Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**Test: I believe, Sonnet XIV**

**Std X- PPS Set C**

**Marks 20 30min**

**Answer the following questions according to their weightage:**

1. What is the difference between ‘may be changed or change for thee’? (4)

2. Till when does the poet want her lover to love her? (2)

3. What does the poet imply by using the word ‘creature’? (2)

4. What is the last reason that the poet mentions that she would not want to be loved for? Why? (3)

5. Which poetic device dominates the poem? What is its effect? (3)

6. What, according to the poet, would happen when a pebble is thrown upwards? (3)

7. Which modal auxiliary is used throughout the poem? What does it signify?

(3)

**ANSWER KEY**

1. The poet expresses that the external qualities that become the base for love may actually undergo a change. These include the beauty, smile, way of talking gently or the thought process. The beauty may fade away in reality or for the lover the perception of beauty may change. He may not find his love as beautiful or appealing. Similarly, he may not find the smile, talk or thoughts attractive enough as he had initially found them.

2. The poet wants her lover to love her till eternity. By using the words ‘through love’s eternity’ she is in fact implying that perhaps this kind of ideal love will last even beyond timelessness.

3. 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.

4. The last reason that the poet mentions that she does not want to be loved for is pity. This kind of love would cease to exist once the tears of a person dry away and pity has been drained. So this too would only be a temporary kind of love.

5. The poetic device that dominates the poem is Anaphora. It gives an effect of climax to the ideas presented in the poem. It heightens the overall impact of the ascending order that is created.

6. According to the poet, if she would throw a pebble upwards she would be able to pierce the heavens. Once that is done she would be able to see angels playing in the heaven.

7. Modal auxiliary ‘can’ is used throughout in the poem. The word ‘can’ expresses one’s ability or capability. The poet uses it in the poem to show her capacity in fulfilling her dreams and aspirations.