Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**Test: Zoos**

Std: VIII-EURO Duration: 30 Min Marks: 20

1. **Answer the following with reference to context:**

***“So far as I can make out , after laborious visits to all the chief zoos of the nation, no other imaginable purpose is served by their existence.”***

1. **According to the writer what two purposes do zoos serve? 2**

Ans: According to the writer, the two main reasons for establishing zoos are to provide employment to the several zoo superintendents and keepers and to put up a futile show of the beasts for the children and the least intelligent people of the society.

1. **How does the writer ague with those who claim that zoos are educational? 3**

Ans: The writer plainly refuses the argument that zoos are educational. He says that a person can get only as much education from zoos as he can get from a fire drill or an air show as it is only a form of foolish amusement. Just by watching an old feeble lion snoring in its cage or a family of monkeys fighting for peanuts no useful information can be gained. Only probably the Latin names of the creatures and some outward features can be observed.

1. **What examples does the writer give to show that studying animal behaviour at**

**Zoos would lead to false conclusions? 2**

Ans: The writer believes that zoos produce little or no knowledge about animal behaviour. This is obvious as the animals are not in their natural surroundings and therefor will behave differently. For instance a scholar studying the habits of a giraffe by observing him in the zoo will conclude that it leads a sedentary life and is always melancholic.

1. a) horde – a large group of b) witless- unintelligent c) combat – fight **3**

**II**.

1. **According to the writer what is the true utility of the zoo? How should the tax payers be saved? 3**

Ans: According to the writer the true utility of the zoo is only entertainment for the foolish people , children , their nursemaids and the uneducated ones. The tax payers should not be forced to spend their hard earned money on this futile venture. The people who draw any entertainment value from it should be combated and not encouraged at public expense.

1. **What examples does the writer give to convey the fact that we are robbing animals of their rights by keeping them in the zoos? 4**

Ans: The writer says that sadly we have deprived the animals of their right to habitat by keeping them confined in zoos. We have robbed the tiger of its prowess over the jungle, the monkeys of the trees , an eagle of its flight , a seal of its Arctic ice, the hippopotamus of its soft wallow, the buffalo of its open range , the lion of its kingship and the birds of their air.

1. **What does the writer often wonder? How much money does he think is spent on zoos? 3**

Ans: The writer often wonders how much food is fed to the animals in the zoological gardens of America every week .He thinks that millions are spent on zoos.