Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

Assignment: The Village Schoolmaster

1. **How is the surrounding of the school described?**

Ans: The surrounding of the school is blossomed with shrubs of yellow flowers named ‘furze’. They are unnecessarily bright. The poet also remarks that there is a straggling fence that skirts the way to the school.

1. **Why do you think the furze is described as ‘unprofitably gay’?**

Ans: At present the village is deserted and there is hardly anyone to enjoy the beauty of the bright flowers of the furze. Thus it is described as ‘unprofitably gay’.

1. **Who were the ‘boding tremblers’ and what had they learnt to trace?**

Ans: The boding tremblers were the students who are scared of the village schoolmaster. They have learnt to trace his mood swings and the disasters that lay ahead that day, by just watching his face in the morning.

1. **How would the students laugh at the jokes? Why?**

Ans: The students would laugh at his jokes in a counterfeited manner. They did so to please him. They were afraid that if they didn’t do so, their teacher would get annoyed and they did not want to invoke his wrath.

1. **What rumour would be whispered?**

Ans: The busy whisper would be circling carrying the dismal tidings whenever he frowned. The rumour would be about his mood swings, if he is upset or annoyed about anything.

1. **According to the poet, what was the village schoolmaster’s fault?**

Ans: According to the poet, the village schoolmaster’s fault was his love for learning which he did not want to compromise.

1. **What was certain about the village schoolmaster?**

Ans: It was certain that the schoolmaster could write and cipher too. He could measure land without an instrument and predict terms and tides.

1. **What story had spread everywhere?**

Ans: A story had spread everywhere that he could also gauge that means measure without an instrument and that he had very good debating skills. The parson too accepted that the schoolmaster was very good at arguing.

1. **What language skills did the schoolmaster have?**

Ans: The schoolmaster had amazing language skills as he could say words of

learned length with a thundering sound.

1. **What amazed the rustics and which wonder grew in them?**

Ans: The language skills of the village schoolmaster who could say words of learned length with a thundering sound amazed the rustics and a wonder would always grow in them that how one’s small head could carry all the knowledge that he had.

1. **Give a character analysis of ‘The Village Schoolmaster’.**

Ans: The village schoolmaster was a strict and a stern teacher as he never compromised on learning. He was extremely knowledgeable as he had a mastery over a variety of subjects. At heart he was a kind human being and also had a good sense of humour and had many a jokes which he shared with his students. He was a disciplinarian and had a love for learning.

1. **Who is the narrator of the poem, according to you?**

Ans: The narrator of the poem could be one of the students, the schoolmaster’s colleague or someone who knows the schoolmaster very closely from the same village.