

MODEL QUESTION 25

Unit: 14, lesson: 9

Read the following passage and answer the questions following it

Once upon a time in Venice, there was a very rich merchant named Antonio. He had many ships that sailed in the sea. His ships carried different types of merchandise to other countries. He sold those goods in foreign countries. He bought spices and other valuables with the money and sold them in Venice. Antonio was a good and kind man. He always helped the poor. The people of Venice loved him very much for his honesty and kindness. Antonio had a close friend named Bassanio. He was a handsome young man and was born in a noble family. Bassanio like to live a very luxurious life. He loved grandeur and style. He spent more money than his earning. As a result, he was very often short of money. In such situations, Bassanio would go to his best friend Antonio for help. Antonio would, on the other hand, help him with cash. It so happened that, Bassanio fell in love with a wealthy lady named Portia. Portia was known not only for her beauty but also for her wisdom. Portia, on the other hand, had softness towards Bassanio too. He wanted to visit Portia in a grand manner but

he did not have any money. So he went to Antonio. Bassanio said, "Dear friend Antonio, I am in great need of some money. I would like to visit Portia at Belmont, grandly dressed and with many servants. But I don't have

any money right now. Please help me to fulfill my intention." Antonio said, "This is not a problem my friend, how much do you need?" "Three thousand ducats (Venetian currency) will do." "I don't have that much money with me now as all my ships have gone out in the sea with merchandise. But don't worry my friend; I'll arrange three thousand ducats for you." So he decided to borrow the sum from a moneylender named Shylock. Shylock was a very crooked man. Antonio and Shylock hated each other. Shylock sued to lend money with high interest. He would even send the debtor to prison if he failed to pay his debt. On the contrary, Antonio used to lend money to help those who need it and would not charge any interest. Shylock agreed to lend him money but on one condition. If he failed to repay the money in three months' time then he has to pay a penalty. Shylock would cut a pound of flesh from any part of Antonio's body. Antonio willingly agreed thinking that his ships would soon return with all the rich merchandise and he can easily return the money to Shylock by selling them. Shylock made Antonio sign a bond before giving him the money. Antonio took the money and gave it to Bassanio.

1. Choose the correct answer from the alternatives.

1x7=7

- (a) The word **merchant** refers to _____
(i) dealer (ii) merriment (iii) mumble (iv) trade
- (b) The word **merchandise** refers to _____
i) purchase ii) buy iii) deal iv) businessman
- (c) The word **luxurious** refers to _____
i) austere ii) humble iii) ascetic iv) deluxe



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- (d) The word **intention** refers to _____
i) aspiration ii) solitary iii) accompanied iv) gathering
- (e) The word **ducats** refers to _____
i) dual ii) gold coin iii) duration iv) abasement
- (f) The word **crooked** refers to _____
i) sympathy ii) callousness iii) heartlessness iv) curled
- (g) The word **debt** refers to _____
i) partisan ii) liability iii) biased iv) impartial
- (h) The word **penalty** refers to _____
i) adorn ii) blemish iii) forfeit iv) mar
- (i) Which of the following statement is true?
i) Bassanio was a very rich man ii) Antonio went to Shylock to borrow money
iii) Antonio was not an affluent man iv) Antonio was very impoverish
- (j) The word **willingly** is a/an _____
i) noun ii) adjective iii) adverb iv) verb
- (k) The word **rich** is a/an _____
i) noun ii) adjective iii) adverb iv) verb
- (l) The word **wisdom** is a/an _____
i) noun ii) adjective iii) adverb iv) verb

2. Answer the following questions.

2x5=10

- (a) Why was Bassanio short of money all the time?
(b) Why did he go to Antonio?
(c) Why did Antonio go to Shylock?
(d) Why did Shylock bring forward the bond?
(e) What could be written on the bond?

Bassanio went to Belmont to visit Portia grandly dressed, with many servants. Portia's father had died lately. Before his death he had thought of an unusual plan to find a good husband for his daughter. He wanted a man to marry Portia for herself and not for her wealth. He had three caskets made, one of gold,

one of silver and one of lead. One of the caskets had Portia's portrait in it. The suitor, who would first choose the casket with the portrait would marry her. Many suitors went away when they heard about such a strange condition.

3. Fill in the blank with suitable word. Use one word only in each blank.

1 × 5 = 5

Bassanio a) _____ to marry Portia. He b) _____ that a simple appearance could hide a good something inside. So, he c) _____ the lead casket and he got the portrait of Portia. He could succeed in such a d) _____ test. According to, her father's e) _____ she married Portia.

