Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

**LITERATURE IN ENGLISH**

**ENGLISH Paper- 2**

**Set A**

***(Two hours)***

*Answers to this Paper must be written on the paper provided separately.*

*You will* ***not*** *be allowed to write during the first* ***15*** *minutes.*

*This time is to be spent in reading the question paper.*

*The time given at the head of this Paper is the time allowed for writing the answers.*

*Attempt* ***five*** *questions in all.*

*The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in brackets []*

**SECTION A- DRAMA**

*The Merchant of Venice: Shakespeare*

**Question 1.**

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

***O, be thou damn’d, inexorable dog!***

***And for thy life let justice be accus’d.***

1. Who is the speaker of these lines? Whom are they spoken to? [3]
2. According to the speaker his faith is wavering. Why does he say that? [3]
3. What is the response of the listener to this rant by the speaker? [3]
4. Who has arrived earlier to this exchange of words? With what? [3]
5. Briefly explain the contents of the letter given to the Duke. [4]

**Question 2.**

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

***“Shylock, albeit I neither lend nor borrow***

***By taking nor by giving of excess”***

1. Who is the speaker of these lines? Who else is present at the scene apart from Shylock? Where is the scene taking place? [3]
2. What is the speaker trying to explain Shylock? [3]
3. What was Shylock debating earlier to these lines? What conclusion did he arrive at? [3]
4. What analogy does Shylock give later to explain his charging of interest? [3]
5. In what way does Shylock show his shrewd thinking specially at the end of the scene? [4]

**SECTION B- POETRY**

*A Collection of Poems*

**Question 3.**

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

***Let us, then, be up and doing,***

***With a heart for any fate;***

1. Who is ‘us’ in the poem? What does the poet mean by ‘up and doing’? [3]
2. What should we learn to do? What is the ultimate motto of life, according to the poet? [3]
3. How are the lives of great men significant? What example do they set for us? [3]
4. Explain the significance of the three time frames given in the poem. [3]
5. Give two examples of simile in the poem. Explain them. [4]

**Question 4.**

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

***This year I am sixty- nine***

***and hope to score a century.***

1. Who is ‘I’ here? In what does he ‘hope to score a century’? What does it show about his mentality? [3]
2. Is the narrator a hypocrite? Justify with an example from the poem? [3]
3. What is the narrator’s profession? What is the status of health right now? [3]
4. Who is the listener? How has the listener changed, according to the narrator? [3]
5. Give two examples of ‘Indian English’ in the poem and rectify. [4]

**SECTION C- PROSE**

*Collection of Short Stories*

**Question 5.**

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

***When the full panchayat had assembled,***

***Ramadhan Misra proposed that….***

1. Who was Ramadhan Misra? What did he propose? What did he say to one of the parties? [3]
2. Why was the panchayat called? [3]
3. What was Alagu’s reaction after knowing the nomination? [3]
4. What happens when we are placed in some responsible position? What do we do? [3]
5. Mention the birds and their issues that they were debating in their panchayat. [4]

**Question 6.**

‘We are good judges for the mistakes of others, but very good lawyers for our own mistakes. ’ Explain this quote in the context of the story ‘My Lost Dollar’ [16]