Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**Pre-Preliminary Exam: Test 3**

**Stories Poems Drama**

1) India’s Heroes 1) Stopping by woods Merchant

Of

2) The Last Leaf 2) The Professor Venice (Act III)

**Std X Set G**

**Marks 40 1 hour**

**Q.1)**

**Ans i)** The devil referred here is Shylock. Salerio is the speaker. **2 marks**

**Ans ii)** Solanio replies to the accusation of Shylock that they knew about the escape of Jessica. He says that Shylock knew that the bird was fledge. In such a situation is the complexion of all of them to leave the dam. **3 marks**

**Ans iii)** In this scene Shylock says that he hates Antonio as he used to come smugly upon the mart. He used to call Shylock usurer upon the mart. He used to lend the money without charging any interest for the Christian courtesy.**3 marks**

**Q.2)**

**Ans i)** The rack is an instrument of torture to which the criminals are tied up and tortured .They are tortured till the time they confess their crime.  **2 marks**

**Ans ii)** Bassanio tells Portia to promise that she would spare his life and the he would confess the truth. She tells him to confess and live. Bassanio uses it very wittily and says that confess and love are the very sum of his confession. He says that he has come there only to confess his love for her and thanks her for teaching him answers for deliverance. **3 marks**

**Ans iii)** Bassanio is compared to Hercules for the confidence he has (presence). He is approaching the caskets in the same way as Hercules when he rescued princess Hesione from the sea monster. But he has much more love than Hercules while doing the action. **3 marks**

**Q.3)**

**Ans i)** The she here is Mrs Reeta Baruah the class teacher of standard 8 A. She was crying as she was touched by the speech of Kabeer**. 2 marks**

**Ans ii)** After this Kabeer spoke about the contribution of Mohammed Taufeeq Sheikh more popularly known as Chottu Chaiwala. He described how Chottu had helped the injured to be rushed to the hospital in the nick of time to St George hospital. Had it not been for people like Chottu many of the wounded would not have reached the hospital on time. **3 marks**

**Ans iii)** Sandra Samuel was an Indian nanny who saved the life of two year old Moshe Holtzberg during the terrorist attack of 2008. **3 marks**

**Q.4)**

The start of the story ‘The Last Leaf’ introduces us to the friendship between Sue and Johnsy. We are also told of the ailing Johnsy suffering from Pneumonia and Sue taking care of her like a mother. Right from preparing broth for her to calling the doctor, all responsibilities are being negotiated by the friend Sue who is nursing Johnsy like a mother. She is also engaged in winning the bread for both off them by her paintings. She keeps Johnsy in dark about her chances of survival. She also dismisses the illogical fancy of Johnsy with contempt and tries to encourage her to get into a positive frame of mind. Sue patiently obeys Johnsy whenever she is told to open up the window to check on the status of leaves. So we can see that the entire story is weaved around the theme of friendship.

**8 marks**

**Q.5)**

**Ans i)** The horse is the ‘he’ mentioned. He shakes the bell to attract the attention of the narrator towards the place that they have stopped. There is no farmhouse nearby. **2 marks**

**Ans ii)** The horse stops in the middle of the woods. He finds it queer as there is no farmhouse nearby and they have stopped between the woods and the frozen lake on the darkest evening of the year. **2 marks**

**Ans iii)** There are two emotions which are visible in the mind of the narrator as he rides through the woods. One is of obvious pity towards the owner of the woods. Though he owns the place he is not there to enjoy the beauty of the woods filling up with snow. The other emotion that is visible is a sense of relief that the owner is not there while the narrator is trespassing on his land. The relief is perhaps because he knows he will not be prosecuted for the same. **4 marks**

**Q.6)**

**Ans i)** The term black sheep is used for a person who brings disrepute to the family. Here the third son of the professor is called the black sheep. That is perhaps because he is not earning as much as his other two brothers. **3 marks**

**Ans ii)** The Professor has five children. Three sons and two daughters. No he does not treat them equally. He does talk about the financial status of the sons and considers them successful only based on their material wealth. Whereas when he talks about his daughters he calls them as settled only based on the fact that they are married. **3 marks**

**Ans iii)** The adverb ‘only’ is used in the poem wrongly when the professor says “now and then only”. Also “nicely” which is used when he is talking about his health is wrongly placed. **2 marks**