Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**SECOND TERM EXAM ( Paper 2)**

**Std VIII- Euro Duration: 1 hour Marks 40**

**Solve any four of the given questions. All questions carry equal marks. ( one novel question is compulsory)**

**Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:**

***Question 1 : 10***

***“ Why couldn’t I mash him? I asked.***

1. **Who said the above to whom? Whom does ‘him’ refer to ? 2**

Ans: Scout ( the narrator ) said the above to her brother Jem. ‘Him’ refers to a

roly-poly bug that Scout notices and keeps poking and is about to kill.

1. **What did the listener tell the speaker to do? What did the speaker think about him? 3**

Ans: The listener , Jem tells the speaker , Scout not to harm the insect and to let it go. She thought it weird on Jem’s part to be so protective about an insect. When she asked him why she couldn’t mash up the insect, Jem told her that it hadn’t bothered her or done any harm to her. She then thought Jem’s behavior was due to a part of the stage he was going through and wish he would be through it pretty soon.

1. **Which month had begun? Describe the weather and enlist the creatures that were seen? 2**

Ans: September had begun. The weather was not yet cool. Lightning bugs were still about, the night crawlers and flying insects were still beating against the screen.

1. **Write in brief what happened when Atticus had broken the news of Tom’s death to his wife Helen? 3**

Ans: When Atticus reached Tom’s house, Helen, Tom’s wife was not in. One of the children fetched her. As soon as Atticus broke the news to Helen, she collapsed on the ground. Calpurnia and Atticus lifted her to her feet and half carried, half walked her to her cabin. Jem and Dill were outside. Atticus and Calpurnia stayed in a long time and Atticus came out alone. When they all drove backe some of the Ewells hollered (shouted) at them but Dill couldn’t hear clearly what they were saying.

***Question 2 : 10***

***“ You’re getting so big now , I’ll just have to hold a part of you.”***

1. **Who said the above line to whom? When did the speaker say the above line? 3**

Ans: The above line was said by Atticus to the narrator, Scout. When Scout had mentioned Tom’s trial, Jem just burst out . Scout was too shocked at Jem’s outburst to even cry. She just wanted her father’s comfort and went and sat in his lap. That is when the speaker , Atticus said the above line.

1. **Why was the listener upset? 3**

Ans: When Scout asked about Miss Gates’ contradictory view-points to Jem mentioning Tom’s trial, Jem was very annoyed and told her not to mention the court-house again. The listener , Scout, was upset when Jem spoke like that.

1. **How did the speaker pacify the listener? 4**

Ans: On hearing about Jem’s outburst, Atticus told Scout that she shouldn’t feel bad about what Jem had done and added that he was going through a rough patch. He further said that Jem was trying hard to forget something, but what he was really doing was storing it away for a while until enough time passed. Atticus assured her that later Jem would be able to think about it and sort things out.

***Question* 3 : 10**

***Ring out the grief that saps the mind***

***For those that here we see no more***

***Ring out the feud of rich and poor***

***Ring in redress to all mankind.***

1. **What grief does the poet refer to? How does such a grief affect us? What does the poet advise those in grief? 3**

Ans: The poet refers to the grief of losing our near and dear ones. Such a grief saps our mind and drains all our positivity and energy. The poet advises those in grief to just let go of the grief as the very souls are there but just on another realm.

1. **Which feud does the poet want us to get rid of? What does ‘redress’ refer to? 3**

Ans: The poet wants us to get rid of the feud or the disputes between the rich and the poor. In other words he wants us to do away with class differences. ‘Redress’ refers to rectification of human error and reconciliation between people who have been fighting for a long time over petty issues so that entire mankind is pacified.

1. **What is the theme of the poem? What does the poet want us to ‘ring in ‘ and ‘ring out’?4**

Ans: The theme of the poem is ‘renewal’. The poet advises the readers to ring out all negative things like falsehood, grief on losing a near and dear one, the feud of the rich and poor, the slowly dying cause, ancient conflicts, false pride and spite, old shapes of foul disease, greed and old wars and the darkness of the land. At the same time the poet wants us to ring in all positivity like the new year , truth and honesty, redress to mankind, nobler modes of life, sweeter manners , purer laws, love of truth and right, the common love of good, a thousand years of peace, the valiant and free man with a large heart and a kind hand and finally to ring in Christ.

