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 E**

**Marks 40 1 hour**

**Q.1)**

**Ans i)** Portia is speaking these lines. To Bassanio. **2 marks**

**Ans ii**) Music can do both happy and sad roles according to Portia. If Bassanio makes the wrong choice of casket then sad music can serve to make it a swan like end, Bassanio then would fade in music. If Bassanio chooses the right casket and wins Portia then the music can be like a flourish to welcome a newly crowned monarch. **3 marks**

**Ans iii)** Bassanio’s approach towards the casket is compared to Hercules going to save the Trojan princess. Hercules had rescued the virgin princess Hesione from a sea monster when she was offered to him in front of howling Troy. The people standing around are compared to Dardarian wives. **3 marks**

**Q.2)**

**Ans i)** They here refers to their respective husbands. Bassanio and Gratiano.

**2 marks**

**Ans ii)** The speaker Portia claims that she would repent the death of the many girls who loved her when she was disguised as a boy. She says that she would deny may girls who would fall in love with her (him) and because of her refusal they would die. **3 marks**

**Ans iii)** Portia says that in her mind she has a thousand tricks of bragging jacks. She would use them when she is disguised as a boy. It is because of the practice of these tricks men would swear that she has just left school. **3 marks**

**Q.3)**

**Ans i)** The ‘he’ mentioned here is the horse of the narrator. He shakes his bell to remind the narrator that perhaps they have stopped at the wrong place. There is no farmhouse near and they have stopped in the middle of the forest on a dark evening. **3 marks**

**Ans ii)** The poet reminds himself at the end of the poem that though there are beautiful sights around him, he is supposed to remember the promises he has made is supposed to fulfil them. This essentially means that one may have many distractions in life but he must be able to pull himself away from these and focus on doing the bigger and the more important things in life. **3 marks**

**Ans iii)** The poem ends with Refrain. This poetic device is used when we notice the repeating of a line reinforce the message. In this poem the repeated lines are ‘And miles to go before I sleep, and miles to go before I sleep’. **3 marks**

**Q.4)**

**Ans i)** The professor has 5 children. 3 sons and two daughters. In all he has 11 grandchildren. **2 marks**

**Ans ii)** The third son is called the black sheep of the family. The other two sons are told to be managers and have cars. The third one does not seem to be financially as well settled. So in worldly term she is not supposed to be well steeled and is called the black sheep of the family. **3 marks**

**Ans iii)** The professor says that these are the days of family planning. He says he is not against it but it seems he has not followed it in his life nor does he seem a strong propend of the theory. He attributes the changes to the changing world and its values. **3 marks**

**Q.5)**

**Ans i)** The person mentioned is Sandeep Unnikrishnan. On one of the commandos being injured he risked his life and chased the terrorists asking his other team members not to come up. In spite of being hit by some bullets he tried to help out his solider Gajendra Singh in his last effort. **2 marks**

**Ans ii)** The other person mentioned at the same venue was Karambir Kang. He was the general manager at Taj hotel when it was attacked. He gave the priority to help out his guests rather than saving his own family in the other part of the hotel. His family dies of suffocation due to fire but Karambir Kang did not abandon his responsibilities and continued to fight for his guests’ safety.

**3 marks**

**Ans iii)** Any answer correct. Justification required. **3 marks**

**Q.6)**

Behrman, painter who lived in on the ground floor of the same building where Sue and Johnsy lived- past sixty- long beard which gave him a saintly appearance- failure in art- done some commercial work and supplemented his income by posing for the young artists- drank gin to excess- claimed that one day he would paint a masterpiece- very possessive of the two girls and had fatherly affection towards them- tell them once his painted his masterpiece they would all be able to shift from there- sue informed him about the condition of Johnsy he got worried about her- blasted out his irritation at the thought process of Johnsy- but decided to do something about it- cold wet night he was out in the open braving rough weather to paint the leaf on the wal- able to create a masterpiece as the leaf painted on the wall looked real- Looking at that leaf not falling Johnsy was inspired and decided to fight it out and gradually recovered. As a result of getting drenched in that weather Behrman contracted pneumonia and died after a couple of days. In his fatherly love towards Johnsy he sacrificed his life in creating ‘The Masterpiece’. **8 marks**