Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**First Semester Examination**

**Std IX Set A**

***Question 1 16***

1. These lines are said to Lorenzo. Gratiano says that if he keeps company for two more years he (Lorenzo) would not be able to know the sound of his own tongue.
2. According to Bassanio, he has disabled his estate by showing something which is a swelling port than what his faint means would allow. He has lived a life full of extravagance which his limited income doesn’t allow. He doesn’t also want to be abridged from such a noble rate.
3. Bassanio compares finding meaning in Gratiano’s speech to searching of two grains of wheat in two bushels of chaff. Even if you find them after a day’s search they are not worth the effort. Similarly even if you find meaning in the nonsensical talk of Gratiano, it is not worth the effort to listen to the nonsense.
4. Gratiano tells Antonio that his melancholy should not be used as a bait. He says that many people use it to develop an opinion of wisdom, gravity and profound conceit. But this opinion is like trapping a fool gudgeon and is not worth the effort.
5. Bassanio calls Portia as rich, fair and virtuous. He says that this Portia is not less in value to Cato’s daughter Portia. The world is not ignorant of her worth and renowned suitors come from all the four directions. Her sunny locks hang on her temples like a golden fleece and Belmont has become Colchis’ strand. Many Jasons come in quest of Portia and he believed because of the fair speechless messages that she had given, he would be the one who would be fortunate to marry her.

***Question 2 16***

1. Shylock. No. He was not debating of his present store. He was actually responds aside how Antonio looks like a fawning publican. He hates him because he is a Christian, but more for the fact that in spite of his low simplicity he lends out money gratis. That brings down the rate of usance in Venice.
2. Antonio has an argosy bound for Tripolis, another bound for Indies. He has learnt upon the Rialto that his third argosy is at Mexico and fourth for England. There are other ventures which he has squandered abroad.
3. Antonio tells Shylock that he neither lends nor borrows by taking or giving of excess (interest). But, to supply the ripe wants of Bassanio he would break a custom and is willing to pay interest.
4. Shylock says that he is debating of his present store and buy the near guess of his memory, he cannot instantly raise up the gross of full three thousand ducats. Nevertheless, he says Tubal, a wealthy Hebrew will furnish him.
5. Shylock says when Jacob, the third possessor of Holy Abram, grazed his uncle Laban’s sheep, he did not take any salary. Rather, they were compromised that all the eanlings which were streaked and pied should fall as Jacob’s hire. Jacob pilled certain wands and stuck them in front of the fulsome ewes and eanlings were born as streaked and pied. This was his way of winning thrift. He justifies it saying that any thrift is a blessing if men steal it not.

***Question 3 16***

1. The young women and men are differently abled children who are participating in ‘Special Olympics’. These children had come from many different countries across the world to run for the gold, silver and bronze.
2. The poet is referring to the ‘Special Olympics’. These games are held for persons who are differently abled. The contestants come from many different countries and undergo training for weeks and months before the game.
3. The loudspeakers called the names of the nine participants of the next event. All the nine young athletes stood on the starting line. Each of them was determined to win therefore was ready and waiting for the sound of the gun which would be the signal to begin the race.
4. Yes, all the nine contestants were determined to win as all of them were poised for the sound of the pistol which was the signal to begin the race. As soon as the pistol exploded, the contestants too exploded and ran vigorously. Thus it is evident that all the contestants were determined to win.
5. The poem is about an athletic event in which there were nine participants who had trained for weeks and months in order to win a medal. Unfortunately, the youngest of them stumbles and falls. Without sparing a single moment, the remaining eight turn around and go back to him. They not only lift him up but also hold hands and complete the race together. It is this selfless act because of which each one of them wins a gold medal. Thus, the title ‘Nine Gold Medals’

***Question 4 16***

1. He, here, is Abou ben Adhem. Angel and vision are the words addressed to the presence in the room. Nay-No, cheerly-happily, thou/thee- you, writest-write, blest-blessed, lo-behold, see
2. The poet has compared the angel to a blooming lily. The moonlight which filtered into the room made it bright and the angel standing in the white light in its white robe made it look like a lily blooming. The poet has thus compared the angel to a blooming lily.
3. The next day the angel appeared again and this time showed the names of those whom God had blessed. Abou’s name was now above all the other names in the list. God loves those who love others and Abou loved and served his fellow beings.
4. In spite of his name not being in the list of those who loved the Lord, Abou did not get upset or annoyed. On the contrary, he was very calm and humbly requested the angel to write his name in the list of those who loved their fellowmen. This time his tone was even lower than earlier.
5. Alliteration – Starting sound‘d’ is repeated in ‘deep’ and ‘dream’

Tautology- Nay and not are words of similar ideas

***Question 5 16***

1. The red man has come from America. He was wearing khaki clothes and Muni thinks that he is kind of an Impostor who has come to investigate about the murder.
2. When Muni told his wife that he was tired of eating drumstick leaves and he had a desire to chew the drumstick out of sauce, his wife taunted him. She said that he had only four teeth in his jaw. She said so because in that acute poverty he wanted the luxury of eating the drumsticks out of sauce.
3. We can imply that the relations between people of Kritam and Kuppam are not cordial. According to Muni, people of Kuppam can go to any extent and will not stop at anything. He was also sure that his village has always had a clean record and the culprit must be definitely from the other village.
4. The red faced man i.e. the American man implored Muni to try and understand what he was trying to say. He was frustrated as he had gotten along with English everywhere in the country. He wondered if there were any religious or spiritual scruples against English speech.
5. No, Muni wasn’t a regular smoker. He had not smoked since many years. Many years ago the shop man had given him a cigarette on credit. When the foreigner lit the cigarette, Muni took a deep puff and started coughing. Though it was pleasant, the effect was so racking that he had tears in his eyes. His head reeled due to its effect

***Question 6 16***

Following points to be mentioned-

Old Man represents many civilians who have fallen victims due to war. War destroys and devastates everything- life as well as property- people are moving- men women and children- the old man sits at the side- doesn’t move- homeless- hopeless-without family- seventy six years old- travelled twelve kilometres- the narrator urges him to move- cross the bridge but he doesn’t- various animals- symbolism of animals- cat represents independent people- the pigeons are the refugees who will move when they get the opportunity- goats get killed- like innocent victims- nowhere to go- bridge symbolises transition- new life- those who cross are safe- those who don’t, they die- the man feels hopeless on Easter day- Easter ironically a day of new beginning and new hope-