Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**SECOND TERM EXAM**

**Std IX-BB Duration: 1.5 hours Marks 60**

**Solve any five of the given questions. All questions carry equal marks.**

**Section A- Drama**

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

***Question 1 12***

***“Mislike me not for my complexion, the shadowed livery of the burnished sun to...”***

1. Who is the speaker of these lines? Where does the scene take place? 2
2. Explain:- The shadowed livery of the burnished sun 3
3. Is Morocco proud of his colour? Justify with examples from the scene. 3
4. What does this scene tell us about the character of Morocco? 4
5. Prince of Morocco. A room in Portia’s house, Belmont.
6. He says that the dark complexion is given by the burnished sun to whom he is a neighbour. He calls this dark complexion as a shadowed livery.
7. Yes, Morocco says that he is proud of his colour and would not want to change it. The only situation in which he would be willing to change his colour would be to steal the thoughts of Portia.
8. Prince of Morocco considers himself to be brave and better than the fair people from the North. But if an incision is made in them, it would be easily proved whose blood is redder. He implies that he is Morocco says that the native girls of his country love the bravery which he has. This bravery has scared even the most valiant people around full of valour and bravery than any fair man. Morocco swears by his scimitar and brags that he would slew the Sophy and a Persian Prince who had won three battlefields against Sultan Solyman. Morocco says that he would overstare the sternest eyes that looked at him. And outbrave the most daring heart on earth. He would pluck the young sucking cubs from the she-bear to prove his bravery. He claims that he is a deserving candidate and compares himself to Hercules also thanks Portia for giving him a fair chance.

***Question 2 12***

***“The first, of gold, who this inscription bears; who chooseth me shall gain what many men desire.”***

1. Who chose this casket? Which word does he focus on? Why? 2
2. How does the suitor interpret the words inscribed on this casket? 3
3. What is spoken about the watery kingdom? 3
4. Summarise the scroll found by the speaker. 4
5. The Prince of Morocco chose this casket. He focuses on the word ‘desires’ and reasons that the world desired her.
6. The suitor Morocco focuses on the word ‘desires’. He states that the world desires Portia and the suitors are coming from the four corners of the world to woo Portia. The Hyrcanian deserts the wilds of Arabia and the watery kingdom the ocean is no barrier to stop these suitors from coming to Belmont.

1. The water kingdom refers to the ocean. It is called as spitting in the face of heaven. The meaning implied is that the rough sea is no barrier to the suitors and they cross the ocean as if it a brook to see fair Portia.
2. The scroll informs the reader that all that glisters is not gold. It is a very common saying. Many people have sold their life to just behold the gold casket. Even if the tomb is gilded it infolds worms. If the person choosing the casket was wise and not just bold and had the judgement of an old person and not just young limbs his answer would not have there in the form of a scroll. Finally the scroll wishes the reader a farewell and says that his suit is cold.

***Question 3 12***

***But what they fought each other for I could not well make out…***

1. Whom does the word ‘they’ refer to? 2
2. Which battle does Old Kaspar refer to? Which were the opposing sides of the battle? Who was victorious? Write the lines in support of your answer. 3
3. How does grandfather describe the consequences of the battle? How does Peterkin react to it?

3

1. What do the last two lines signify? 4
2. The word ‘they’ refer to English and French.
3. Old Kaspar refers to the battle of Blenheim. This is evident from the line ‘My father lived in Blenheim then.’ It was fought between the English and French and the English were victorious in the battle. The lines- ‘It was the English,’ Kaspar cried, ‘Who put the French to rout’- are evidence of the fact that the English were victorious.
4. The old man vividly describes the consequences of the battle highlighting how many thousands were killed including soldiers and the commoners. He then also narrates how the brave heroes of war were praised by people. After hearing all he had to say about the battle, Peterkin asks him what good had come out of the battle.
5. The last two lines are very crucial to the poem. When Peterkin asks his grandfather what good the war had done, he had no answer to it. He said he didn’t have an answer to his question but believed that it was a famous victory. These lines signify the fact that the generation to which the old man belonged never challenged the futility of war. They easily accepted that it was a necessary evil in spite of all the harm it caused to humanity.

***Question 4 12***

***‘And to the presence in the room he said’***

1. Who is ‘he’ here? Which other words are addressed to the presence? Mention any two archaic words with their meanings from the poem? 2
2. What has the poet compared the angel to? Why? 3
3. What happened the next night? What did the angel show Abou? 3
4. Name and explain figure of speech in the following lines: 4
   1. Awoke one night from a deep dream of peace
   2. Nay, not so

***Question 4 12***

* + 1. He, here, is Abou ben Adhem. Angel and vision are the words addressed to the presence in the room. Nay-No, cheerly-happily, thou/thee- you, writest-write, blest-blessed, lo-behold, see
    2. The poet has compared the angel to a blooming lily. The moonlight which filtered into the room made it bright and the angel standing in the white light in its white robe made it look like a lily blooming. The poet has thus compared the angel to a blooming lily.
    3. The next day the angel appeared again and this time showed the names of those whom God had blessed. Abou’s name was now above all the other names in the list. God loves those who love others and Abou loved and served his fellow beings.
    4. Alliteration – Starting sound‘d’ is repeated in ‘deep’ and Tautology nay, not…

***Question 5***

***He was showing dawn-coloured silks that poured like cream… 12***

1. Who is ‘he’ here? Where was he going? 2
2. Which different things did he carry? 3
3. Mention the other wonders that could be seen. 3
4. Who were Gujars? 4
5. He is a Kashmiri travelling merchant. He was on his way to the bungalows.
6. He was carrying a little locked chest with turquoises and opals. Best of all, a box which when you pressed it, a bell tinkled and a yellow woollen chicken jumped out.
7. Satin sewn with real silver thread, tin trays from Birmingham, sari which had got chips of looking-glass embroidered into the border.
8. Gujars were junglis, born and bred in the forest. For countless centuries, their forefathers had lived in this manner. They earned their living from animals, from grass and trees as they searched for their food together. They possessed herds and gathered silver jewellery. They were neither very primitive like the Stone Age hunters nor very modern like the Cultivators. They were wanderers of Pastoral Age.

***Question 6***

***How he took them up in his arms, and blessed them… 12***

1. What do the words ‘he’ and ‘them’ refer to? 2
2. Who spoke these words? To whom? Why? 3
3. Which phrase does the speaker keep repeating? Why? 3
4. Justify the title ‘An Angel in Disguise’. 4
5. ‘He’ here means Jesus Christ, the Saviour. ‘Them’ word refers to the little children.
6. These words are spoken by Joe to his wife Jane. Joe gave his wife the biblical reference to make her realize that even God loved children. Joe wanted to invoke sympathy and love in his wife’s heart for the poor, sick and desolate child Maggie.
7. The speaker repeats ‘for a single night’ thrice. Joe wanted his wife to believe that he would leave her at the poorhouse after completing the formalities the next day also to convince her to take care of Maggie only for that one night.
8. Joe and Jane’s life had been void of happiness as it was without the laughter and sunshine of children. Maggie was an angel who filled the dull and dreary chambers of not only their home but also their heart with her love and gentleness. She was disguised in the form of a sick, helpless and miserable body which was visible to all others but the love, gentleness and sweetness hidden in her was unfolded only to the Thompsons. Thus the title of the story is aptly ‘An angel in disguise’.