Vikram ’s English Academy (ICSE)

**Pre-Preliminary Exam: Test 2**

**Short Stories Poems Drama**

1) My Lost Dollar 1) Sonnet 14 Merchant

Of

2) Hunger 2) A Doctor’s Journal… Venice (Act II)

**Std X Set C**

**Marks 40 1 hour**

**Q.1)**

**Ans i)** For that here means the equal chance Portia claims that she gives to him. She has specified that his color is not a hindrance for her to get married to him. **2 marks**

**Ans ii)** He swears by the scimitar that had killed the Sophy and the Persian prince who had won three battlefields against the sultan Suleman that he can do brave deeds. He claims that he can outbrave the most daring people on earth, pluck the sucking cubs from a female bear and tease a hungry lion to win her affection. **3 marks**

**Ans iii)** The allusion of Lichas and Hercules has been used to prove if fate decides the outcome of a contest then it is quite likely that an undeserving person would win it. If Hercules and Lichas are playing a game of dice it is possible that greater number could be thrown by Lichas. So though he considers himself the most deserving, somebody less deserving may choose the right casket because of luck. **3 marks**

**Q.2)**

**Ans i)** Shylock is not sure if he should go to the feast or not. He knows that he has not been invited for love but is also suspicious of some plot against him. **2 marks**

**Ans ii)** Shylock wants to help waste the borrowed money of Bassanio so that he (and effectively Antonio) is not able to repay his loan, thus allowing him to take his revenge. Also as he has dreamed of money bags he is suspicious that some plotting is being done against him which he wants to check out by personally going there. **3 marks**

**Ans iii)** Launcelot makes the apparent mistake of giving the information to Shylock about the masque happening. He tries to cover it up by talking gibberish about his nose bleeding on Black Monday which fell on the same day that year on Ash Wednesday. **3 marks**

**Q.3)**

**Ans i)** The men the writer is talking about are those from whom he had borrowed money and had forgotten about it. They can remind him and claim their money back. **2 marks**

**Ans ii)** These men should approach him one by one possibly in alphabetic order. He would write their names on a paper to pay them back later. **3 marks**

**Ans iii)** The writer says that after a tiring journey across the Canada frontier there is nothing as refreshing as a soda. The person who had lent those thirty cents ought to understand it and extend it as a part of his hospitality. **3 marks**

**Q.4)**

**Points to be covered:**

Though Rizwan and Kasim are shown at the opposite side of the spectrum they are indeed sailing in the same boat. Rizwan claims to be a journalist but at the same time also seems to be representing the government as he tries to convince Kasim to take a loan from the bank or talks about arranging land for cultivation. Kasim is a responsible breadwinner for his family and has an old father to take care of and a son who is only five years old. He talks about the problems like starvation and disease they are facing. He talks about sleeping hungry too on the day of the procession. He is not willing to talk much to Rizwan and leave the conversation midway to hunt for customers. Rizwan too is bound by the same hunger to Kasim. His mother was ill, father had died two years ago and two younger brothers had to drop out of school due to financial constraints. He is desperate to get a permanent job and in the process interview five people. While going back home the same insecurity and hunger haunt Rizwan too as was visible in the case of Kasim. Both of them seem to live lives parallel to each other. They are separated by education but many things in their lives are common too.

**8 marks**

**Q.5)**

**Ans i)** The idea that dawned upon the narrator was that they were seriously injured and must get to the hospital. It struck him late as they were overwhelmed by the incidents happening around them like their house falling to pieces, they both being injured, people dying around them etc. This had not given them an opportunity to think. **2 marks**

**Ans ii)** The poet in spite of the crisis he was in had thought about helping his hospital staff. It made sense to him then butt he later was surprised about the fact that he had thought of that. That was because he was seriously injured and helping anyone was out of question. **3 marks**

**Ans iii)** After the impact of the explosion the narrator lost his undershirt and drawers and was naked. In spite of this he did not feel ashamed. This thought that he wasn’t ashamed of his nakedness disturbed the narrator somewhat. That was because normally a person not wearing any clothes ought to feel ashamed.

**3 marks**

**Q.6)**

**Ans i)** The poet says that she should not be loved because of pity at the time that she was in tears. This is because the crying may stop when she is in his company. And if the love is rooted in the element of pity there are chances that the love may evaporate after the pity dies down. **3 marks**

**Ans ii)** Antithesis: Wrought and unwrought are contrasting ideas. **2 marks**

**Ans iii)** According to the poet if she is for the sake of love only then that love would last for eternity. It may in fact till the end of eternity. Yes that is the goal of the poet. **3 marks**