Vikram ’s English Academy (ICSE)

**Pre-Preliminary Exam: Test 2**

**Short Stories Poems Drama**

1) My Lost Dollar 1) Sonnet 14 Merchant

Of

2) Hunger 2) A Doctor’s Journal… Venice (Act II)

**Std X Set H**

**Marks 40 1 hour**

**Q1)**

**Ans i)** Portia says this as a response to Arragon when he says that he deserved more than just a fool’s head.  **2 marks**

**Ans ii)** Arragon chooses the silver casket. The message written on the scroll was that the silver over the casket was tried by fire seven times. Similarly, for a judgement to always be correct the person should think seven times before making it. There are some people who are in love with shadows. Such people get only a shadow of real happiness. The message further says that there are fools alive who are covered with silver hair. Similarly, this fool’s portrait was covered with the silver casket. In future, whoever he takes to bed as wife, the fool’s head will always be with him. Finally, he is told to be gone because he is rejected. **4 marks**

**Ans iii)** Arragon realises that if he lingers around there for more time he would appear to be a bigger fool. He says that though he came to woo with fool’s head he will return back with two. Finally he takes leave of Portia by saying that he would patiently bear his wrath.  **2 marks**

**Q2)**

**Ans i)** Lorenzo. Spoken to Gratiano. She is Jessica. **3 marks**

**Ans ii)** Jessica is fair if his eyes can see truly. She is true as she has proved herself. So a girl like Jessica who is wise, fair and true shall be placed constantly in his soul. **3 marks**

**Ans iii)** Gratiano says that he is glad about the information that he has got. He says that he desires no other delight than to be under sail and be gone that night.

**2 marks**

**Q3)**

**Ans i)** Rizwan was dejected as it was exactly six o’clock and by seven he was to submit the first interview at the newspaper office. He had not eaten anything since morning, his pocket was empty except for the bus pass. He went to his office then.

**2 marks**

**Ans ii)** Rizwan had many problems back home. His mother was ill, his father had died almost two years ago and his two younger brothers had to drop out of school. Without a proper job, it seemed that it was time to starve. **3 marks**

**Ans iii)** Kasim and Rizwan both face the problem of hunger. They have to take care of their family responsibilities. These are the visible similarities between them. But Rizwan is educated and lives with his family. Kasim is not educated and has his family in his village. Rizwan has just found employment whereas Kasim is self-employed. These are the apparent differences between them. **3 marks**

**Q4)**

The narrator, as a lender, remembers about the dollar- pending since twelve months- Todd meets in the same way- completely forgotten about it- 8th April- sent a note- figure confused- suggests to take a taxi- mentions about currency in Bermuda- asks Todd if he has ‘settled’ everything- feels hopeful at the mention of Poland and her debts.

But as a borrower, the narrator’s memory is weak- he doesn’t want to return it- mentions if there are men they should speak out- he will enlist them alphabetical and they should come in reasonable numbers- doesn’t want to include two type of lenders.

**Q5)**

**Ans i)** They are in the garden. They wanted to go in the street. They wanted to move out and seek for help. **3 marks**

**Ans ii)** When the doctor and his wife stepped out on the street, they fell down after

stumbling. They had tripped after stepping on a person’s head. The man had been

crushed by the gate. No, it wasn’t a normal sight. **3 marks**

**Ans iii)** Yecko San emerged from the house in a pale, blood-stained and frightened manner. She is holding her elbow as she had injured it. **2 marks**

**Q6)**

**Ans i)** If provided with the support of her love, the poet is sure that her tears would vanish. After having pity on her, the lover may wipe the tears away from her cheeks. He would give her his comfort for a long time resulting in her forgetting her troubles completely. **2 marks**

**Ans ii)** The poet uses the word ‘creature’ to show herself as a worthless and humble creation of God. Here it appeals because we perceive her as a pitiable human being in some dire straits. **2 marks**

**Ans iii)** According to me, the love that the poet talks about is idealistic love and cannot be called realistically possible. Love needs a premise to stand upon. It cannot be born out of nothing. Love for love’s sake seems to be farfetched idea. We, human beings, in spite of all our reasoning, do get attracted only by the external attributes and cannot delve beyond what is visible. **4 marks**