanio not to fear as he would not forfeit the bond. He expected in two months a return of three times the value of the bond. That was a month before the bond would expire.

***Question 2***

1. Gratiano is the speaker. To Lorenzo. In the street outside Shylock’s house.
2. 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.
3. Jessica had directed how he should take her from her father’s house. She had also mentioned the gold and jewels she was furnished with and which page’s suit she had in readiness. She was going to elope in the disguise of a page-boy.
4. 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.

***Question 3***

1. The narrator of the poem is one of the bangle sellers who bear their shining loads (bangles) to the temple fair.
2. The tokens meaning bangles are said to be delicate, bright and rainbow-tinted circles of light.
3. The buds are pink in colour like the blush on a maiden’s face. So, the pink bangles are compared to buds. The pink buds symbolise small girls who are about to enter the adolescent age. Just like the buds are about to bloom into flowers, these girls are about to blossom into young adolescents.
4. In the last stanza, the poet mentions the women who have experienced all aspects of womanhood. As they have accomplished all their duties, there is a sense of pride they feel. Thus, purple and gold bangles are suited for them. Also, these bangles are spotted with grey which is a colour symbolising maturity.

***Question 4***

1. The person who plants the tree, plants a friend of sun and sky. The tree towers high towards the sky and appears as if it is extending its hand of friendship to the sun and the sky. The tree is a friend in the true sense of the word because it is beneficial to the environment as it reduces the temperature and purifies the atmosphere.
2. The tree is towering high into the sky. Moreover, there is a lot of harmony and peace surrounding the tree. The birds nest in the tree and sing in twilight and this fills the atmosphere with music that is very soothing. All this makes the tree like a heaven close by.
3. When a person plants a sapling, it grows into a tree after some years. The seeds enclosed in the fruit of the tree get scattered and give birth to more trees resulting in the creation of forests. This cycle continues and thus the tree passes on a legacy in the form of a forest.
4. The term ‘growth from sea to sea’ refers to the growth of the entire world. A person who plants a tree plants the seed of growth and prosperity. Trees are the symbol of life as they purify the air and maintain ecological balance. One tree gives rise to many more leading to growth of forests across all the nations of the world.

***Question 5***

1. The speaker is the narrator who was an army scout. He was watching the bridge and the African looking country of the Ebro Delta and wondered how long it would be before they would see the enemy. He waited to listen to the first noises that would signal that ever mysterious event called contact.
2. The animals mentioned by the other man are of ‘various’ types. There were two goats, a cat and then there were four pairs of pigeons.
3. The narrator asked the old man regarding politics as the old man was not ready to budge from the place and cross the bridge. He wanted to verify if the old man was siding with the fascist forces.
4. The trucks were heading towards Barcelona. They were probably rescuing trucks taking the republican supporters to safety. Barcelona, then, was an area under Republican domination. When the old man is told this he responds by saying that he knew nobody in that direction.

***Question 6***

My words are like the stars that never change. His people are many they are like the grass that covers vast prairies. My people are few. They resemble the scattering trees of a storm-swept plain. Our people covered the land as the waves of a wind-ruffled sea cover its shell-paved floor. Our people are ebbing away like a rapidly receding tide that will never return. His red children whose teeming multitudes once filled this vast continent as stars fill the firmament. Day and night cannot dwell together. The Red Man has ever fled the approach of the white Man, as the morning mist flees before the morning sun. Grim fate seems to be on the Red man’s trail and wherever he will hear the approaching footsteps of his fell destroyer and prepare stolidly to meet his doom, as does the wounded doe that hears the approaching footsteps of the hunter.