Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**Assignment: Emma Chapter 8**

**Answer the following:**

1. **What all was Emma thinking of and blaming herself for once she was alone in her room?**

Ans: Once Emma was alone in her room, she was blaming herself for having persuaded Harriet to like Elton. She couldn’t imagine how she could have misunderstood someone’s intentions and how she had been deceived. She then told herself that it was not all her faults. She had decided that she should marry Harriet and so she had been blind to the real purpose of Elton’s visits. She remembered that Mr Knightley had told her not to think that Mr Elton would marry Harriet, for he had said that he would marry a lady with a large fortune.

1. **What resolution did Emma make?**

Ans: Emma resolved that she would never try to arrange marriages or try to bring two people together.

1. **How did the weather work in favour of Emma?**

Ans: Fortunately the weather helped Emma as it was snowing heavily and she could not go to Mrs Goddard’s and Harriet was not well enough to leave the house. Thus Emma and Harriet would not be meeting for some time.

1. **What happened as soon as the weather improved?**

Ans: As soon as the weather improved a little , Mr John Knightley took his family back to London. On the same day, Mr Elton wrote to Mr Woodhouse to inform him that he was leaving Highbury that evening to spend several weeks with some friends in Bath.

1. **What were Emma’s feelings on learning that Elton had gone away?**

Ans: Emma was glad to know that he would be absent for a time but could not help noticing the she was not included in the good wishes that he had conveyed in the letter.

1. **How did Emma break the news to Harriet? How did Harriet react?**

Ans: Emma visited Harriet and explained to her how mistaken she had been about Mr Elton and that she had been the one whom he had favoured. The sight of Harriet’s tears made Emma feel she could never forgive herself. But Harriet blamed no one . She said she could never have deserved so great a man as Mr Elton and that only such a kind friend as Miss Woodhouse could have thought her worthy.

1. **What did Emma do to make up for her mistake? How did she try to divert Harriet’s attention?**

Ans: In order to make up for her mistake, Emma arranged for Harriet to stay with her at Hartfield and spent as much time as she could with her. She tried to divert Emma’s attention and spoke about the long-awaited visit of Mr Frank Churchill.

1. **What did Emma feel on learning that Frank Churchill’s visit had again been postponed?**

Ans: On learning that Frank Churchill’s visit had again been postponed, Emma felt disappointed for the sake of Mr and Mrs Weston.

1. **What were the contrasting views of Emma and Mr Knightley regarding Frank Churchill?**

Ans: Emma thought that it was not Frank Churchill but Mr and Mrs Churchill who were to be blamed for having kept him when he should be with his parents. Mr Knightley as usual had a different point of view as compared to Emma. He believed that Mr and Mrs Churchill were not to be completely blamed. He said he was sure that if Frank wanted to come he would be able to do so. Emma further defended Frank by saying that he was dependent upon his uncle and aunt, the Churchills and couldn’t leave them just when he wished to. Mr Knightley contradicted her by saying that Frank was in his twenties and must have some money of his own and had even gone on a holiday to Weymouth. He further said that it was his duty to pay some attention to his father and to come and pay his respects to his father’s new wife.

1. **Who was going to visit Highbury? Write a few lines about the person.**

Ans: Jane Fairfax, Miss Bates’ neice was going to visit Highbury. Jaine was the daughter of Miss Bates’ youngest sister. Her parents had died when she was a young child and she had gone to live with Miss Bates and her mother. One of her father’s friends Colonel Campbell, had a daughter of Jane’s age and he asked if Jane could visit them. She then spent much time with the Campbell family and when she was nine, Colonel Campbell offered to pay for her education. From that time she had lived with them, paying visits to her aunt and grandmother during the school holidays.

1. **Why had Jane decided to settle in Highbury?**

Ans: When Jane turned twenty and she had no money of her own, she had decided that she must leave the comfort of the Campbell’s home and earn her living as governess. Colonel Campbell’s daughter had recently married a Mr Dixon and was living in Ireland. Thus she decided to settle in Highbury.

1. **What did Miss Bates have to say about Jane’s letter?**

Ans: Miss Bates said that this time Jane’s letter was quite short. It was only two pages. She further added that it was not even two full pages as a lot of writing was crossed out.

1. **What suspicious thought regarding Jane entered Emma’s mind?**

Ans: Emma wondered why Jane had avoided visiting Ireland inspite of knowing Mr Dixon very well and being a very good friend of Mrs Dixon.

1. **Why did Emma congratulate herself?**

Ans: Mrs Bates had urged Emma to stay but Emma insisted on leaving . She congratulated herself that though she had to listen to Miss Bates for so long , she had escaped having to hear the letter.

1. **Did Emma like Jane? Why ? What was Mr Knightley’s point of view regarding it?**

Ans: Emma disliked Jane, though she did not really understand why. She found her reserved and very difficult to get to know for she spoke very little. Mr Knightley had once told her that it was because Jane was the accomplished young lady that Emma would have liked to be. Further whenever Jane came to Highbury, she was very popular and everybody made a fuss of her.

1. **Why did Emma feel sorry for Jane?**

Ans: Jane had to leave the comfort of the Campbells’ home soon and find herself a position in someone else’s house. Emma felt sorry for her as she could think of no young man in Highbury who might want to marry her and so make her independent.