Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**ENGLISH Paper- 1**

**Set D**

***(Two hours)***

*Answers to this Paper must be written on the paper provided separately.*

*You will* ***not*** *be allowed to write during the first* ***15*** *minutes.*

*This time is to be spent in reading the question paper.*

*The time given at the head of this Paper is the time allowed for writing the answers.*

*Attempt* ***all four*** *questions*

*The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in brackets [ ].*

*You are advised to spend not more than* ***35*** *minutes in answering* ***Question 1***

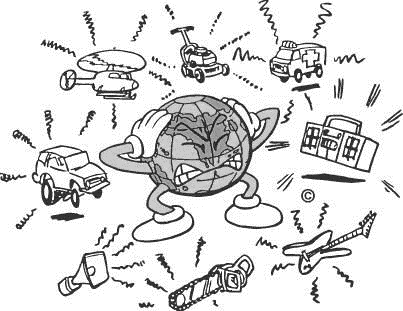
*And* ***20*** *minutes in answering* ***Question 2****.*

**Question 1 [25]**

***(Do not spend more than 35 minutes on this question.)***

**Write a composition (350-400 words) on any one of the following:**

1. Write an essay on the following topic: Nature: A storehouse of joy
2. Is competition among students good? Express your views either for or against this statement.
3. Given below is the first line of the story. Complete the story with interesting details and a gripping narrative. “I woke up to the sound of incessant knocks on the door at 3:00 a.m….”
4. Women can be as brave as men. Relate an incident or incidents in your experience which bring/brings out clearly the truth of the statement.
5. Write an account of a street quarrel that arose as a result of the narrow-mindedness and intolerant attitude of a person or a group of people. Describe how it began with just a few words which led to blows and eventually ended in the destruction of property; who were the most affected and how it was finally resolved.
6. Study the picture given below. Write a story or a description or an account of what it suggests to you. Your composition may be about the subject of the picture or you may take suggestions from it; however there must be a clear connection between the picture and your composition.



**Question 2 [10]**

***(Do not spend more than 20 minutes on this question.)***

**Select any one of the following:**

1. In most metropolitan cities, the traffic scene is so pathetic that many patients die en-route before they can reach the hospital. Write a letter to the Health Minister, Government of India highlighting the problems and offering some solutions.
2. Natural calamities occur throughout the world. They are reported through various media like newspapers and television. We may also witness them first-hand. Write a letter to your friend who lives in a different country describing him such natural calamity that you experienced.

**Question 3 [25]**

**Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:**

One night, a few days after James had left, I had eaten my hay and was lying down in my straw fast asleep, when I was suddenly awakened by the stable bell ringing very loud. I heard the door of John’s house open and his feet running up the Hall. He was back again in no time; he unlocked the stable door, and came in, calling out, “Wake up, Beauty you must go well now, if ever you did,” and almost before I could think, he had got the saddle on my back and the **bridle** on my head; he just ran round for his coat, and then took me at a quick **trot** up to the Hall door. The Squire stood there with a lamp in his hand. “Now, John,” he said, “ride for your life, that is, for your mistress’ life; there is not a moment to lose; give this note to Doctor White; give your horse a rest at the Inn, and be back as soon as you can.” John said, “Yes, sir,” and was on my back in a minute. The gardener had heard the bell ring and was ready with the gate open, and away we went through the Park and through the village and down the hill till we came to the toll-gate. John called very loud and **thumped** upon the door; the man was soon out and flung open the gate.

“Now,” said John, “you keep the gate open for the Doctor; here’s the money,” and off we went again. There was before us a long piece of level road by the river side; John said to me, “Now Beauty, do your best” and so I did; I wanted no whip nor spur, and for two miles I galloped as fast as I could lay my feet to the ground; I don’t believe that my old grandfather who won the race at Newmarket could have gone faster. When we came to the bridge, John pulled me up a little and patted my neck. “Well done, Beauty! Good old fellow,” he said. He would have let me go slower, but my spirit was up, and I was off again as fast as before. The air was frosty, the moon was bright, it was pleasant; we came through a village, then through a dark wood, then uphill, then downhill, till after an eight miles run we came to the town, then through the streets and into the Market Place. It was all quite still except the clatter of my feet on the stones- everybody was asleep. The church clock struck three as we drew up at Doctor White’s door. John rang the bell twice and then knocked at the door like thunder. A window was thrown up, and Doctor White, in his nightcap, put his head out and said, “What do you want?”

