Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**ENGLISH Paper- 1**

**Set E**

***(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. Narrate an incident from your own experience that showed how appearances can be deceiving.
2. Write an essay on the following topic: Shopping online vs. Shopping in line
3. If you had the opportunity to bring any person — past or present, fictional or nonfictional — to a place that is special to you (your hometown or country, a favourite location, etc.), who would you bring and why?
4. Write a story with the beginning: As I turned on the news, the reporter said, “…. this dangerous criminal escaped from the jail this morning and… ”
5. Describe an incident that changed you and your life forever for good.
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. Write a letter to the District Education Officer suggesting how the education curriculum could be made more flexible and relevant to the changing economy and environment.
2. Write a letter to your friend highlighting the importance of wearing helmet while riding bikes.

**Question 3 [25]**

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

We can only be partially acquainted with the events which actually influence our life and our final destiny. There are innumerable other events which do not leave any impression on us. If we were to know all the changes in our fortunes, life would be too full of hope and fear, joy and disappointment to afford us a single hour or true **serenity.** This idea may be illustrated by page from the secret history of David Swan.

We first met David, at the age of twenty, on high road from his native place to the city of Boston. His uncle, a small grocer, was to employ him behind the counter there. Since he had been journeying on foot from sunrise till nearly noon on summer’s day, he was tired. He decided to sit down in the first convenient shade and wait for the coming up of the stagecoach. The spring murmured drowsily beside him. A deep sleep fell upon David Swan. He had slept only a few moments when brown carriages driven a handsome pair of horses was brought to standstill nearly in front of David’s resting place. A linchpin had fallen out making one of the wheels to slide off. While the coachman and a servant were replacing the wheel, the lady and gentleman sheltered themselves beneath the trees. They saw bubbling fountain and David Swan asleep beside it. The merchant trod as lightly as his **gout** would allow. His wife took good heed not to **rustle** her silk gown, lest David should start up all of a sudden. The longer they looked more did this elderly couple feel interested in the unknown youth. Perceiving that a stray sunbeam glimmered down upon his face, the lady twisted a branch aside to **intercept** it. Having done the little act of kindness, she began to feel like a mother to him.

“Providence seems to have laid him here,” whispered she to her husband, “and to have brought us here to find him, after our disappointment in our cousin’s son. I think I can see a likeness to our departed Henry. Shall we wake him?” “To what purpose?” said the merchant, hesitating. “We know nothing of the youth’s character.” “That open **countenance,”** replies his wife, in the same hushed voice, “that innocent sleep shows his character.” While these whispers were passing, the sleeper’s heart did not throb, nor his breath became agitated, nor his features betray the least token of interest. Yet fortune was bending over him, just ready to let fall a burden of gold. The old merchant had lost his only son. He had no heir to his wealth, except distant relative, with whose conduct he was dissatisfied.

“Shall we not wake him?” repeated the lady persuasively.

“The coach is ready sir,” said the servant, behind.

The couple started, reddened, and hurried away. They wondered whether they should ever have dreamt of doing anything so very ridiculous.

**(a) Give the meaning of each of the following words as used in the passage: [5]**

(i) serenity

(ii) countenance

(iii) rustle

(iv) intercept

(v) gout

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

(i) Why did David and the old couple shelter themselves beneath the trees? **[2]**

(ii) Do all events mark their significance in our lives? Justify. **[2]**

(iii) Why was the lady interested in David? **[2]**

(iv) What made David fall off to sleep? **[2]**

(v) What does the author want to highlight from the incident about David? **[2]**

**(c) (i) In not more than 60 words, state how David was unlucky to lose a good fortune.**

**[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]**

Anderson\_\_\_ (1) \_\_\_ (study) the blue print for a moment nodded and \_\_\_\_ (2) \_\_\_ (stuff) it into his pocket. \_\_\_ (3) \_\_\_ (turn) to the door marked SSB, he \_\_\_ (4) \_\_\_ (raise) the key but \_\_\_ (5) \_\_\_ (hesitate) looking uneasy about \_\_\_ (6) \_\_\_ (open) it. Langdon had similar misgivings he \_\_\_\_ (7) \_\_\_ (have) no idea what lied behind the door. He \_\_\_\_ (8) \_\_\_ (be) quite certain that whatever Solomon had hidden down there was quite confidential.

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

1. I have no idea how he plans \_\_\_ transform the place.
2. We could end \_\_\_ on the losing side if we don’t do something drastic.
3. I frowned \_\_\_\_\_\_ at him.
4. I am not taking a chance \_\_\_\_ broadcasting this news.
5. This cycle is good enough to get \_\_\_\_\_.
6. After the cyclone people are trying to get \_\_\_with life.
7. After a lot of convincing he gave \_\_\_ to our demand.
8. She has grown \_\_\_of her old shoes.

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

1. He ran down the garden path. A rose bush scratched his face.
2. It was a fine day. We went swimming.
3. The plane touched the ground. It was a bad landing.
4. The girl looked very pleased. The prize had been presented to her.

**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. The fur coat came from Finland. (Rewrite using ‘that’)
2. He fled for fear of being arrested. (Use ‘because’)
3. The girl who just left is rich. (Make simple)
4. The day dawned and we woke up. (Rewrite using a subordinator)
5. The thief ran away as soon as he saw me. (Rewrite using ‘Hardly…. when’)
6. The man said, “God is everywhere.” (Rewrite using ‘that’)
7. Although he was deserted by his friends, he was pardoned by his enemies. (Use ‘being’)
8. Chaucer, the most famous of the poets, lived in the fourteenth century. (Rewrite using ‘to be’ form)