Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**LITERATURE IN ENGLISH**

**ENGLISH Paper- 2**

**Set F**

**Question 1.**

1. Shylock is accidentally informed by Launcelot that a masque is going to be held. This is when he is trying to convince Shylock to attend Bassanio’s feast. Then he tries to confuse Shylock by giving this speech. But Shylock has heard the word and is only focusing on information of the masque.
2. Shylock tells Jessica that she should lock up the doors behind her. When she hears the vile squealing of the wry necked fife, she should not clamber up the casements and thrust her head into the public street to look at Christian fools with varnished faces. She should shut the casements and not allow the noise of shallow foppery to enter his sober house.
3. Shylock describes Christians as fools. They will indulge in useless celebration. They will participate in the masque with varnished faces and be playing the drum or wry necked fife.

1. Shylock swears by the staff of Jacob. He swears that he has no mind of feeding forth that night. But he would still go to feed upon the prodigal Christian and check if there was any ill plan brewing against him.
2. Shylock calls Launcelot a patch and calls him a kind hearted man. But he says that Launcelot is a huge feeder who is snail slow in profit. He sleeps in the day more than the wild cat. He also calls Launcelot a drone and says that such drones don’t hive with him. That is why he is parting him to Bassanio so that he would help Bassanio waste his borrowed purse.

**Question 2.**

1. The artist who painted the portrait of Portia is referred as demigod. Bassanio calls him so as he has come very near the original creation. What he means to say is that the painting is very realistically depicted and is very close to the real Portia.
2. Bassanio refers to the lips of Portia as sweet friends. They are severed lips and are parted with sugar breath. He calls the sweet breath as a sweet barrier between the sweet friends.
3. Bassanio says that the painter has played the spider in making the hair of Portia. He has woven a golden mesh to entrap the hearts of men. The hair of Portia are able to catch the hearts of men faster than gnats getting trapped in cobwebs.
4. According to Bassanio it is incredible to notice that both the eyes of Portia are there on the portrait. He fails to understand how the painter was able to see to complete the second one. The first eye that was painted had the power to steal both his eyes. So first eye should have left itself unfurnished.
5. The message in the scroll of the lead casket is addressed to the suitor who chose it. He is called as a person who does not choose by show. Chance would always be fair to him and he would always choose the true thing. As the fortune has fallen to him he is expected to be content and seek no new. If the suitor is pleased with this development and holds his fortune responsible for the bliss, he is supposed to turn to his lady and claim her with a loving kiss.

**Question 3.**

1. Personification:- Love is given the human quality of having a desire. It is only for the sake of love that the narrator says that she should be loved.
2. The narrator does not want to hear from her love that he loves her for her smile or looks. She does not want him to love her for her way of gentle speaking or the trick of thought that falls well with her thinking and bringing a sense of pleasant ease on a particular day.
3. The trick of thought of her lover matching with her thinking would bring a sense of pleasant ease on a particular day. Many a times we fall in love with a person as we think that our frequency of thought matches completely with the other one. That makes us feel loved and secure.

1. The narrator says that things for which her lover may love her may either change or change for him. He may have fallen in love with her smile, looks, way of talking or way of thinking. These things may actually undergo a change or may change only in his perception.
2. This sonnet is taken from the anthology ‘Sonnets from the Portuguese’. These sonnets were written by Elizabeth Browning during her courtship period with Robert Browning. She did not want these poems to be published. But when Robert Browning saw them he wanted to ensure they are published and so this title was given. To the readers the pretension was that the poem was only translated by Elizabeth from Portuguese. But the pun was that Elizabeth was called as ‘My little Portuguese’ by Robert, so it actually gave out the truth.

**Question 4.**

1. The symbolism behind the stanza is about reaching the summit of success. She believes that she too can reach the level of success that she dreams of. Though the dreams are distant they are very much achievable.
2. The clouds are called silky. There are two reasons for the same. One that they are lustrous and shining. Secondly they are free flowing and are moving unhindered in the sky.
3. The poet can dive right into the depths of the ocean. She plans to swim with the sharks there. It symbolises a spirit of adventure and risk taking on the way to overcoming hurdles in the path of success.
4. The last stanza is the turning point in the poem. All the stanzas begin with the words ‘I believe’ the last one begins with ‘But’. It shows a contrast in the line of thinking too. From the realm of idealism and adventure the poet comes to a world of realism in wanting to fulfil her role as a human in the land where she lives.
5. In the first stanza the angels mentioned are the angels of heaven. They would be visible playing once the narrator has pierced the heaven by throwing a pebble. The other angels mentioned are the human angels. These are those humans who make a positive difference in the lives of fellow humans specially by using the treasures of the world.

**Question 5.**

1. The half cut body of a tiger was found stuck to the cowcatcher of the train. This was when the driver of the train stopped at the station and got down to check the headlamps. The station mentioned is the watering station where the train was stopped to water the engine.
2. The scene at the station was full of excitement and conjecture as the people were trying to guess how and where the tiger would have been killed by the train. But at the cutting there was no sound except for the sobs of Tembu as he sat beside the body of his father. He was aware about what had led to his father’s death.
3. Baldeo’s body was at the cutting. Tembu waited next to it guarding it from the jackals and the hyenas. Otherwise these scavenging animals would have attacked the dead body.

1. After three nights, Tembu was at the cutting lighting the signal lamp for the overland mail. He sat down in the darkness to wait for the train and sang softly to himself. His presence just three days after his father’s death proves that the poor people do not have time even to mourn the death of their loved one. The struggle for the bread overrides all emotions.
2. The story revolves around the tiger who enters the cutting when Baldeo is just outside the tunnel. As the tiger jumps into the cutting, Baldeo has no escape route but to fight the tiger with a small axe in his hand. Though he is able to injure the tiger he gets killed by it. We then notice the tiger getting trapped similarly between the train and the tunnel. To save his life, he enters into the tunnel and tries to escape from the other end. Since he is injured he is not able to run fast and gets killed. Thus the title is appropriate.

**Question 6.**

Important points to be contained in the answer: The first meeting between Rahamat and Mini—Mini is fascinated by Kabuliwala and calls him – But she is scared when he eventually comes home- the narrator tries to remove the fear but is not successful- the Kabuliwala starts visiting Mini regularly and by offering her pistachio nuts he is able to win a large part of the girl’s childish heart- As the friendship develops the two have few stock phrases between them- the relationship is abruptly broken by the crime committed by Rahamat which sends him to jail- after eight years he returns on the day of Mini’s wedding wanting to meet her- the narrator is reluctant and unwilling to let Rahamat meet Mini- as the narrator is about to pay Rahamat, he refuses to accept the payment and brings out the paper having the imprint of the hand of his mountain-dwelling daughter- the narrator realizes that both of them are sailing in the same boat and as a goodwill gesture gives him some money to go back to Kabul.