Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**LITERATURE IN ENGLISH**

**ENGLISH Paper- 2**

**Set G**

***(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* ***five*** *questions in all.*

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

**SECTION A- DRAMA**

*The Merchant of Venice: Shakespeare*

**Question 1.**

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

***O Sweet Portia ! Here are a few of the unpleaasant’st words that ever blotted paper.***

***Gentle lady when I first did impart my love….***

1. What prelude leads to this dialogue? What does Portia want to know? [3]
2. What had Bassanio told Portia when he had expressed his love for the first time? What according to him should he have added to it? [3]
3. Whom had Bassanio engaged himself to? Did the other person engage himself too? [3]
4. What comparison does Bassanio later in the same dialogue? [3]
5. What does Salerio inform Bassanio immediately after this dialogue? [4]

**Question 2.**

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

***“Here catch this casket, it is worth the pains, I am glad it is night,***

***You do not look on me….***

1. Who is the speaker of these lines? Whom are they spoken to? Where is the scene happening? [3]
2. Why is the speaker glad? [3]
3. What can the lovers not see? What would happen if they would be able to see? [3]
4. What information shocks the speaker later in the scene? Why? [3]
5. Why according to Lorenzo does he love Jessica? Can you see any other reason for the same? Substantiate with examples from the play. [4]

**SECTION B- POETRY**

*A Collection of Poems*

**Question 3.**

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

***There we stood, afraid. A house standing before us tilted, swayed,…***

1. Who is ‘we’ here in the poem? Why are they afraid? [3]
2. What dawned upon the ‘we’? What other thought came to the narrator? [3]
3. What does the narrator wonder? Why? [3]
4. Whom did the narrator meet after starting his journey after a bout of thirst? What did the other person do? [3]
5. Describe the forms of people that the narrator saw? What did he finally realise about them? [4]

**Question 4.**

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

***Tell me not, in mournful numbers,***

***Life is but an empty dream.***

1. Which three things does the narrator not want to listen? [3]
2. Which biblical saying does the narrator refute? How? [3]
3. What should not be and what should be our goal? [3]
4. Explain the metaphor that the poet uses for our heart? [3]
5. What is actually a Psalm? Is this poem a Psalm? In what way is it similar to or different from a Psalm? [4]

**SECTION C- PROSE**

*Collection of Short Stories*

**Question 5.**

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

***I said once again, “There is festivity in the house today. It won’t be possible to see anyone at this time.***

1. Who is the speaker of these lines? What was his profession? [3]
2. What was the reaction of the listener to the above statement? [3]
3. What act of generosity did the speaker indulge in? What was the reaction of the listener to it? [3]
4. What action of the listener touched the heart of the speaker? [3]
5. Can you say that the speaker and the listener were sailing in the same boat? Substantiate. [4]

**Question 6.**

Trace the growth of the friendship between Sue and Johnsy through the thick and thin in the story ‘The last leaf’ [16]