Vikram ’s English Academy (ICSE)

**Pre-Preliminary Exam: Test 2**

**Short Stories Poems Drama**

1) My Lost Dollar 1) Sonnet 14 Merchant

Of

2) Hunger 2) A Doctor’s Journal… Venice (Act II)

**Std X Set G**

**Marks 40 1 hour**

**Q.1)**

**Ans i)** The spearker is Portia. The words are spoken to Morocco. **2 marks**

**Ans ii)** After this dialogue, Morocco reads the inscription on the three caskets. When he has read all the three messages written over the caskets, he asks Portia to tell him how it would be known to him if he has chosen the right casket. **3 marks**

**Ans iii)** The suitor chooses the gold casket. The justification he gives is that a gem like Portia could not be set in anything worse than gold. He also compares the situation to a coin of England which pairs the figure of an angel insculped upon it. Here an angel lies within the golden bed. **3 marks**

**Q.2)**

**Ans i)** The message in the scroll tells the reader that all the glisters is not gold. This saying is heard very often. Many men have sold their lives just to behold the gold. Even if the tomb is made up of gold it infolds only gold. It tells the reader that if he had been as wise as bold and old in judgement, though young in limbs his answer would not have been inscrolled. Finally the scroll bids him farewell and says that his suit is cold. **4 marks**

**Ans ii)** Portia calls the exit of Morocco as gentle riddance. She wishes that all people of his complexion should choose the casket incorrectly. **2 marks**

**Ans iii)** The suitor is Morocco before he departs he says he has too grieved a heart to take a tedious leave. This is the manner in which all the losers depart. **2marks**

**Q.3)**

**Ans i)** The reader is ‘you’ in the story. The word ‘thing’ refers to Poland not paying her debts. **2 marks**

**Ans ii)** The thought that comes to the narrator is that if Todd has forgotten to pay back his dollar it is possible or at least theoretically probable that there must be men to whom he owes a dollar which he has also forgotten. **2 marks**

**Ans iii)** The narrator says that if he owes anything to anyone, those men should speak out but in reasonable numbers and in alphabetical order. He would write their names on a paper. He does not count men who would have lent him an odd dollar over a bridge table. He also does not want to think about the man who lent him thirty cents to pay for a bottle of plain soda in the Detroit Athletic Club. Finally he says that he wishes to pay only those people who have given him a dollar to pay for taxi while going to Bermuda. **4 marks**

**Q. 4)**

Points to be covered- Yes, this story is illustrative of the fact that hunger is a universal problem. We see that Kasim replies starves to the question about what his father does. He also talks about his grandfather dying of hunger or cold. The story turns over its head when we see Rizwan suffering from hunger, he doesn’t have the money to buy food for himself. Rizwan wants to go home early in the hope of finding something to eat. We thus see hunger tormenting different families and generations and is unchanged even by the change of regime. **8 marks**

**Q.5)**

**Ans i)** If she receives her lover’s comfort for a long time, she may forget to weep. She is confident about her lover cheering her up. **2 marks**

**Ans ii)** the poet implies by the word ‘creature’ that she is pitiable condition. She wants to show herself in dire straits/horrible condition. **2 marks**

**Ans iii)** Yes. I do think that the poet is being idealistic. That is because to cultivate love for love’s sake is not human nature. Humans do get attracted by beauty, smile, way of talking or impressed by someone’s thoughts. To only have love as the reason for loving is idealistic indeed. **4 marks**

**Q.6)**

**Ans i)** The narrator is referring to the thought of not feeling ashamed at him being naked. He encountered a soldier standing silently. **2 marks**

**Ans ii)** The other person is a soldier who offers his towel seeing the narrator who is naked. It shows that he is very civil in his behaviour and wants the narrator to maintain his dignity. **3 marks**

**Ans iii)** Yecko-San is told to go ahead and fetch medical aid. This is because the narrator could not walk further as his legs which were stiff with dried blood rebelled. The only practical option was to allow her to go to the hospital.**3 marks**