Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**Test: A Psalm of Life, Stopping by Woods on A Snowy Evening**

**Std IX Duration: 30min Marks 20**

**Answer Key**

1. According to the poet, ‘Dust thou art, to dust thou returnest’ was not spoken of the soul. It was spoken only about the body. In saying this, the poet means that though the body of the person is mortal, his soul remains immortal.

2. Enjoyment and sorrow should not be our destined end or way. We have to take action so that each tomorrow finds us farther than today. We must strive to be better and better by every passing day.

3. Lives of great men should remind us that we too can make our lives sublime. While we are leaving this world, we can leave the footprints on the sand of time. These are those footprints which can inspire posterity.

4. The owner of the woods will not see the poet stopping there near his woods as his house is in the village. The poet has stopped to watch the woods fill up with snow.

5. The woods symbolize the beauty that encompasses us. We get distracted by that beauty and want to get lost in the enjoyment of it. The horse symbolizes the human conscience. Whenever we get swayed away by distractions, it is the conscience that pulls us back and reminds us about our impending duties.

6. The line ‘And miles to go before I sleep’ is repeated to hammer the importance of the message that it carries. On the surface meaning, we are here talking about them narrator travelling to the destination before resting. In the deeper sense, though it means that we should pull yourself on and keep working hard till you achieve your goals in life.

7. The poem is set in winter season. It seems to be winter solstice as we are told that is the darkest evening of the year.