***Question 4: 10***

***“Coming home , he lay down on his bed, but agitation and tears kept him awake all night”***

1. **Who does ‘he’ refer to? Where had he gone? Why had he gone there? 3**

Ans: ‘He’ refers to the banker. He had gone to the room where the lawyer had been confined since fifteen years. The banker had gone there with the intention of killing the prisoner. If he would be successful in his intention his two millions would be saved.

1. **Why was the person agitated? 3**

Ans: The banker had gone to the prisoner’s room with the intention of killing him to

save his two million. On reaching the room, the banker read a letter from the prisoner which said that he was no longer wanted any of the materialistic pleasures. To deprive himself of the right to the money he would go out from the room five hours before the time that was fixed. That would break the contract and free the banker from the obligation of paying him. Reading this the lawyer was overwhelmed with guilt and thus was agitated.

1. **Bring out the transformation in both the main characters of the story. 4**

Ans: Initially the banker believes that capital punishment is better than life imprisonment whereas the lawyer is of the opposite view. When the banker challenges him to stay in confinement and lays a bet of two million, the lawyer, driven by his hunger for the money, accepts the bet. As the young lawyer spends more time with him he begins to mature and starts to find a deeper meaning in life. His love for literature leads him to look into his soul for true meaning in life. This leads him to give up his lust for the two million and he writes a letter to the banker saying he wanted to waive off his right to the two millions as he now despises money. He says he would be leaving five minutes before the stipulated term to violate the agreement. The banker on the other hand has become bankrupt and to save the two million he would have to pay the lawyer conspires to kill him. On reaching the room in which the lawyer was confined, he finds the letter and is filled with agitation.

**Question 5:**

***“So far as I can make out , after laborious visits to all the chief zoos of the nation, no other imaginable purpose is served by their existence.”***

1. **According to the writer what two purposes do zoos serve? 4**

Ans: According to the writer, the two main reasons for establishing zoos are to provide employment to the several zoo superintendents and keepers and to put up a futile show of the beasts for the children and the least intelligent people of the society.

1. **According to the writer do zoo animals help in scientific study? Why? 3**

Ans: No. The writer does not agree that zoos help in scientific study.. He says that certain animals do help in understanding the anatomy, physiology of man and to certain extent pathology. But these studies cannot be made by just watching them in their cages through a safe distance. No dissection or experiments can be performed in the zoo. Further even after the animals in the zoo die, they are of no use to scientists as their carcasses are not handed to them for autopsy but stuffed and placed in museums.

1. What examples does the writer give to show that studying animal behaviour at

Zoos would lead to false conclusions? 3

Ans: The writer believes that zoos produce little or no knowledge about animal behaviour. This is obvious as the animals are not in their natural surroundings and therefor will behave differently. For instance a scholar studying the habits of a giraffe by observing him in the zoo will conclude that it leads a sedentary life and is always melancholic.

***Question 6: 10***

**“ I come to bury Caesar , not to praise him.”**

1. Mark Antony starts his speech by saying the above. How true is it? Justify your answer.

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Ans: The above statement is not true at all. Mark Antony actually wants the people to know the truth behind Caesar’s assassination. Initially the crowd is in favour of Brutus as he has misguided them by telling them that Caesar was too ambitious and it was for the better of the country that they had killed him. So Mark Antony doesn’t directly oppose Brutus but steadily transforms their viewpoint. One by one Mark Antony unfolds the goodness of Caesar . ( Mention the following - ransom from captives – filled the coffers of Rome- he wept when the poor cried- he refused the crown thrice during the Lupercal- Caesar’s will- finally shows the wounded body and how cruelly he had been stabbed) Thus now the crowd is totally in favour of Caesar and is furious and charges ahead to punish the traitors.