**18th May, 2020 JESUS AND MARY SCHOOL AND COLLEGE MODULE 2**

**CLASS X**

**ENGLISH LITERATURE**

**NOTE:**

***Dear Students, in the previous module, we started with your drama section of the syllabus and beginning with Act III Scene 2, we had covered the explanation of Lines 1-109 of Scene 2. So, in this 2nd module, we will continue from where we left in the first one. Before starting the explanation, I would like to remind you all to strictly follow the instructions given to you in the first module. You have studied in the previous module till the point where Bassanio made his choice of the caskets, now let’s continue from thereon and see what happens next in the scene.***

**ACT III Scene 2**

**TEXT:**

**PORTIA: How all the other passions ……………………………… for fear I surfeit!**

**(Lines 110-116)**

**EXPLANATION:**

In the above lines, Portia is expressing her relief and joy as Bassanio has chosen the right casket.

**Lines 110-112 –** “Now all other emotions vanish into the air, such as doubt, rashly conceived despair, trembling fear and the green-coloured jealousy!” These line indicate that all the before mentioned terrible feelings that were inside Portia till Bassanio had chosen the right casket, have now vanished into air.

**Lines 113-116 –** “O love, be calm and reduce my excessive joy! Please shower the joy on me in a moderate amount; restrain this excess of joy! I feel your blessing too strongly. Make it less, lest I should suffer from your excessive blessings (joy).”

**TEXT:**

**BASSANIO: What find I here? ………………………………………**

**………………. Until confirm’d, sign’d, ratified by you. (Lines 117-151)**

**EXPLANATION:**

In the above lines, Bassanio after opening the lead casket finds Portia’s portrait inside it. Bassanio highly praises Portia’s portrait and then he finds the scroll kept in the casket and reads it. After this, he asks for Portia’s permission to marry her.

**Lines 116-121 –** “What is this that I find here? (*Opening the lead casket*) Lady Portia’s portrait! Only someone who is a half god could have created a picture which is so perfect. Do these eyes move, or do they seem so because my eyes move?”

**Lines 121-126 –** “Here are her lips slightly separated by the action of her sweet breath. It (sweet breath) is so sweet a barrier which separates such good friends (her lips). Here in her beautiful hair, the painter has worked like a spider, spinning a golden web to entrap the hearts of men, faster than the insects that are trapped in cobwebs.”

**Lines 126-132 –** “But how was he able to see to paint her eyes? It seems that when one eye had been painted, it would have the power to blind the painter (stealing away his eyes) so that he could not paint the second eye. Yet see, to what extent the words of my praise do injustice to her portrait by underestimating it. In the same way the portrait falls short of the original (substance), that is, Portia herself.”

**Lines 132-141 –** “Here is the scroll which contains as well as summarises my fate.

(Reads) “You who have not chosen only by the looks, may you be fortunate and choose as truly as you have done. Since this fortune has come to you, be satisfied and seek no more happiness. If you are pleased with this, and consider this fortune as your joy, then go to where your beloved is and claim her with a loving kiss.”

**Lines 142-151 –** “A beautiful scroll, Fair Lady, Here I am with your permission as I am directed, (*kissing her*) to give you a kiss and receive one. I am like one of two persons who are competing for a prize. The competitor thinks that he has done well in people’s eyes. When he hears a loud applause with joy he is excited, looking around with doubt whether the shouts of applause are for him or not. So, thrice blessed fair lady, I am standing here, doubting whether what I say is true, until it is confirmed and approved by you.”

**TEXT:**

**PORTIA: You see me, Lord Bassanio, ………………………………….**

**…………... and be my vantage to exclaim on you. (Lines 152-177)**

**EXPLANATION:**

In the above lines, Portia answers to Bassanio by expressing her feelings, presenting herself as much inferior to him. Portia also gives Bassanio the right over all her possessions and herself with a ring, which she tells Bassanio to not part from.

**Lines 152-160 –** “You see me, Lord Bassanio as I stand here. As I am in reality, I have no ambition for myself to be better. But for your sake I wish myself to be better. I wish that I might be sixty times myself, a thousand times more beautiful, ten thousand times richer than I am. I wish to stand respectable in your eyes. I might be worth more than what one can be in terms of virtues, beauty, property and friends.”

**Lines 160-168 –** “But the sum total of myself is the total of something which may be expressed briefly as an inexperienced, untrained and uneducated girl. I am glad that I am young enough to learn; happier because I am not so slow in nature that I cannot learn; happiest of all because I have a gentle disposition that I entrust myself to you to be guided as if by its lord, governor and king.”

