Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**Pre-Preliminary Exam: Test 3**

**Stories Poems Drama**

1) India’s Heroes 1) Stopping by woods Merchant

Of

2) The Last Leaf 2) The Professor Venice (Act III)

**Std X Set A**

**Marks 40 1 hour**

**Q.1)**

**Ans i)** The speaker of these lines is Salerio. They are spoken to Shylock. **2 marks**

**Ans ii)** When Shylock says that his daughter is his flesh and blood, Salerio says there was a huge difference between him and his daughter. The difference could was like the difference between ivory and jet(black) . The other example brings out the difference between red wine and Rhenish (white) wine to tell about the difference between the blood of Shylock and that of Jessica. **3 marks**

**Ans iii)** Immediately after this dialogue, when Shylock is told about Antonio he calls him a bad match. He says Antonio is a bankrupt can be compared to the prodigal and says that he should not dare to be seen on the Rialto. Then he calls him a beggar who used to act smart in the market. He warns that Antonio should be careful to keep his date with the bond or else he would be in trouble.

**3marks**

**Q.2)**

**Ans i)** Lorenzo here has told Portia that she would be very happy about her benevolent action if she knows what kind of a person she is helping and how close he is to her husband. He says she would prouder of her action than in the case of the other gestures of kindness. So Portia responds thus. **3marks**

**Ans ii)** Portia says that those friends who spend a lot of time together, interact and share responsibility have many things in common. They are similar in appearance, manner and approach to life. That makes her believe that Antonio would be very similar to Bassanio. **3 marks**

**Ans iii)** Portia says that she is going to a monastery two miles away to pray for the well-being of her husband. She says that she has a breathed a secret vow in heaven to live in prayer and contemplation till the return of her husband. Nerissa would be the only one attending on her in the duration. **3 marks**

**Q.3)**

**Ans i)** According to the professor, the price of the old age is that you cannot go out regularly as you used to in the youth. This happens because of general deterioration of health due to ageing. **2 marks**

**Ans ii)** The professor describes his health as O.K. He says he has the usual aches and pains but no diabetes, blood pressure or heart attack. He says that he has been able to maintain his health because of good habits in his youth. **3 marks**

**Ans iii)** The age of the professor then was 69. He says that he hopes to live till hundred. This shows the fixation that we Indians have towards the number hundred and willingness to live long. **3 marks**

**Q.4)**

**Ans i)** The poet says that he knows the owner of the woods. He realizes that the owner of the place will not be able to enjoy the sight of his woods filling up with snow. He is missing on a beautiful sight. **2 marks**

**Ans ii)** The narrator does not seem to be too rich as an individual. He seems to be running an errand for someone in the process of which he happens to stop to enjoy nature. He is relieved that the owner of the place is not there to reprimand him as he is enjoying the beauty of nature around. Also at the end he reminds himself of the duties he has to fulfill and so has to go away from that beautiful place. **3 marks**

**Ans iii)** The evening is a cold as the snow is falling down. They are in deep and dark woods. It seems to be the darkest evening of the year. The sight to behold is beautiful indeed. He has stopped near the frozen lake and there is no farmhouse near. Only the wind and the falling of the snowflakes can be heard. **3 marks**

**Q.5)**

**Ans i)** Mrs Baruah had given a home assignment to the class. When she asked if they had done it all hands went up together. She was chirpy as she noticed that the exercise had not been a drudge for the kids. **2 marks**

**Ans ii)** The first to speak was Ajit Basu who said that his hero was Sachin Tendulkar. The second to speak was Anjali Chhabra who wanted to be a social worker like her mother. The third to speak was Sanjay Damle who wanted to be a pilot. **3 marks**

**Ans iii)** Kabeer was very nervous as he got up to speak. His hands were shaking slightly and there were beads of perspiration on his forehead. This was as he was not accustomed to making speeches and considered that he did not have the flair for public speaking. **3 marks**

**Q.6)**

Yes. Johnsy was completely whimsical- stupid notion that when all the leaves of the ivy vine would fall down she would die too- started counting them- hundred leaves- related the countdown to her life- last leaf falling down she imagined herself sailing away from life- Sue tried to reason wither but did not succeed- very harsh on Sue. Sue wanted to finish her assignment, she was asked to do that in other room- morning came Johnsy ordered the curtain to be drawn up- did not heed the pleas of Sue to think about her and what would she do without Johnsy- last leaf refused to go down, Johnsy realised the hidden message in it- got inspired and started to recover- Behrman braved cold weather and rain to paint the last leaf. knew that it would have a soothing effect on her nerves which it did. he caught Pneumonia and lost his life. His death can be directly attributed to the whimsical behavior of Johnsy. **8 marks**