Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**Pre-Preliminary Exam: Test 1**

**Short Stories Poems Drama**

1) Princess September 1) I Believe Merchant

Of

2) A Tiger in the Tunnel 2) Psalm of life Venice (Act I)

**Std X Set D**

**Marks 40 1 hour**

**Q.1)**

**Ans i)** Shylock speaks these lines. To Antonio and Bassanio. **2 marks**

**Ans ii)** Compromise here is the agreement that took place between Laban and Jacob. The agreement was that Jacob would take the sheep of Laban for grazing and the eanlings (newborn lambs) which are striped and spotted would be given to Jacob as his salary. **3 marks**

**Ans iii)** Antonio says that there was a difference in the both situations of shylock charging interest and Jacob winning the lambs. Firstly Jacob worked hard for this earning unlike shylock who charges interest without any work. Also it was not in hands but fashioned by god that the eanlings were striped or spotted. **3 marks**

**Q.2)**

**Ans i)** Previous to this Antonio compares the world to a stage where each one of us has to play a role and says he is playing the role of a sad man. **2 Marks**

**Ans ii)** Gratiano desires to play the role of a fool and that he should get old with mirth and laughter. He would rather have his liver heat with wine than his heart becoming cold by painful groans. Does not want to be peevish and contract jaundice. **3 marks**

**Ans iii)** He asks Antonio not to fish by using melancholy as a bait. There are some people who deliberately encourage the melancholic expression on their face as they want to consider as wise but Gratiano compares this opinion of humans as a gudgeon fish who is foolish. **3 marks**

**Q.3)**

**Ans i)** Preparing for the nightly errand of lighting the lamp for signaling the mail train at the mouth of the tunnel. He also had to check the tunnel was clear. **2 marks**

**Ans ii)** It was a station in name only. Trains rarely stopped there. It was a just a shed. It was just before the sharp turn of the cutting, **3 marks**

**Ans iii)** Lighting the signal lamp to signal the mail train. He also had to walk through the length of the tunnel to see if the tunnel was free of any obstruction. **3 marks**

**Q.4)**

Human beings l like to be praised:- The king likes to hear God ‘Save the king’ but not ‘Pretty Polly’

Human beings are self-centered:- The maids leave the Princess September because she is crying.

Human beings are jealous:- the other princesses are jealous of the acquisition of nightingale by September

Human beings get easily influenced by majority:- September get influenced and cages the nightingale

Human beings once suspicious think only negatively:- September gets suspicious of the nightingale because she comes late

Humans become possessive when they love someone a lot:- September gets possessive of the nightingale and puts her in a cage to enjoy the company of nightingale. **8 Marks**

**Q.5)**

**Ans i)** Life is referred to as real and earnest in the stanza previous to this. The goal of life is not grave. **2 marks**

**Ans ii)** It is written in the bible that we are made up of dust and will return to dust (Grave). The poetess explains that these lines in the bible are meant for the body of a person. They don’t apply to the soul which is immortal. **3 marks**

**Ans iii)** Enjoyment or sorrow should not be our destined end or way. We have to work to make sure that each tomorrow is better than our today. The action to make this possible should be stressed upon. Joy and sorrow are just parts of the journey not the destination. **3marks**

**Q.6)**

**Ans i)** Brucellish K Sangma is the poet of the said lines. They were originally written in Garo language. **2 Marks**

**Ans ii)** Those people who use the natural resources to make human life more comfortable are called human angels. It is because of these angles that our life becomes fulfilling and we are more at ease with our surroundings. **3 marks**

**Ans iii)** The poet believes that she can find priceless gems in the belly of the earth. Using these she says that she can adorn herself i.e. make herself look more attractive. **3 marks**