Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

First Terminal Examination

Std VIII BB Duration: 1 Hr 30 Mins Marks 80

**Section A- Prose (40)**

**Read the given extracts and answer the questions that follow:**

**Question 1 (10)**

***As the policeman walked up to him, the man spoke up quickly.***

1. Who does him refer to ? What was ‘he’ doing when the policeman walked up to him? 2

Ans: ‘Him’ refers to the man with an unlighted cigar in his mouth. He was leaning in the doorway of a darkened hardware store.

1. What did the man tell the policeman? Why did he tell him so ? 2

Ans: The man told the policeman that he was just waiting for a friend with whom he had an appointment twenty years ago. He told him so because he did not want the policeman to think he was there for some wrong reason.

1. Why is the moment when ‘he’ lights a match important to the plot? 3

Ans: When the man lights a match , the policeman is able to see his face . It is at that moment that he realises that his old friend is a wanted criminal in Chicago. He instantly decides to have him arrested but by another officer.

1. What made the policeman look like a perfect picture of a guardian of peace?

Write at least three points to substantiate your answer? 3

Ans: . The policeman went around trying the doors to check if all was fine. He twirled his club in an artistic manner. His form was sturdy and had a slight swagger. While checking the doors he also often cast a watchful eye down the street. All this made him look like a perfect picture of a guardian of peace.

**Question 2 : (10)**

**“Now I’ve done it! I’ve just done it – but I couldn’t get out of it.”**

1. Who says these words and to whom? 2

Ans: Elaine says these words to her mother, Mrs Pringle.

1. What has the speaker just been told that makes him/her react in this manner? 2

Ans: The speaker had just been told that the Tuppers , who were six in number were getting the two houseguests for the dinner which would make it sixteen in all. Mrs Pringle wanted exactly six more people but now there would be eight and moreover Elaine could neither ask her mother nor refuse on the phone. Thus she reacted in the above manner.

1. What did the other two people in the scene say on hearing the speaker? 3

Ans: Dunham said that the table was not long enough to accommodate sixteen. Mrs Pringle scolded Elaine saying that Elaine had no tact or worldly wisdom and that if she had been at eh phone she would have politely refused.

1. How is this particular situation resolved? 3

Ans: As Mrs Pringle was trying to make arrangements for two more guests, the phone rang again and one of the guests, named Jessica said that she was down with a cold and couldn’t make it for the dinner. This brought the number back to fourteen and the situation was resolved.

**Question 3: Answer briefly any 5 of the following questions: (5x3 = 15)**

1. How did Bob describe Jimmy to the policeman?

Ans . Bob told the policeman about his friend Jimmy and the meeting that they had fixed twenty years ago. While doing so, he spoke very highly of Jimmy. He said that Jimmy was his best friend and the finest person in the world. He further mentioned that his friend was the truest and the staunchest person in the world. Bob also went on to say that Jimmy was a good human being but was very complacent and had settled into routine work.

1. What does Bob say about life in New York as compared to Chicago?

Ans Bob clearly draws a comparison between life in New York and in Chicago. He has a high regard for Chicago. Chicago was a challenging place and Bob had to compete with some of the sharpest people in order to become successful. New York was a slower place and put people in a groove. It was Chicago that had put a razor edge on him.

1. Why is Captain Smollet displeased?

Ans. The captain did not like the cruise because every member seemed to know more about the cruise than he did. Secondly he wasn’t told that they were going after some treasure and he had heard it from his crew. Finally he said that the secret had been told to Silver, who like a parrot spoke senselessly.

1. Who greeted the narrator and his companions as they boarded the ship? Write a few lines about him.

Ans. Mr Arrow, the mate, greeted them. He was a brown old sailor with earrings in his ears and a squint. He and Squire Trelawney were friendly.

1. Write a character sketch of Squire Trelawney?

Ans: He is a nobleman. On hearing about the treasure from Jim, he arranges the voyage to the island to find it.He seems to be an influential person. He does not like the captain as he seems to not obey his command inpite of being appointed by him.

