Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

Test: Gogol’s First Day, The Lost Dances of Cranes

Std: VIII-SSRVM Duration: 30 Min Marks: 20

1. **Answer the following with reference to context:**
2. ‘“Why do I have to have a new name?” he asks his parents…’
3. Why didn’t Gogol want a new name? (3)

Ans. Gogol didn’t want a new name because he didn’t understand why he had to answer to anything else apart from his name. He was also afraid to be Nikhil- someone whom he didn’t know and who didn’t know him.

1. What was a part of growing up according to Gogol’s parents? (2)

Ans. According to Gogol’s parents, having two names was a part of growing up and part of being Bengali. Every Bengali, his parents, friends, relatives in Calcutta, each had two names.

1. What confusion does Mrs Lapidus go through? What does she say about the same? (3)

Ans. Mrs Lapidus was confused as Gogol had two names. She had not had to go through that confusion with the other two children in the school. She examined Gogol’s immunisation certificate and the birth certificate and said to Gogol’s father that according to the documents, his son’ legal name was Gogol.

1. ‘All that remain of you are a fading crackle of your energy…’
2. What does the poet mean by ‘a fading crackle of your energy’? (3)

Ans. The poet says that the dance of the cranes was very energetic. As the species are becoming extinct, their dance is only seen in old video footages. These videos are so old and the print is faded. Thus the poet says that these videos are ‘a fading crackle of your energy’ referring to the energy of the cranes.

1. What does ‘cranes of another kind’ imply? (2)

Ans. The ‘cranes of another kind’ refer to the huge machines that are used at construction sites. They seem to have long arms that carry the material used in constructions

1. What do people in new cities marvel at? What does this say about them?

(3)

Ans. The people in the new cities marvel at the dances of the cranes which are only seen in old videos. This shows that these people are not worried as to why they can’t see the live dances. They are neither aware nor care about the dwindling species of the fauna of our planet.

1. **Answer the following questions according to their weightage:**
2. What happens at the end of Gogol’s first day at school? (2)

Ans. At the end of the first day of school, Gogol is sent home with a letter to his parents from Mrs Lapidus, explaining that due to their son’s preference, he will be known as Gogol at school.

1. Identify and explain the figure of speech in the given line:

‘while cranes of another kind

Dance cities into being.’ (2)

Ans. Personification is the figure of speech used in the given line. The cranes of another kind, that is, the machines, are given the human quality of dancing.