Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**Pre-Preliminary Exam: Test 5**

**Stories Poems Drama**

1) God lives in the… 1) Where the mind… Merchant

Of

2) Kabuliwala 2) The Inchcape Rock Venice (Act V)

**Std X Set C**

**Marks 40 1 hour**

**Q.1)**

**Ans i)** Portia to Nerissa **2 marks**

**Ans ii)** Portia gives the comparison of beams thrown by a candle and the impact of a good deed. This comparison comes about as when they are walking towards Portia’s house. Portia has the reflection of the good deed that she has done to help Bassanio and Antonio. She feels that the good deed will reach out its rays like the candle. **3 marks**

**Ans iii)** Portia finds the music very pleasant sounding. She says it seems to be sweeter than it does during the day. She thinks that it is in comparison with each other that things sounds musical. A nightingale would sound same as the wren if it would sing in day time and a crow and a lark can be equated the same quality singers if they are not compared to each other. **3 marks**

**Q.2)**

**Ans i)** The speaker Bassanio is talking about his ring in this speech. He says that he had not given it to any woman. He is being true as when he handed the ring to be given to Portia she was dressed as a judge and he had not recognized her.**2 marks**

**Ans ii)** Portia says that Bassanio should be careful not to allow the doctor of law to come near her house. If he does she will be as generous as her husband and would be willing to give everything. She jests that she would be even giving the pleasure of bed to him. It evokes humour as we are aware that the doctor she is talking about is none but herself. **3 marks**

**Ans iii)** The classical allusion of Argus is mentioned in the dialogue. He is a monster with hundred eyes. She says that Bassanio better watch her like Argus or else if she is left alone then she would have the doctor for her bedfellow**. 3 marks**

**Q.3)**

**Ans i)** The bell was tied to the buoy which was in turn tied to the rock. It was expected that when the rock would be hidden by the swelling of the high tide, at that time the bell would ring and warn the sailors. **2 marks**

**Ans ii)** The Abbot expected that whenever the rock was completely hidden by the swelling of the waves the buoy would move vigorously. At that the bell would ring loud and clear and the warning given by it would save the lives of the sailors.

**3 marks**

**Ans iii)** In this part of the poem the sun is shining brightly. The atmosphere was joyous and the sea birds were merrily wheeling around. Even their sound was a happy one. Overall it seemed to be a good and cheerful day. **3 marks**

**Q. 4)**

**Ans i)** The symbolic meaning of the head held high is that people should retain their self-respect. India being ruled over by the British our self-esteem at that time had taken a beating. **2 marks**

**Ans ii)** The walls created by we Indians are called as narrow domestic walls. These include distinction that we make on the basis of caste, creed, tribe, gender, class, religion, language, etc. some of these walls have been broken by now but more or less they still exist in our society. **3 marks**

**Ans iii)** The poem is addressed to God. We know because the word Father is used in the last line of the poem. This word starts with a capital ‘F’ as a mark of respect to god. **3 marks**

**Q.5)**

**Ans i)** Rahmat did not want to be paid for the grapes and raisins he had given for Mini. He requested the narrator to not pay him because he did not get things for money. He had a daughter of Mini’s age back home in Afghanistan and remembering her he got those gifts for her. **2 marks**

**Ans ii)** Rahmat told the narrator whenever he got gifts for Mini it was not for monetary gain. He had a daughter of similar years back home and remembering her he got those gifts for Mini. He then took out a piece of paper that displayed the impression of the hand of his daughter to prove his point. **3 marks**

**Ans iii)** The memorabilia that Rahmat produced was a grimy piece of paper which was tucked carefully somewhere near his chest. There was an impression of a very small hand on it which seemed to have been formed with burnt charcoal daubed on the palm. This he carried with him as if to feel the soft touch of her little hand. **3 marks**

**Q.6)** When the old lady went from home to home in the entire village most of the people only gave a sympathy to her in words. Some even laughed at her. Alagu had heard her out in silence but had recused himself from participating in the case. When he was asked the reason he had said that she was aware about the relationship that he enjoyed with Jumman. On being questioned if it was right to not hear the voice of the conscience and do the correct thing, Alagu had kept quiet. But the question had echoed in his mind. When the situation came to elect the head panch she gave the name of Alagu. Though he was not willing to judge the case initially he had to agree to do so. But when he stepped in the shoes of a head panch he wanted to maintain the dignity of the office. So he starts with a disclaimer to Jumman that he would have to forget friendship and consider the case on its merits. Jumman thought that he was pretending but realized that he was serious later when the decision was given. Alagu made a mincemeat of the arguments of Jumman and ruled in the favour of Jumman’s aunt. Jumman was told either to pay her a monthly allowance or the registration of the land that was given to him the aunt would be nullified. Thus challenging Alagu’s conscience proved successful for the aunt. **8 marks**