Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**Test: Merchant of Venice (Act 2 Scene 2)**

**The Lost Dollar, The Professor**

**Std IX Set B**

**Marks 20 30min**

**Answer Key**

1. Launcelot informs his father that his son is deceased or has gone to heaven. He says that it is according to fates and destinies and such odd sayings and has been decided by the three sisters of fate and such branches of learning.

2. Launcelot says that even if he had his eyes he would not be able to recognise him. He uses a proverb which implies that it is a wise father who can recognise his own child. He further goes on to say that truth will come to light and murder cannot be hidden for long. A man’s son may try to hide the truth but in the end truth will come out.

3. The Professor has become old and feels restricted in his activities. He says that his health is O.K. and he has only usual aches and pains. He has no serious diseases like diabetes, blood pressure or heart attack. He calls this discomfort as ‘the price of old age’.

4. The Professor says that he is not against family planning. On the surface he shows that it is a logical part of society’s progress. But we do notice that he himself has not practised any family planning, as he has five children.

5. Todd borrowed the dollar from the narrator on the 8th of April of the previous year. At that time, he was about to leave for Bermuda and needed a dollar in change to pay for his taxi.

6. The narrator used many indirect ways to give a hint to Todd. Firstly he suggests that they should take a taxi to the club. Later, he asked about the currency used in Bermuda and whether the American dollar was at par in Bermuda. He emphasised on the word ‘dollar’ but Todd took no heed. The narrator could not bring himself to ask him directly.

7. The narrator says that if he has forgotten somebody’s loan of a dollar, he should never be able to pay on this side of the grave. It is because if he does not remember that he has taken a loan, there is no chance him paying it back.