Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**First Semester Examination**

**Std IX Set B**

***Question 1 16***

1. Nerissa is the speaker of these lines. Neapolitan Prince, Count Palatine, Falconbridge, Scottish Lord, the Duke of Saxony’s nephew, Monsieur Le Bon
2. The English lord is called as a dumb-show. He is oddly suited with his doublet bought from Italy, his round hose bought from France, his bonnet from Germany. His behaviour has been borrowed from everywhere according to her.
3. Portia says that the Scottish lord has a neighbourly charity because he borrowed a box near the ear from the Englishman but did not pay him back. He swore that he would pay him when he was able but was yet to do it.
4. Nerissa eases the anxiety of Portia by informing her that the suitors had acquainted her with their determinations. They have decided not to continue with the suit and return back home without choosing the casket.
5. Nerissa believes that ideal happiness would be if a person is seated in the mean between extreme joy and extreme sorrow. She is aware that extreme joy can also lead to surfeit which would not allow the person to be really happy. She says superfluity comes sooner by white hair but it is the competency that lives longer.

***Question 2 16***

1. Prince of Morocco. These lines are spoken to Portia. A room in Portia’s house, Belmont.
2. He says that the dark complexion is given by the burnished sun to whom he is a neighbour. He calls this dark complexion as a shadowed livery.
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.
4. 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.
5. Prince of Morocco considers himself to be brave and 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. Morocco swears by his scimitar and brags that he would slew the Sophy and a Persian Prince who had won three battlefields against Sultan Solyman. Morocco says that he would overstare 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.

***Question 3 16***

1. The word ‘me’ refers to the patriot. The patriot was welcomed ceremoniously by the people of the town. They had laid roses and myrtle in his path to show their love and respect. The people had climbed onto their roofs to get a glimpse of their hero. The church spires were decorated which were very bright.
2. The church bells, which were ringing to welcome the patriot, seemed to reverberate and fill the air with a mist. The people were shouting slogans and crying out his name. The din shook the walls of the town which were already old and eroded.
3. The sun is a symbol of immortality, power and glory. When the speaker hears the slogans and cries of the people in praise of him, he realizes this is temporary and will die down in some time. He asks for devotion and respect which is everlasting just like the sun. Thus he asks his people to given him the sun from the skies.
4. Though the narrator meets a tragic end, he is very positive. He has been paid for his deed while he is alive so now he does not have to be afraid of being punished by God again. On the contrary, now God owes him a reward so he is feeling safer at the time of his death.
5. Earlier, the speaker was given a hero’s welcome by the people in a grand manner. He was welcomed with roses and myrtle. People of the town had clambered on the roofs of their houses. Later on, the same people have gathered at the Shambles’ Gate to see him being executed like a traitor. They are also pelting stones at him. This has happened exactly after a year.

***Question 4 16***

1. He, here, is Abou ben Adhem. Angel and vision are the words addressed to the presence in the room. Nay-No, cheerly-happily, thou/thee- you, writest-write, blest-blessed, lo-behold, see
2. The poet has compared the angel to a blooming lily. The moonlight which filtered into the room made it bright and the angel standing in the white light in its white robe made it look like a lily blooming. The poet has thus compared the angel to a blooming lily.
3. The next day the angel appeared again and this time showed the names of those whom God had blessed. Abou’s name was now above all the other names in the list. God loves those who love others and Abou loved and served his fellow beings.
4. In spite of his name not being in the list of those who loved the Lord, Abou did not get upset or annoyed. On the contrary, he was very calm and humbly requested the angel to write his name in the list of those who loved their fellowmen. This time his tone was even lower than earlier.
5. Alliteration – Starting sound‘d’ is repeated in ‘deep’ and ‘dream’

Tautology- Nay and not are words of similar ideas

***Question 5 16***

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.
5. The narrator calls the old man lucky on that Easter Sunday. As it was a cloudy overcast day and the ceiling was low, the fascist planes were not up that day. So the old man would remain alive at least that day. Also the fact that the cats know how to look after themselves is also called by the narrator to be a lucky thing for the old man.

***Question 6 16***

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.