Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**Pre-Preliminary Exam: Test 4**

**Stories Poems Drama**

1) The Bet 1) Small pain in… Merchant

Of

2) Journey by NIght 2) In the Bazaars of… Venice (Act IV)

**Std X Set F**

**Marks 40 1 hour**

**Q.1)**

**Ans i)** Shylock to Duke. **2 marks**

**Ans ii**) Shylock says that he has sworn by his holy Sabbath to have the due and forfeit of his bond. That means he would get the penalty extracted from Antonio.

**3 marks**

**Ans iii)** If the forfeit of the bond is denied shylock says that danger will alight on the charter of duke. People will also question the individual freedom that is there under the rule of the duke. It would bring disrepute to the administration of Venice. **3 marks**

**Q.2)**

**Ans i)** Sir refers to Portia. Nerissa says it loudly to make Gratiano feel that she is talking to the doctor of law (a man). **2 marks**

**Ans ii)** A street in Venice. Portia gets the ring. Gratiano comes running on the instruction of Bassanio to give the ring to her. **3 marks**

**Ans iii)** The rings are demanded as Portia and Nerissa want to put their husbands in an embarrassing position. They want to enjoy the embarrassment that their husbands will face when asked to produce the rings, the possession of which were supposed to serve as a testimony of their love. **3 marks**

**Q.3)**

**Ans i)** The young lawyer’s claim that he would choose imprisonment for life rather than death penalty excites the Banker. His behaviour shows he is of nervous and impulsive nature. **2 marks**

**Ans ii)** At supper the banker made fun of the lawyer and said that he should still think about the bet as he had time. He says for him two million is a trifle but the lawyer would lose three four years of the best years of his life. He was saying three four years as the lawyer would die by then because of the solitary confinement. **3 marks**

**Ans iii)** According to the banker he placed the bet because of the caprice of a pampered man. On the other hand he thinks that the lawyer placed the bet for the plain greed of money. In the hindsight he is not happy at the bet and considers it nonsensical and meaningless. **3 marks**

**Q.4)**

**Ans i)** Pointers for the answer:-Courage is not the absence of fear-It is conquering fear after knowing it- It may not be fighting heroic battles-What Sher Singh went through in his Journey through night wasn’t less than heroic in any way- Took responsibility- was aware of the difficulties and the risk involved- a couple of examples of danger- cobra, elephant, tiger- struggle to reach- two rivers- finally making it with his brother- saving his life- deserves the title- Bahadur. **8 marks**

**Q.5)**

**Ans i)** Richly means that the merchandise is displayed in an eye catching manner. The merchants have displayed the goods in their shops in a very attractive way.

**2 marks**

**Ans ii)** India is portrayed as a land which is rich in culture and heritage. A land where we had a lot of versatility in art, taste, dressing sense, games etc. The market is shown to be very colourful and buzzing with different people and activities. **3 marks**

**Ans iii)** The poet Sarojini Naidu wants the poem to sound like a casual conversation. She wants to introduce a variety of things from the market place and has deliberately chosen the rhetorical questions to make the poem sound interactive. **3 marks**

**Q.6)**

**Ans i)** I refers to the narrator. He cannot recall his reaction after the death of the soldier. He guesses that he would have cried but he was surely numb may be even guilty that could not save the life of the soldier. **3 marks**

**Ans ii)** The speaker pulls the soldier by his side to embrace him. He is over-whelmed with grief and is wanting to express it by this action. **2 marks**

**Ans iii)** The irony that is expressed by the play of words. Though the soldier died because of the injury to his chest he was calling a small pain in his chest. Whereas the narrator says this created a large wound in his heart. When this large wound of his heart was pressing the small one in the soldier’s chest it is ironical indeed.

**3 marks**