Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**Pre-Preliminary Exam: Test 4**

**Stories Poems Drama**

1) The Bet 1) Small pain in… Merchant

Of

2) Journey by NIght 2) In the Bazaars of… Venice (Act IV)

**Std X Set B**

**Marks 40 1 hour**

**Q.1)**

**Ans i)** According to the law of Venice if it is found against any alien that he has planned by direct or indirect attempts to take away the life of any citizen then he would be held guilty and penalized. Half of his wealth would go to the person against whom the plot was made and the other half would come to the private coffers of the state. **3 marks**

**Ans ii)** According to Portia it has been evident clearly that there was a plan made by Shylock to take away the life of Antonio. It is visible directly as well as indirectly. It is because of this that he falls under the ambit of this law**. 2 marks**

**Ans iii)** Gratiano is the one who reacts immediately to this statement. He tells Shylock to beg the duke that he should be given the leave to hang himself. Then he taunts Shylock by saying that since he has nothing left he should be hanged at the expense of the State. **3 marks**

**Q.2)**

**Ans i)** Portia to Bassanio. **2 marks**

**Ans ii)** Bassanio says that the ring was given to him by his wife and so he was hesitant to give it. He says that his wife had taken a vow from him that he was supposed to neither sell, nor give nor lose the ring. To honour that vow he was not giving the ring. **3 marks**

**Ans iii)** Antonio requests Bassanio to part away with the ring. He says that the judge deserved it and also that the deserving of the ring by the judge and his friendship should be paired together and seen against the commandment of his wife Portia. **3 marks**

**Q.3)**

**Ans i)** As the narrator approached, he could see the soldier beckoning to him. The soldier looked calm. The battle that had been fought seemed to have been long, hard and had lasted through the night. He could also see scores of people laying still in the morning light. **3 marks**

**Ans ii)** The soldier gave a weak smile. This was the best he could manage as he was in tremendous pain. The smile was also reflective of the warmth the soldier had as he was asking for narrator’s help. **3 marks**

**Ans iii)** Antithesis. Contrasting ideas of fighting in day and fighting during night are expressed together. **2 marks**

**Q.4)**

**Ans i)** The different kinds of seller’s mentioned are merchants, vendors, peddlers, fruit men and flower girls. Merchants sell their wares in their respective shops. Vendors do their business from stalls whereas peddlers move about to conduct their business. Fruit men and flower girls sell their respective things only.

**3 marks**

**Ans ii)** The garments mentioned in the stanza are turbans which of crimson and silver colour and tunics displaying purple brocade work. The turbans represent the self-esteem of Indians, the colours being representative of celebration and royalty. The rich brocade on the tunic shows the traditional Indian artisans work and is also symbolic of royalty, purple being the colour representing royalty.

**3 marks**

**Ans iii)** Pedlars are selling chessmen and ivory dice. Both chess and dice games have Indian origin and ivory being expensive shows richness of tradition.

**2 marks**

**Q.5)**

**Ans i)** The villagers had burnt a good deal of grassland that ly between the forest and the village. That created a buffer zone that stopped any forest conflagration from spreading. **2 marks**

**Ans ii)** The village was surrounded by bits of cultivation and the *maidan* where the villagers grazed their cattle. There were hedges made of piled up thorn branches and the pound into which cattle feeding on government forest land were locked. That was surrounded with burnt grassland and then the forest began. **3 marks**

**Ans iii)** Fifty miles. Sher Singh hoped if he could cross the jungle and the two rivers he might get a lift in a bullock cart or a broken down truck for the last part of his journey. Motors had started appearing even on jungle roads and that made him hopeful. **3 marks**

**Q.6)**

Pointers for the answer:- Drunk fragrant wine- sung songs- hunted stags and wild boars- loved women who are ethereal like the clouds- they have visited him and whispered to him wonderful tales that have left his brain in a whirl- climbed the peaks of Mont Blanc and Elburtz- seen the sun rise from there- seen the ocean sky and mountain tops in the hues of gold and crimson at sunset- seen lightening flash from there cleaving the storm clouds-seen green forests, fields, rivers, lakes and towns- heard singing of the sirens, strains of shepherd’s pipes- touched the wings of comely devils-flung himself into the bottomless pit-performed miracles- slain people, burned towns preached new religions and conquered whole kingdoms.