“Mrs. Gordon is very ill, sir; master wants you to go at once. He thinks she will die if you cannot get there- here is a note.” “Wait,” he said, “I will come.” He shut the window, and was soon at the door. “The worst of it is,’” he said, “that my horse has been out all day and is tired; my son has just been sent for, and he has taken the other. What is to be done? Can I have your horse?” “he has come at a gallop nearly all the way, sir and I was to give him a rest here; but I think my master would not be against it if you think fit, sir.”

All right,” he said, “I will soon be ready.” John stood by me and stroked my neck. I was very hot. The doctor came out with his riding whip. “You need not take that, sir,” said John. “Black Beauty will go till he drops; take care of him, sir, if you can. I should not like any harm to come to him.”

**(a) Give the meaning of each of the following words as used in the passage: [3]**

(i) bridle

(ii) thumped

(iii) trot

**(b) Answer the following questions briefly in your own words:**

(i) Explain what the squire meant by- John had to ride for his mistress’ life? **[2]**

(ii) Why did John tell the toll gate-keeper to leave the gate open? **[2]**

(iii) Explain what Black Beauty meant by ‘I wanted no whip nor spur.’ **[2]**

(iv) What kind of horse was Black Beauty’s grandfather? **[2]**

(v) Why do you think John would have let Beauty go slower after they had been galloping for a while? **[2]**

(vi) What tells that Squire and John were found of Black Beauty? **[2]**

**(c) (i) In not more than 60 words, describe the journey John and Black beauty had [8]**

**(ii) Give a title to your summary in 3 (c). Give a reason to justify your choice. [2]**

**Question 4**

1. **Fill in each of the numbered blanks with the correct form of the word given in brackets. Do not copy the passage, but write in correct serial order the word or phrase appropriate to the blank space. [4]**

It \_\_\_ (1) \_\_\_ (feel) good playing at well past midnight. It\_\_\_ (2) \_\_\_ (give) me a sense of calm again and helped me \_\_\_ (3) \_\_\_ (take) my mind off the game. Then we \_\_\_\_ (4) \_\_\_ (go) to Siddhivinayak and on our way back \_\_\_\_ (5) \_\_\_\_ (decide) to have milk shake at Haji Ali. Strange as it may sound, Atul and I\_\_\_\_ (6) \_\_\_\_ (sit) on the roadside at 1:00 a.m. having milk shake and relaxing. We \_\_\_ (7) \_\_\_ (talk) of anything but cricket I \_\_\_\_ (8) \_\_\_\_ (feel) much better when I returned to the hotel. The next day I scored 148.

**b) Fill in the blanks with an appropriate word: [4]**

1. The army was called\_\_\_ to control the riots.
2. I tried to calm him \_\_\_\_ by offering him a juice.
3. We are supposed to check \_\_\_by 10:30 a.m.
4. We did not know on a little pressure the top of the toy would come\_\_\_.
5. I can understand where you are coming\_\_\_\_.
6. He will have a look \_\_ if the other players are injured.
7. We decided to eat \_\_\_ at the new restaurant.
8. She told the dean \_\_\_ the golden goose.

**c) Join the following sentences to make one complete sentence without using *and, but* or *so*: [4]**

1. He looked to the spot. Defarge the seller, had stood there a moment ago.
2. The next morning is Christmas. The children wake up with shouts of ‘He’s come!’
3. The meal was finished. They began making speeches.
4. The school was a new one. The equipment was in good condition.

**d) Re-write the following sentences according to the instructions given after each. Make other changes that may be necessary, but do not change the meaning of each sentence. [8]**

1. He walks so fast that I cannot keep pace with him. (Use ‘too’)
2. I endured the criticism because it was just. (Use the adjective form of ‘just’)
3. To set his mind at rest I showed him the document. (Rewrite using ‘so’)
4. Helen of Troy was one of the most beautiful women. (Rewrite using ‘Not many….’)
5. The man found the money stolen and began to cry. (Rewrite using ‘-ing’)
6. He is a shameless man. (Use noun form of the underlined word)
7. It is doubtful whether he will come. (Rewrite using ‘not’)
8. He said, “Let’s watch this movie. It seems to be interesting.” (Rewrite using ‘suggested’)