Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**SECOND TERM EXAM**

**Std IX-PPS (M) Duration: 1.5 hours Marks 60**

**SET B**

**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***

***‘Signior Bassanio, hear me: If I do not put on a sober habit… ’***

i. Who is the speaker of these lines? What request is he making? 2

ii. What does Bassanio reply? 3

iii. What according to Bassanio would be a pity? Why? 3

iv. How does Gratiano assure Bassanio about decent behaviour at Belmont? 4

1. Gratiano speaks these lines. He requests Bassanio that he would want to accompany him to Belmont.
2. Bassanio immediately agrees to this request of Gratiano but cautions him saying that he is too wild, rude and bold of voice. These parts suit him well enough and in his friends’ eyes do not appear to be faults. But where he is a stranger they would be too liberal as qualities. He tells Gratiano to allay with some cold drops of modesty his skipping spirit. Otherwise, because of his wild behaviour he would be misconstrued in the place they are going to and would lose his hopes of winning Portia.
3. According to Bassanio it would be a pity if Gratiano behaved in a decent manner during the feast. He rather requests Gratiano to put on his boldest suit of mirth. This is because friends were about to come to the feast for merriment and if Gratiano is off-colour it would make the feast dull.
4. Gratiano assures Bassanio that he would put on a sober habit, talk with respect and swear rarely. He would wear prayer-books in his pockets, look around demurely and while grace is being said hood his eyes with his hat, sigh and say ‘Amen’. He would use all observances of civil behaviour like a person well-studied in sad ostent. Nobody’s grandmother would be able to gauge that this is not his real behaviour. If he fails to do that, then Bassanio should never ever trust him in future.

***Question 2 12***

***Shylock: To bait fish withal! If it will feed nothing else, it will feed my revenge***

i. What question is Shylock responding to? Who had asked the question? 2

ii. Just before the extract, Shylock uses three words to describe his adversary. What are they? 3

iii. What reasons does Shylock give in this scene for hating Antonio? 3

iv. What according to Shylock has he learned from the Christians? 4

**Ans:** Shylock is responding to the Salerio’s question. Salerio has asked Shylock what purpose would be served by Antonio’s pound of flesh that he intends to take.

**ii.** Bankrupt, prodigal (should dare to show his head on the Rialto), beggar (used to come smartly upon the mart).

iii. Shylock says that Antonio had disgraced him, hindered him half a million, had laughed at his losses and mocked at his gains. He had scorned his holy nation, thwarted his bargains and had been cold towards his friends and warm towards his enemies. He did all this, only because Shylock was a Jew.

Iv. According to Shylock, he has learned revenge from the Christians. If a Jew wrongs a Christian there is no humility shown by them but revenge. Similarly, when a Christian wrongs a Jew, by Christian example his sufferance should also be revenge. He promises that the villainy taught to him by Christians he would surely execute and though it would be hard to digest he would better their instruction.

***Question 3 12***

***Until they are hypnotised by it… until they are absolutely drunk?***

1. Who are ‘they’ in the given lines? What does the word ‘it’ refers to? How is ‘it’ described in the poem previous to the lines mentioned above? 3
2. Which three solutions are given by the poet-speaker to keep children away from television? 3
3. What happened when the poet-speaker had been to someone else’s house? 3
4. Name and explain two figures of speeches in the given line: 3
5. It clogs and clutters up the mind.
6. The word they refer to the children who are addicted to watch television. The word it refers to TV. TV is described as an idiotic thing.
7. 1. Never let children be near the television set, or better still don’t install the idiotic thing at all, remove the tv set and in its place install a book shelf on the wall (fill it with books)
8. When the poet-speaker had been to someone else’s house, he saw that the children were gaping at the screen, they loll slop and lounge till their eyes pop out.
9. Tautology- clogs and clutters mean the same

Alliteration- The starting sound of clogs and clutters is repeated.

(0.5 mark for each name. 1 mark for explanation)

***Question 4 12***

***His wings are clipped and his feet are tied…***

1. Who is ‘he’ here? What happens when he is in this state? 2
2. What does the caged bird sing of? How does it sing? 3
3. Bring out the symbolism in the line ‘and dares to claim the sky’. 3
4. What conflict is brought out in this poem? 4
5. ‘He’ is the caged bird here. When he is in this state he opens his throat to sing.
6. The caged bird sings of unknown things. These unknown things refer to freedom, equality, respect and other things it has never gained or known but strongly desires. It sings with a fearful trill.
7. The line says that the free bird can fly anywhere and everywhere without any restrictions. This is symbolic of the fact that the white people had the freedom to claim their supremacy over different places across the globe. They were unstoppable and asserted their ownership over the world.
8. Literally the poem brings out the contrast in the struggles of a caged bird and the privileges enjoyed by a free one. But the poem reflects the conflict of discrimination between the white and the black races. Bound by racism , the black people were not free to realize their aspirations. Whereas the white people had the complete freedom to go wherever they wished, to exploit resources of those places, to oppress the black and to emerge prosperous.

***Question 5 12***

***The younger man roused himself sharply at the sound of her voice….***

1. Who is the younger man here? Did he know the lady? How? 3
2. How did the man react to her voice? Why? 3
3. Where would the young man not be in the near future? What did the other man answer? What was the reality? 3
4. Bring out the fact that ‘appearances can be deceptive from the story ‘Hearts and Hands’. 4
5. The younger man given here is Mr Easton. He was acquainted with Ms Fairchild as they were old friends from Washington days.
6. The younger man seemed to struggle with a slight embarrassment which he threw off instantly. His right wrist being bound to the silver bracelet caused the embarrassment.
7. The young man wouldn’t be in Washington in the near future. The other man answered that Easton was a marshal who had arrested him and was taking him to the Leavenworth prison. The reality was Mr Easton was the criminal who was taken away by the glum-faced man to Leavenworth prison.
8. The story begins with two men, handcuffed together entering a coach on a train and sitting opposite a beautiful young lady, Miss Fairchild. One of the men is handsome with a bold and frank countenance while the other a ruffled, heavenly built, roughly dressed and glum-faced man. The glum-faced man tells the lady that the other person, Mr. Easton is a marshal and he the culprit. The readers just like the lady immediately accept this as the truth due to the appearances of the two men. O. Henry thus clearly brings out the fact that ‘appearances can be deceptive.

***Question 6 12***

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

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’.