Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**FIRST TERM EXAMINATION**

**Std VIII-NES Set B**

**Marks 80 2 hrs**

Note:-Attempt **ANY SEVEN** questions from Q.1-Q.8

Last Question is compulsory.

**Question 1**

***When I heard the astronomer where he lectured…. 10***

* + 1. Who is ‘I’ here? Whom does he refer to? Where is the lecture taking place? [3]

1. How contrasting is the lecture for the speaker and the others? [3]
2. Mention the two figures of speech in the following line: [4]

In the mystical moist night-air, and from time to time;

1. Student.. he is the learned astronomer.. in the lecture-room
2. The speaker has become tired and sick; the other fellow students seem to be interested as they applause
3. Alliteration- starting sound ‘m’ is repeated

Repetition- the word ‘time’ is repeated

**Question 2**

***‘People must keep calm. People are people. They could not keep calm.’*** ***10***

1. Why people didn’t keep calm? [3]
2. How did people react? What did they do? [3]
3. Does this story reflect upon our society? Elaborate. [4]

1. People didn’t keep calm as the trial against the ‘Chief of the long-nosed ones’ was going to take place on 9th March. The trial was against him because it was stated that his nose was made up of rubber and he cheated people.

2. They came in large numbers into the metropolis. They invaded the hotels. They burnt public conveyances. They set fire to police stations and they destroyed government buildings.

3. Yes, this story does reflect about the people and their thinking. How anyone believes in rumours without any substantial evidence. People often fall prey to news hyped by the media for publicity stunt. The story throws light on public’s mentality, hero-worship, weak memory that public has.

**Question 3**

***‘What does it matter to me, if they can write...’ 10***

1. Who does the word ‘me’ refer to? Who are ‘they’ in the poem? Why is the speaker not bothered? [3]
2. What is the ‘brunt’ which the poet is talking about? [3]
3. Explain: ‘My pack of unruly hounds’. To whom does he call so? Why? [4]
4. The word ‘me’ refer to the teacher. They are the students here. The speaker is not bothered if the students learn or not.
5. The brunt refers to the books that lie out on the desks. There are 60 books of several insults of blotted pages and scrawl of slovenly work that the students have offered him.
6. The teacher calls his students as a pack of unruly hounds. The word pack means a group. Hounds are dogs who are unruly that is extremely wild and undisciplined in their behaviour.

**Question 4**

***“Come on, Robutt” he shouted…..’***  ***10***

1. How does Robutt react immediately after this dialogue? How was he able to hear? [3]
2. Who is Moonborn in the story? How is he different from others? [3]
3. Is this story a sci-fi? Mention the elements that suggest it is science fiction story. [4]

1. He squeaked and bounded after Jimmy. Robutt could hear him by radio

3. Jimmy is moon born. He could handle the lunar gravity as no Earthborn human being could. By earth standards he was spindly but rather tall for a 10 year old. His arms and legs were long and agile. He looked stubbier and thicker with his spacesuit on.

3. Yes it is a sci-fi. The story is Moon-based. The family lives on Moon. The transportation of a real dog from Earth to Moon. People live and the city is called ‘Lunar City’. Radio alarm helps them to locate anyone in a problem. The father gave him instructing on his private wavelength. Robot Dog is invented to keep Jimmy company.

**Question 5**

***‘From time to time he dug a six-penny coin out of a waistcoat pocket and stared at it ruefully…’ 10***

1. Who is ‘he’ here? Mention the different things that were turned out on the seat next to him. [4]
2. How did Philip Sletherby react after the two curses emitted by the other occupant? [3]
3. How contrasting were those two men who greeted Philip at the platform? [3]

‘He’ is Bertie here. He was Honoria Saltpen-Jago’s youngest son. A cigarette-case, matchbox, key, silver pencil case and railway ticket.

After the first curse emitted by the other occupant, Sletherby glanced hastily at the other occupant of the carriage. However, after the second curse Sletherby did not draw forth any remark but he resumed his scrutiny of the magazine.

On the platform he was greeted sedately by a tall footman and noisily by Claude People, an important lawyer.

