Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**Pre-Preliminary Exam: Test 3**

**Stories Poems Drama**

1) India’s Heroes 1) Stopping by woods Merchant

Of

2) The Last Leaf 2) The Professor Venice (Act III)

**Std X Set H**

**Marks 40 1 hour**

**Q.1)**

**Ans i)** The dear friend mentioned is Antonio. The trouble that is mentioned is that he has defaulted upon the bond and his lender Shylock is bent upon extracting his pound of flesh. Antonio is aware in the paying the bond he will die. **3 marks**

**Ans ii)** Jessica says that she had heard the conversation between her father Shylock and his countrymen Tubal and Chus. In the said conversation he swore to them that he would rather have the pound of flesh from Antonio rather than twenty times the sum of money that he did owe him. She also says that if law, authority and power do not deny Shylock it would be difficult with Antonio. **3 marks**

**Ans iii)** Portia says that she would give six thousand ducats to deface the bond. Then she says that she would double it and then and treble that before a man of the description of Antonio shall lose a hair for Bassanio’s fault. **2 marks**

**Q.2)**

**Ans i)** Balthazar. To Padua. To drop a letter from Portia to Doctor Bellario and bring back the documents and garments from him. **3 marks**

**Ans ii)** After this ‘Madam’ Portia says to Nerissa that she has work inn hand that Nersissa isn’t aware of. She informs her that they would see their husbands before they had about the wives. **2 marks**

**Ans iii)** Doctor Bellario was a civil Doctor respected inn Italy for his justice. Portia was sure that looking at the sensitiveness of the case the Duke would surely consult him for Shylock’s case. As it turns out he is Portia’s cousin and helps Portia to be and solve the case at Belmont. The letter of recommendation written by him turns out to be Portia’s license to represent Antonio in the case. **3 marks**

**Q.3)**

**Ans i)** The ‘they’ mentioned here are the students of the class in which Reeta Baruah was the class teacher. They were students of class 8 A. **2 marks**

**Ans ii)** Just before this line we are told of the crackle of sheets as the students arranged the sheets on which they had written their assignments. They were eager to speak as they had put a lot of effort in the assignments given. **3 marks**

**Ans iii)** Kabeer was the most impressive speaker of all the students. He did not speak about any profession that he wanted to undertake or the usual role models. He was touched by the contribution of the common man during the crisis of 26/11 and presented his emotions with a clean heart. **3 marks**

**Q.4)**

**Points to be covered:** The friendship of Sue and Johnsy- Pneumonia attacks Johnsy- the doctor’s diagnosis- the stupid fancy of Johnsy- Sue reaction to it- Behrman being invited- the fear of Behrman and Sue- the posing of Behrman-realizing that the last leaf had fallen- painting the last leaf- becomes an inspiration for Johnsy- she understands that she has to change her approach towards life- starts to improve- Behrman contracts pneumonia –dies- The last leaf is his last painting ever- a masterpiece. **8 marks**

**Q.5)**

**Ans i)** The narrator seems to be travelling on the 22nd Dec or around that time. We know it as he says that it’s the darkest evening of the year. The winter solstice is on that day of the year. **3 marks**

**Ans ii)** We know it’s a wintry evening as the lake is frozen. We are also told about the downy flake. Earlier we are told about the filling of the woods with snow.

**2 marks**

**Ans iii)** The word ‘but’ highlights the fact that there is conflict in the mind of the narrator. Though he is enjoying the beauty of the surroundings around, there is a sense of duty that is pulling him away from the beauty. He is reaffirming to himself the need to negotiate those responsibilities. He promises himself that there are miles to go before he will eventually rest. **3 marks**

**Q.6)**

**Ans i)** the other refers to the third son of the professor. By saying that he is not doing too well he means that financially the third son is not as successful as the other two are. **2 marks**

**Ans ii)** After mentioning about the third son the professor goes about describing his two daughters. Their names are Sarala and Tarala. They are settled as they are married to nice boys according to the professor. **3 marks**

**Ans iii)** The poet takes a dig at Indian society by various comments. He highlights the typical usage of English language by the non-native speakers here in India. The Indian mentality is highlighted by focusing on words like ‘manager’. We Indians give a lot of importance to material success and things like cars are status symbols. The habit of giving rhyming names to children and equating girls’ marriage to being settled are spoken of too. The old people are obsessed with flaunting their active lifestyle and want to live till a hundred years. **4 marks**