Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**Pre-Preliminary Exam: Test 2**

**Short Stories Poems Drama**

1) My Lost Dollar 1) Sonnet 14 Merchant

Of

2) Hunger 2) A Doctor’s Journal… Venice (Act II)

**Std X Set A**

**Marks 40 1 hour**

**Q.1)**

**Ans i)** The prince calls it as a silver treasure house as it perhaps in this casket according to him the portrait of Portia will be. If it indeed contains the picture of Portia then it can be compared to treasure house because Portia is indeed a treasure because of the virtues she has as well as the wealth she has begotten. **2 marks**

**Ans ii)** The speaker Arragon says nobody should presume to wear an undeserved dignity and that estates degrees and offices should not be derived corruptly. He also states that nobody shall go about to cozen fortune and be honourable without actual merit. He wants honour to be purchased by the merit of the wearer. **3 marks**

**Ans iii)** Arragon notices the portrait of a blinking idiot when he opens the casket. He says that the portrait is very unlike to Portia and his deserving. He then angrily asks Portia if he does not deserve anything more than this picture. **3 marks**

**Q.2)**

**Ans i)** Salerio( Salerino). Spoken about Antonio. **2 marks**

**Ans ii)** the speaker says that Bassanio told Antonio that he would come back as quickly as possible but Antonio told him not to slubber his business for his sake. He tells Bassanio to wait till the ripening of the time. He should not allow the thoughts of loan to enter his mind which should be full of courtship and fair ostents of love. Then with tears in eyes he wrung the hand of Bassanio. **3 marks**

**Ans iii)** Salerino has heard from a Frenchman the day earlier that a vessel from their country which was richly fraught with cargo had miscarried. The incident according to the Frenchman happened in the narrow seas that part the French and the English (English Channel) **3 marks**

**Q.3)**

**Ans i)** The ‘But’ that starts the line the contrast which is expressed to the previous context. The previous context was talking about the reasons of people normally falling in love but the poetess is expecting to be loved for completely different reason. **2 marks**

**Ans ii)** The poetess says that the love will carry on for eternity. She lays down conditions according to which the love will continue to prosper for generations. She is looking for that kind of eternal love**. 3 marks**

**Ans iii)** Love’s eternity does not mean the time till which humans live. It means the time till which love and the impact of eternity will carry on. She wants his love for her to last beyond love’s eternity. **3 marks**

**Q.4)**

**Ans i)** The narrator turned his gaze away as he saw a naked lady standing with her child in the middle of the street. He turned his gaze away in civility. **2 marks**

**Ans ii)** The doctor himself is shown suffering from pain due to injury and bleeding. His wife is shown coming out with broken elbow whereas some people have burn injuries due and are avoiding any friction to prevent pain from overwhelming them. The psychological suffering is also implied in the form of death of near ones and sometimes separation due to physical injury as is visible in Yecko-san going having to the leave the doctor and move ahead. **3 marks**

**Ans iii)** The two things that have appealed most to me in the poem are the benevolent nature of the doctor and the universality of pain. The doctor is caring towards and his family and staff in spite of being in severe physical distress. He sacrifices the company of his wife when he understands that it will be the most practical option. The other aspect is the understanding that human suffering is universal in nature and when we face a catastrophic calamity like this all other differences vanish. **3 marks**

**Q.5)**

**Ans i)** ‘I’ is the narrator of the story ‘My lost dollar’. The event of lending out a one dollar loan to his friend Todd had happened when Todd needed change for paying the cab. **2 marks**

**Ans ii)** The narrator says that all his life he will remember the fact that his friend Todd owes him money. He is not able to get over the fact that he is yet to get his one dollar back. He says that he will remember it till he reaches his grave. **3 marks**

**Ans iii)** Its about a year that this event has happened. It was 8th of April. He mentions the date to give more authenticity to his claim. **3 marks**

**Q.6)**

Pointers for the answer: Though Rizwan is actually a journalist working for Kihaan newspaper he actually behaves like a tout on behalf of the government. We see him desperately trying to convince Kasim to go back to farming. He suggests he will him or his family procure land. Numerous examples of him trying to say that the change of regime would be good for the common man. Speaks about the policies of the government and taking loan from a bank too. Talks about education too. **8 marks**