Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**Second Term Examination**

**Std- VIII Marks 80 Duration: 2 hr**

**Attempt any 5 questions from Q1- Q6**

**Question 7 is compulsory**

***Question 1 16***

***‘Maintaining Robutt isn’t cheap, either’***

1. Who is the speaker of the lines? Whom were they spoken to? Explain the meaning of the word ‘either’ in this context. 3
2. Where was the third family member? Describe. 3
3. How was the real dog different from the robotic one? 3
4. Which prank had Jimmy played once? What happened thereafter? 3
5. Cite four evidences to suggest that there is a good camaraderie between Jimmy and Robutt. 4
6. Mr. Anderson is the speaker. The words are spoken to Mrs Anderson. Either word means that maintaining the real dog is as difficult as maintaining the robot dog.
7. The third family member was out on the crater. The outer side of the crater sloped southwest and the slope was a gentle one.
8. The robotic dog Robutt had a radar by which he would tell where Jimmy was. He had a small head with no mouth with two large glassed-in eyes and a bump where the brain was. Robutt is made up of tendons of steel, had four legs and wiring and a simple positronic brain. Whereas, a real dog was a Scotch Terrier puppy.
9. Once Jimmy had lain still and pretended he was hurt and Robutt had sounded the radio alarm and people from Lunar City got there in a hurry. Jimmy’s father had let him hear about that little trick and Jimmy never tried it again.
10. Robutt and Jimmy had a wonderful relationship between each other. Robutt would squeak and bound after Jjimmy. Robutt would be very playful with Jimmy and they would often indulge in different kinds of mischief. When Mr Anderson decided to replace Robutt with a real dog, Jimmy held Robutt tightly expressing his love for him and even Jimmy reciprocated too by giving happy squeaks.

***Question 2***

***I have been waiting for you for a long time… 16***

1. Where does the scene take place? After how long does the narrator meet the speaker? 3
2. Who were the regular visitors at the narrator’s place? 3
3. Describe the B.Wordsworth’s house. 3
4. Which initial story had B.Wordsworth told the narrator 3
5. What happened a year later when the narrator went to B.Wordsworth’s house? 4
6. The scene takes place at the corner of Miguel Street. The narrator meets the speaker after a week when he came back from school one afternoon.
7. At about 10, an Indian came in his dhoti and white jacket and they would pour a tin of rice into the sack he carried on his back. At 12, an old woman smoking a clay pipe came and she got a cent. At 2, a blind man led by a boy called for his penny.
8. B. Wordsworth’s lived in a one-roomed hut which was in Alberto Street. It was placed right in the centre of the lot. The yard seemed all green. It had no more furniture than George’s front room but it looked cleaner and and healthier. It looked lonely too.
9. B.Wordsworth had told the narrator about a girl and boy who were in love with each other and happily married. They were both poets. She loved grass and flowers and trees. They lived happily in a single room and they were also happy to welcome the younger poet: that is their baby. But the younger poet never came into being, as the girl died and the baby died inside her. The husband was very sad and said that he would never touch a thing in the girl’s garden.
10. He could find no sign of the poet’s house. It hadn’t vanished just like that. It had been pulled down and a big two-storeyed building had taken its place. The mango, the plum and the coconut tree had all been cut down and there was brick and concrete everywhere.

***Question 3 16***

***Then in 2001 disaster struck again.***

1. Elaborate the disaster. 3
2. What had happened in the year 2000. 3
3. Mention the geographical features of California. 3
4. What impact did the experience of being held hostage have on Tommy Caldwell? 3
5. How long was Kevin stuck on pitch 15? What did Tommy do in such a situation? Why? 4
6. Tommy was working with a table saw when he had an accident and chopped of the top of his index finger. Despite the pain he acted quickly and put the piece of his finger in ice. When he got to the hospital the doctors were able to sew the finger back together. However they told Tommy that it would never recover fully.
7. In year 2000, Tommy and three other climbers were in Kyrgystan climbing in the Pamir-Alai mountain range when they were shot at and then captured by Uzbekistani rebels. After six days of being held hostage Tommy managed to overpower a guard and get free. The four climbers had to trek 29 km before they found help. The suffering and the fear they had experienced had a deep effect on Tommy and the other climbers. This experience made him realise that if he could cope with being held hostage, he could cope with anything.
8. Huge range of geographic features- a long coast line, dry Mojave Desert, lots of fertile farmland, massive mountains, and deep valleys. California is home to the tallest trees in the world, the coast redwood, oldest tree in the world- the bristlecone pine.
9. The suffering and the fear they had experienced had a deep effect on Tommy and the other climbers. This experience made him realise that if he could cope with being held hostage, he could cope with anything
10. For ten days he was stuck on pitch 15. Tommy did not go ahead without Kevin. He not only wanted to support Kevin and boost his morale but also did not want to achieve the feat all alone.