**Lines 169-177 –** “I and all my possessions have now become yours. A little while ago I ruled over this house, and have been the mistress of all my servants, and the mistress of my body and soul. However, now, at this moment, the mansion, the servants, and myself are yours. I offer them to you with this ring. When you part with it or lose it or give it away, that will be a sign that your love for me is dead and an opportunity for me to accuse you for that.”

**TEXT:**

**BASSANIO: Madam, you have bereft me ………………………… to say Basssanio’s dead!**

**(Lines 178-188)**

**EXPLANATION:**

In the above lines, Bassanio expresses his current feelings after Portia’s acceptance and approval of his love for her.

**Lines 178-188 –** “Madam, you deprive me of words. Only my blood running in my veins speaks to you. And there is so much confusion in my thoughts like the one that follows after the speech of a beloved prince, amid applause of a delighted audience. Where every feeling blended together, produces a wild confusion expressing nothing but joy, which again just cannot be expressed. But when this ring leaves my finger (may it be only due to my death), you may say with certainty that Bassanio is dead.”

**TEXT:**

**NERISSA: My lord and lady, …………………………………………. my lord and lady!**

**GRATIANO: My Lord Bassanio ………………………………….. I may be married too.**

**BASSANIO: With all my heart, so thou canst get a wife.**

**(Lines 189-198)**

**EXPLANATION:**

**Lines 189-191 –** “My lord and lady, it is now time for us who have stood by and seen our hopes come true, to wish you great joy. Joy be yours always my lord and lady!”

**Lines 192-197 –** “My Lord Bassanio and gentle lady, I wish for you the joy that you could ever wish, knowing that you cannot wish for any more than I wish for you. But when you celebrate your engagement, I request you to allow me to marry at the very same time.” Gratiano also expresses his wish to get married at the same time when Bassanio gets married.

**Line 198 –** “Most certainly, provided that you can find a wife.”

**TEXT:**

**GRATIANO: I thank your lordship,…………………………………….. Achieved her mistress.**

**(Lines 199-211)**

**EXPLANATION:**

In these lines Gratiano reveals his and Nerissa’s love for each other.

**Lines 199-205 –** “Thank you, my lord, for having found one for me. My eyes, have been as swift as yours. You saw the mistress and I saw the maid; just as you quickly fell in love, so did I. Now a period of waiting will not be agreeable to me than to you. Your fate depended on the choice of the caskets, and so did mine, as things happened.”

**Lines 206-211 –** “Courting my beloved with all my energy and making vows till the very roof of my mouth was dry, till I could extract a promise, which still holds good. I got the promise from the pretty maid, Nerissa that she would love me, provided you had the fortune of winning her mistress.”

**TEXT:**

**PORTIA: Is this true, Nerissa?**

**NERISSA: Madam, it is, so you stand pleased withal.**

**BASSANIO: And do you, Gratiano, mean good faith?**

**GRATIANO: Yes, faith, my lord.**

**BASSANIO: Our feast shall be much honour’d in your marriage.**

**(Lines 212-216)**

**EXPLANATION:**

**Lines 212-216 –**

**Portia –** “Is this true, Nerissa?”

**Nerissa –** “Madam, if it pleases you, it is quite true.”

**Bassanio –** “And do you, Gratiano, wish to marry in good faith, this lady?”

**Gratiano –** “Yes, faith, my lord.”

**Bassanio –** “Our feast shall be much honour’d in your marriage.”

**ASSIGNMENT –**

1. **Answer the following questions in brief –**
2. Explain – “O love, be moderate; allay thy ecstasy;”. (Line 113)
3. How does Bassanio describe Portia’s portrait?
4. Explain – “As doubtful whether ………………………. ratified by you.” (Lines 150-151)
5. How does Portia wants to be better so as to stand respected in Bassanio’s eyes?
6. What does Portia call herself in front of Bassanio?
7. What does Portia say to Bassanio while giving the ring to him?
8. What does Gratiano reveal?
9. What was Nerissa’s condition to accept Gratiano’s love?
10. Why did Bassanio say – “ But her eyes,- How could he see to do them?”
11. Which emotions of Portia vanish into the air once Bassanio chooses the lead casket?
12. **Summarize briefly the above explanations.**

**Note: Please do this work in your note books, which will be checked once the school reopens. Please consider this important.**

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