Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**Test: If, Skimbleshanks, B.Wordsworth**

Std VIII Marks 30 Duration: 40 min

Answer the following questions according to their weightage:-

Q.1. ***You are as good as me…***

1. Who has said these above lines? Whom are they spoken to? What is the context?

Ans: B.Wordsworth has said the above lines. They are spoken to the boy. The poet is questioning the boy if he really feels that B.Wordsworth is a poet. (3)

1. Which different trees were there? How are mangoes described? (2)

Ans: There was a coconut tree, plum tree and a mango tree. The mangoes are described to be ripe, red, sweet and juicy. The boy ate six of them and the yellow mango juice ran down his arms to his elbows and down his mouth to his chin and his shirt was stained.

1. How did the boy react to his mother’s beating? What resolution did he make? (3)

Ans: The boy ran out of the house swearing that he would never come back and went to B.Wordsworth house. His nose was also bleeding.

Q.2. ***He will watch you without winking…***

1. Who is ‘he’ referred to? What will he not approve of? What is the outcome (3)

Ans: He refers to Skimbleshanks. He will not approve of hilarity and riot. As a result the folks were quiet.

1. Mention any four things that make the passengers at east on the train. (2)

Ans: The four things that make the passangers at ease are ;- berth is very neat with a new folded sheet, no speck of dust on the floor, every sort of light, funny little basin to wash your face, crank for the window to be shut.

1. Write the names of the stations that are mentioned in the correct

sequence. (2)

Ans: Crewe, Carlisle, Dumfries, Gallowgate

1. Describe Skimbleshanks. What is the name of the poet? (3)

Ans: Skimbleshanks is the railway cat and an important member on the train. Without him, the train won’t start. He is in charge of the train and fulfils his duties with utmost care. He will supervise everyone and keep an eye on all the happenings in the train. He makes everyone comfortable and doesn’t tolerate any nonsense. He is strict but at the same time very hospitable.

Q.3 ***If you can keep your head….***

1. What should one do when others are doubting him? (2)

Ans: If others are doubting you, you should make allowance for their doubting too. Give them space to not have faith in you but at the same time have faith in yourself.

1. What should one not deal in? Why? Justify with the context of the poem. (3)

Ans: One should not deal in lies. Neither should you fall into someone else’s trap. It’s like a trap set for fools.

1. Explain: And yet don’t look too good, nor talk too wise. (2)

Ans: It means sometimes one has to be stern and not seem to look good. One has to defend his self-esteem and self-respect. Hence one should not look good at the cost of someone insulting anyone and seem to be too wise.

1. What lessons of life are we taught in the poem? (3)

Ans: We are taught different lessons of life in the poem. How one should have self-belief, be a follower of truth and the same time not to be upset because some people will twist the truth. One should dream but not let them control you. One should not let triumph or disaster control or manipulate too. You should live every moment to the fullest, give your best as it is the unforgiving minute which will never come back.