Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**LITERATURE IN ENGLISH**

**ENGLISH Paper- 2**

**Set A**

**Question 1.**

1. The speaker is Gratiano. They are spoken to Shylock in resentment because Shylock is hell bent upon extracting his pound of flesh.
2. Gratiano says that his faith is wavering as looking at Shylock he has started believing in the theory of Pythagoras. Pythagoras stated that the souls of animals can infuse themselves at the bodies of men. Christianity does not believe in it but looking at Shylock it seemed that the soul of a wolf had entered into his body as his desires were wolvish ravenous and bloody.
3. The listener Shylock says that Gratiano is just offending his lungs by speaking so loudly. If his ranting would be able to erase the seal from off his bond then it would have been meaningful. But it is not so. He advises Gratiano to repair his wit otherwise it will fall to cureless ruin.
4. Nerissa dressed as the clerk of a lawyer has entered earlier to this exchange of words. She has brought along with her a letter. This letter has been written by doctor Bellario. The letter which is addressed to the duke has a strong recommendation for another young doctor of law Balthazar.
5. The letter given to the duke informed him that when Bellario received the letter of the duke he was not well but luckily on a loving visitation there was a young doctor of Rome. His name was Balthazar. He was updated about the cause of the dispute and they turned many books together. He knew the opinion of Bellario and it was bettered with his own learning. The latter also cautioned the duke not to judge him by his young age. Bellario said that he had never seen such a young body with such an old head and that the way Balthazar would handle the case would justify his commendation.

**Question 2.**

1. The speaker is Antonio. Bassanio. In a public place in Venice.
2. Antonio is explaining Shylock that he usually does not give or borrow money by charging of interest. But as his friend Bassanio is in urgent need of money, to provide for his ripe needs, he would break a custom. He tells Shylock that he is willing to pay interest if required for the loan.
3. Shylock was debating his present store of money. He was calculating if he had enough spare money to lend Bassanio. By the near guess of his memory, he couldn’t raise the full amount of three thousand ducats. But he says that a wealthy Hebrew of his tribe would furnish him.
4. Shylock gives the analogy of Jacob and Laban to explain his charging of interest. Jacob took the sheep of Laban for grazing on the understanding that the newly born eanlings which were streaked and pied would fall as his hire. He stuck certain wands before the fulsome ewes and they conceived parti-coloured lambs. This was his way to thrive and any kind of threat is a blessing if men do not steal it.
5. Antonio loses his cool while Shylock is teasing him and speaking in sarcastic language. Shylock keeps his cool and pretends to be a friend. He says that he is willing to be a friend and have his love. He will forget the shames he was stained by Antonio and would supply his present wants. He would not take a doit of usance for his moneys. He convinces Antonio to sign a bond which he says is in a merry sport. According to this bond, if Antonio is unable to repay the loan in the given time frame, forfeit would then be nominated for an equal pound of flesh which would be cut off from any part of his body. This shows his shrewdness.

**Question 3.**

1. The word ‘us’ refers to all the people in the world. By ‘up and doing’, the poet means that we should buck up and get into the action mode. We should ensure that by living in the present and giving our best we reach perfection.
2. We should learn to live in the present, discard all the thoughts of past and future. The ultimate motto of our life should be to make our lives sublime. They should become an inspiration for future generations to follow.
3. Lives of great men are significant as they remind us that we too can make our lives sublime. When we depart, we can leave footprints on the sand of time. These lives inspire other people who are sailing over life’s solemn main. A shipwrecked and forlorn brother may take heart looking at the footprints set by these great men.
4. The poet advises the reader not to trust the Future as it is unpredictable even though it may seem to be pleasant. Further, his advice regarding the Past is to let it go and bury it because it is dead. The Present is called ‘living’ or ‘alive’ and we are supposed to act wholeheartedly only in the present and leave the rest to God.
5. And our hearts, though stout and brave, Still, like muffled drums, are beating- The beating of our hearts is directly compared to the beating of the muffled drums.

Be not like dumb, driven cattle! – People are compared to dumb and driven cattle as they are gullible and easily influenced.

