Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**Test: Test: If, Skimbleshanks, B.Wordsworth**

Std VIII Marks 30 Duration: 40 min

Answer the following questions according to their weightage:-

**Q.1.** ***What you doing here…***

1. Who has said these above lines? Whom are they spoken to? What is the context? (3)

Ans: The policeman asked B.Wordsworth and the little boy what they were doing in the race-course. The boy’s mother had hit him hard and to divert his attention, B. Wordsworth took him in the middle of nature to soothe his wounds (physical and emotional).

1. Why did the garden remain and grew high and wild? (3)

Ans: The garden remained and grew high and wild because the plants remained untrimmed. The girl poet had died and the boy poet in her memory didn’t cut the plants resulting them to grow high and wild.

1. Where did they go for long walks? What was the last month’s good line? (4)

Ans: They went to the Botanical Gardens and the Rock Gardens for long walks. It was to be in the middle of the nature and enjoy its beauty. The last month’s good line was ‘the past is deep’. Probably the narrator meant his own story about the girl and the boy poet.

**Q.2.** ***There’s whisper down the line…***

1. Where has Skimble been all this while? What was he doing? What does he do on returning? (3)

Ans: Skimble was busy in the luggage van to probably check if the luggage is safe. On returning, he gives one flash of his glass-green eyes and the signal goes ‘All clear’.

1. When is the signal nearly due? What is the condition of the passengers? (2)

Ans: At 11.42 pm the signal is nearly due. The passengers are frantic and restless because the train was supposed to depart at 11.39 pm.

1. Who will Skimble supervise? Why? (3)

Ans: Skimble will supervise everyone; right from the driver and the guards to the bagmen playing cards. He wants to establish control by a regular patrol.

1. Bring out four paris of rhyming words from the last stanza. (2)

Ans: night-bright, Scotch-watch, Crewe-knew, while-Carlisle, Dumfries-police, Gallowgate-wait, fail-Mail, (These are the examples of internal rhyme scheme)

tea-flea, station-elation, tail-mail, again-train,

**Q.3.** ***If you can dream- and not make dreams your master.***

1. Explain the above line. (2)

Ans: One should dream but not let them control you. Your dreams should be in your hands. If you become slave to your dream then your dreams will start controlling you and manipulating you.

1. Who are the two impostors? What does the word ‘impostor’ mean (2)

Ans: The two impostors are ‘Triumph’ and ‘Disaster’. The word ‘impostor’ means false characters.

1. What does unforgiving minute mean? (2)

Ans: Minute is called unforgiving because once the minute passes by, it won’t come back.

1. Which word is repeated the most? Why? What are the criteria to become a ‘Man’? (4)

Ans: The word ‘if’ is repeated the most in the poem, it is because the poet has set a condition that if the narrator’s son follows those conditions, he will be a ‘Man’. It means ‘gentleman’ in the truest sense.