Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**Test: I believe, Sonnet XIV**

**Std X- PPS Set A**

**Marks 20 30min**

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

1. What according to the poet is the only reason that a man should love her?

(3)

1. Why is the poet wanting to be loved only for the sake of love? (3)
2. What kind of statements are made usually by people when they say that they are in love? What can one judge by these statements? (3)
3. How do we realize that the message of the last stanza is different from the previous stanzas? (4)
4. Does the last part of the poem remind you of any other poem? Draw a parallel. (4)
5. Who are the human angels? Explain their significance. (3)

**Answer Key**

1. According to the poet, the only reason a man should love her is for the sake of love. The external attributes that most people love others for, is something that she does not want for herself. Only the love which is for the sake of love can be true and eternal according to her.

2. The poet wants her man to love her only for the sake of love. She says that it is the only love that lasts. If loved for other reasons like the looks, smile or beauty the love may fade away when these things undergo a change. If the love hinges on these things it is bound to be temporary.

3. The statements that usually people make about their reason of love are like ‘I love her for her smile, her looks, her way of speaking gently and for a trick of thought’. These statements show that the love is not a permanent one. It would surely be ephemeral and would vanish easily.

4. We realize that the message of the last stanza is different from all the other stanzas by looking at the word ‘But’ which begins the last stanza. All other stanzas begin with ‘I believe’ while the last one begins with ‘But I firmly believe’. It shows the contrast that is contained in the last stanza compared to the others.

5. Yes, the last part of the poem reminds us of the other poem ‘Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening’. In both poems, the last stanza is a contrast to the theme which is built up through the poem till the end. Both poems end with a sense of responsibility towards our duties in life. The difference though is that this poem moves from ambition, adventure and aspiration towards realism. The other poem moves from a dream world of fantasy and beauty towards realism.

1. The human angels are the human beings who are surrounded by the world’s treasures. They use these treasures given by Mother Earth to make life more comfortable for the fellow human beings. Anyone who uses these natural resources to ease our life is a human angel.