**Question 6**

***‘When the night comes, to lie down in peace….’ 10***

1. What has the poet expressed in the sentence that comes immediately after this? [2]
2. Who are envied? [3]
3. Explain: stranger’s shell [3]
4. What is the rhyme scheme of this poem? Mention the reason. [2]
5. The poet has said that as he sleeps maybe he will die in his sleep peacefully.
6. Those people who have house of their own, who can say that their feet rest in their house and who don’t live in stranger’s shell.
7. Stranger’s shell is a house which doesn’t belong to a person. It is someone else’s house and people stay there on rent.
8. Free verse. As no words rhyme with each other.

**Question 7**

***I nearly called out in my joy and excitement….. 10***

1. Who is the speaker? Where does this scene take place? What does the word ‘nearly’ meaning, here? [3]
2. Mention any three clues to indicate that Sherlock was not ill. [3]
3. Explain the line: You are not yourself. A sick man is but a child [4]
4. The speaker here is Dr Watson. This scene takes place in the bedroom of Sherlock Holmes. Dr Watson had been hiding behind the head of Sherlock’s bed and when he heard Sherlock speaking normally he called out nearly in Culverton’s presence.
5. Dr Watson, being a doctor, had never heard of such an illness. Sherlock doesn’t give any details even to his landlady and also would not let his doctor-friend examine him. He even reached the conclusion without any doctor’s confirmation. To avoid Dr Watson’s proximity he says that he has caught a very contagious disease. The dying man Sherlock leaps like a tiger to lock the door and the next moment he staggers back to his bed. Holmes wisely directs Watson not to come along with Culverton Smith. Inspector Morton smiles after he asks Doctor Watson about his well-being. Holmes asks Watson to hide behind his bed, he tells the doctor to light up the candle. **(ANY 3)**
6. The sentence means that a person is not behaving according to his/her age or as per the person’s personality. The other part means that whenever a matured person falls ill, he starts behaving like a child does to fulfil his childish demands.

**Question 8**

***‘Will ye not come home brother? Ye have been long away,’ 10***

1. Who is referred as ‘brother’? Who is speaker of these lines? Where is the ‘home’? [3]
2. Which month is mentioned in the next month? What does its onset symbolize? [3]
3. Mention the sights and sounds that tempt the poet homewards. [4]
4. The narrator is referred to as brother. West wind is the speaker. West land is the home here.
5. April is the month mentioned here. As April brings blooming of flowers, warm wind, cool green grass and full of birds’ cries, its blooming symbolises birth of a new phase.
6. Sight- old brown hills, daffodils, apple orchards, air’s like wine, white is the may, young corn, rabbits run, blue sky, white clouds, warm rain and sun, green wheat, white road, green grass, cool grass, violets,

Sounds- thrushes song, Birds’ cries, wild bees, larks are singing,

***Question 9***

***‘Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high’ 10***

1. What do you understand by the head being held high? [3]
2. What kind of world has the poet dreamt of? [3]
3. Give an example of Personification and Alliteration from the poem. Explain them. [4]
4. Head held high means to be self-respecting, brave and to be confident about oneself. To live life in self-respect and self esteem.
5. People live in dignity, head is held high, qualities of honesty, hard-work and truthfulness are imbibed. Knowledge is available to everyone, no barriers or discrimination.
6. ‘Where the world has not been broken up’ (the starting sound ‘w’ is repeated), ‘where words come out from the depth of truth’ (the starting sound ‘w’ is repeated), ‘into the dreary desert’ (the starting sound ‘d’ is repeated), ‘where tireless striving stretches’ (the starting sound ‘s’ is repeated) are examples of Alliteration in the poem. (any 1)

‘A tireless striving stretches its arms towards perfection’- The human quality of stretching the arm is given to striving.

***Question 10 10***

1. What would the wind cooling the broth remind Salarino of? [2]
2. Who said that Antonio was in love? What was Antonio’s reaction to that remark? [2]
3. Give meanings of: [6]
4. Do a wilful stillness entertain
5. Though Nestor swear the jest be laughable
6. That I have much ado to know myself
   * 1. It would remind Salarino of the stormy winds at sea and of the terrible damages they might have caused to the ships.
     2. Salarino had said that Antonio was in love. Antonio said that the remark was nonsense and completely denies that he is in love.
7. Maintain an obstinate silence not to disturb the solemnity of their faces
8. Even if the wise and grave Nestor certify the joke as funny
9. That I have much difficulty in recognising myself.