**Question 4.**

1. ‘I’ here is the narrator i.e. Professor Sheth. He hopes to score a century that is live upto the age of hundred. This shows a typical mentality of Indians that is the obsession of living hundred years.
2. Yes, he says that he is not against family planning. However, he himself did not follow it and has five children.
3. The narrator is a Geography professor who has retired. He calls his health as O.K. and takes pride in saying that he doesn’t have any major ailment like heart problem, diabetes and blood pressure but has usual aches and pains.
4. The listener is his ex-student. According to the narrator, the listener was thin like stick and has gained weight. He is now a man of weight and consequence.
5. ‘Remember me?’ should be ‘Do you remember me?’ – The helping verb ‘do’ is missing.
6. ‘I am retired’ should be ‘I have retired’ – It is Present Perfect Tense
7. My wife died some years back- My wife died some years ago. – Wrong use of adverb
8. One is Sales Manager One is Bank Manager- One is Sales Manager Other is Bank Manager-
9. I am not against- I am not against it.
10. Whole world is changing- The whole world is changing- Usage of ‘the’ article, Unnecessary use of continuous tense
11. We are keeping up. Our progress is progressing- Unnecessary use of continuous tense
12. Old values are going, new values are coming- Literal translation to English from a vernacular language,
13. Everything is happening with leaps and bounds -Everything is happening in leaps and bounds- Wrong use of Preposition, Unnecessary use of continuous tense
14. I am going out rarely- I go out rarely- Unnecessary use of continuous tense
15. This is price of old age- This is the price of the old age- Usage of ‘the’ article
16. How is your health keeping- How is your health? / How are you keeping? Literal translation to English from a vernacular language
17. Nicely, rarely – Wrong use of adverb
18. I am happy for that- I am happy about that- Wrong use of preposition
19. This year I am sixty-nine- This year I will turn/ have turned sixty-nine- Wrong use of tense
20. Visit please my humble residence also- Please also visit my humble residence- Wrong sentence construction and ‘humble residence’ literal translation
21. I am living just on opposite house’s backside- I live…. Unnecessary use of continuous tense,

‘behind this house’ instead of ‘opposite house’s backside’

**Question 5.**

1. Ramdhan Misra was a landlord belonging to a nearby village. Some of his tenants had been setteled by Jumman in his village. He therefore nursed a grievance against him. He proposed that nominations should be invited for the head panch. He asked Sahu if he had any particular man in view for the head panch.
2. The Panchayat was called to sort out the dispute between Alagu and Samjhu Sahu. Samjhu Sahu had purchased a bullock from Alagu on the condition that he would pay within a month. After he overburdened the bullock with work it died. He later had refused to pay any money to Alagu.

1. Alagu’s heart began to sink at the suggestion of Jumman’s name for the headpanch. His face turned pale and it looked as if he had received a sudden blow but he was helpless as he had himself given the authority to Samjhu to nominate the head panch.

1. When we are placed in some responsible position we become conscious of our weakness. We then try to prove equal to the task. If we are ever tempted to go astray it is this thought that prevents us from doing so.
2. The birds mentioned are the crows and the parrots. The crows were debating their right to the green peas in the field like the other birds. The parrots were discussing if men were justified in charging them with inconstancy when the men were themselves faithless to their friends. This implies that humans always complain and accuse the parrots of being disloyal as they fly away from their respective cages. But they are not being loyal to their own friends.

**Question 6.**

Todd takes an odd dollar to pay the taxi driver- he sends a note to the narrator from Hamilton Bermuda- the narrator thinks it to be a dollar- the number confuses him- the narrator gives him several hints like- taking a taxi, asked him what currency was used in Bermuda, whether the American dollar goes at par- but Todd didn’t understand. The narrator asked if he felt ‘settled down after his trip’, even Todd’s own reference to Poland and her debts didn’t make him self-conscious of his own debts.

However, as the narrator realises that he might be owing an odd dollar to many people. He starts defending himself and his forgetfulness; He says that he would never pay it on this side of the grave, he would want those people to speak out not all at once but in reasonable numbers. He would first make a list in alphabetical order and he would write their names down on paper. He would not count men who gave him an odd dollar over a bridge table or of the man who lent me thirty cents to pay for a bottle of plain soda in the Detroit Athletic Club. He wants to start a Back To Honesty Movement so that people would pay back those odd dollars borrowed in moments of expansion. So it is obvious that the narrator judges Todd on the basis of different standards than he uses for himself.