1. Give two instances of humour from the play “Fourteen”.

Ans: The two instances of humour from the play are, when Mrs. Pringles says that Mr. Oliver Farnsworth is worth millions and Elaine replies saying that he is not going to give her any money though he is so rich. It is also funny the way Mrs. reacts in two different ways when her guests call up to cancel her invitation. (Other instances- she refuses to invite the Hatwoods as they do not serve drinks when they entertain and therefore she did not want to offer her drinks to them. It is also funny how she calls names to her guests but still invites them to fill her dinner table with the right number.)

**Question 4 : Make meaningful sentences with the given words: (5x1 =5)**

1. mutiny ii) absurdity iii) debutante iv) awning v) fiasco

**Section B- Poetry**

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

**Question 5: (10)**

**“The fleeces of our flocks are cover’d with**

**With sacred dew: protect them with thine influence”**

1. Who needs protection and from whom? 2

Ans: Innocent people on the earth need protection from the beasts which represent evil.

1. What are the beasts mentioned in the poem? What do they stand for? 2

Ans: The wolf and the lion are mentioned in the poem. These animals stand for

the evil people on earth who have a tendency to harm the innocent people.

1. Will these beasts be able to harm anyone? Give reasons for your answer. 3

Ans: No, these animals will not be able to cause any harm to innocent people as

they are covered with the sacred dew of the evening star and the poet asks the fair-

haired angel to protect them with her influence.

1. Explain three metaphors used in this poem 3

The following metaphors are used in this poem. The innocent people on earth are compared to ‘fleeces of flocks’. The evil people are compared to evil beasts like the wolf and the lion, the light spread by the evening star is compared to sacred due, the evening star is called the fair-haired angel. ( Any three)

**Question 6: (10)**

***“So they tell you that work is wonderful medicine”***

1. Whom does ‘they’ refer to? Whom do they give the above advice? 2

Ans: ‘They’ refers to the people who are employed. They give the above advice to the people who are unemployed.

1. What examples do ‘they’ give to justify the fact that one should work? Give any two examples.

Ans: They give examples of successful businessmen like Firestone, Ford and Edison to explain the importance of hard work. 2

1. Write three things ‘they’ do to convince the people they speak to about their views related to working? 3

Ans: The employed urge the unemployed to work. They tell them that work is wonderful medicine and also give examples of successful businessmen. They keep lecturing them about the advantages of working and even starve them to death. **( Any Three Points)**

1. Explain: Work is wonderful medicine. What figure of speech is used in this line? 3

Ans: Working keeps the mind busy and does not allow negative thoughts to creep in. If a person is idle he thinks of unwanted things which slowly lead to ailments. Thus if a person keeps working he will stay fit and work acts like medicine. The figure of speech in this line is ‘Metaphor’.

**Question 7 : Answer briefly any 5 of the following questions: (5x3 = 15)**

1. Explain why ‘Death’ and ‘Best’ are written in capital letters?

Ans: ‘Death’ has been personified and is used as a proper noun and ‘Best’ refers to our loved one. is therefore written in capital letters. On the other ha

1. Explain: “ Why lament its fall?” What is the poetess talking about?

Ans:‘It’ here refers to rainfall. The poetess says that if rainfall makes the roses bloom then why should we lament or grieve when it rains.

1. How has the poetess described hope?

Ans: The poetess says that hope springs elastically and unconquered after falling. She has golden wings which are still buoyant and strong to bear us well.

1. Who is the speaker in the poem ‘The Gift of India’?

Ans: The speaker in the poem ‘The Gift of India’ is mother India.

1. What fitting memorial will be acceptable for the fallen soldiers?

Ans: After the war ends, everyone will talk about the sacrifice of the fearless soldiers. At such a time when they remember the dead soldiers, it will be a fitting memorial for them.

1. Where and how have the Indian soldiers been buried?

Ans: The Indian soldiers have been buried in foreign lands like Persia, Egypt and France. They are scattered like flowers which have been accidentally mown down by misfortune.

**Question 8 : Give meanings of the following words: (5x1 = 5)**

1. dauntless - fearless,
2. martyr - a person who dies for his nation/ religion
3. transient - temporary
4. flit - move swiftly, flutter
5. succumb - yield, give in