***Question 4 16***

***From hedge to hedge about the new-mown mead;***

1. What is moving? Where is it hiding? Which figure of speech is mentioned in the previous line? 3
2. What happens when he is tired? What does he do in the summer luxury? 3
3. What happened on an evening? How is the evening described? 3
4. Which idea is repeated in the poem? What does it signify? 3
5. Give 2 examples of auditory imagery and visual imagery 4
6. The voice of the grasshopper is moving. The birds who are tired or faint are hiding in the cooling trees. Personification- Running quality is given to the voice.
7. When the grasshopper is tired, he rests at ease beneath some pleasant weed. In the summer luxury, he takes the lead.
8. The evening is described as a lonely one. The frost wrought a silence and a cricket is chirping in a shrill voice from the stove. The warmth is increasing and the one who is half lost in drowsiness thinks it to be a grasshopper among some grassy hills.
9. The poetry of the earth is never dead- is the idea which is repeated. It signifies that day or night, a warm summer or cold evening… the nature produces music in some form or the other.
10. Auditory imagery- (any two) shrills the cricket’s song, a voice of Grasshopper runs

Visual imagery- birds are faint in the hot sun and hiding in the cooling trees, voice runs from hedge to hedge, new mown-mead, lone winter evening, frost has wrought silence, grasshopper among some grassy hill

***Question 5 16***

***But Skimble’s just behind him and was ready to remind him***

1. Who is ‘him’ here? What was Skimble ready to remind him? Why? 3
2. What will happen when you will creep into your cosy berth? 3
3. At what time was the whisper heard down the line? What was the whisper all about? 3
4. Why are passengers very quiet when Skimble is about? 3
5. Write a character sketch of Skimbleshanks: The Railway Cat. 4
6. ‘Him’ is the guard who has come to ask politely if the passenger wants his tea weak or strong. Skimble doesn’t want anything to go wrong.
7. When the passenger will creep into his cosy berth and pull up the counterpane, he will reflect that it’s very nice as he won’t be bothered by mice.
8. At 11.39. The whisper was about: Skimble where is Skimble, has he gone to hunt the thimble…
9. The passengers are quiet because Skimbleshanks establishes control by a regular patrol. He supervises everyone, examines people’s faces and he would know if anything occurred. He will observe without winking and will know what the passenger is thinking.
10. Strict, stern, responsible, good leader, perfectionist, maintains discipline, not partial and treats everyone equal, a good host, alert, vigilant.

***Question 6 16***

***There is cool green grass there, where men may lie at rest***

1. What does the word ‘there’ refer to? Why is cool green grass there? 3
2. Which different birds are mentioned in the poem? What are they doing? 3
3. What is grown in the field? Who is running about? 3
4. Which words suggest that the poet is tired of life? 3
5. Give an example of Simile and Metaphor from the poem. Explain them. 4
6. The word there refers to west land and fine land, the land of west wind. The green grass is cool due to the west wind.
7. Thrushes are in song fluting in the nest. Larks are singing in the west above the green wheat.
8. The young corn and the wheat are green. The rabbits are running about.
9. Tired feet, rest for heart and head, balm for bruised heart, sleep for aching eyes
10. Air’s like wine- Simile- air is compared to wine directly.

It’s song to a man’s soul- Metaphor- The wind is compared to a song indirectly.

***Question 7 (Any 2) 16***

1. ***Explain the significance of Three Blind Mice in the story. Elaborate with suitable examples.***
2. ***Which characters have double identity in the story? Explain the connection among them.***
3. ***Mention the different themes covered in the play.***

***Answers have been marked in the text:***