Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**Pre-Preliminary Exam: Test 1**

**Short Stories Poems Drama**

1) Princess September 1) I Believe Merchant

Of

2) A Tiger in the Tunnel 2) Psalm of life Venice (Act I)

**Std X Set A**

**Marks 40 1 hour**

Attempt ***any five*** out of the six questions

**Q1) “... mark what Jacob did, when Laban and himself...”**

1. Who is the speaker of these lines? To whom are they spoken? 2
2. What compromise is the speaker referring to? 3
3. How does Antonio counter this argument? 3

**Q2) “Let me play the fool, with mirth and laughter ...”**

1. What just precedes this speech? 2
2. What does Gratiano desire in life? 3
3. What does he ask Antonio not to do? Why? 3

**Q3) “Baldeo walked confidently for being a tribal himself, he was used to...”**

1. What was Baldeo used to? 2
2. Describe the axe of Baldeo? 4
3. Who had offered to buy the axe of Baldeo? Did he sell it? 2

**Q4) What message can we derive from the end of the story ‘Princess September’? Justify with respect to both the princess and the nightingale. 8**

**Q5) “I believe I can claw into the earth’s belly”**

1. Mention and explain the figure of speech used here. 2
2. What will the poet find in the belly of earth? What would she do with it? 3
3. Explain the message conveyed through the last stanza. 3

**Q6) “Art is long, time is fleeting, and our hearts, though stout and brave”**

1. What is the comparison made in this stanza? 2
2. Why are the drums called muffled? What should this noise remind us? 3
3. What would happen if we leave footprints on the sand of time? 3