

## Merchant of Venice

### Read the following lines and answer the questions:-

1. That thou shalt see the difference  
..... Comes to the general state (pg 75)

a. Identify the speaker.

Ans: The duke

b. What does 'pardon' refer to?

Ans: 'Pardon' here refers to Duke granting Shylock's life.

c. State the condition under which the pardon is granted.

Ans: The pardon is granted under the condition that half of his riches belong to Antonio, the merchant he plotted against. The other half would go to the state, but if he repents and begs humbly for mercy, the state may just impose a fine instead of taking the full amount.

2. For, as thou urgent justice, ..... Christian go (pg 74)

a. Explain 'Thou shalt have justice more than thou desire'st'.

Ans: Portia informs Shylock that he will have justice more than he will wish to have, because he will lose his wealth and also have to beg for mercy for his life, unless he is able to cut the flesh in exact amount of one pound, no less no more and without shedding a drop of blood and both things are impossible.

b. Why does Gratiano rejoice by repeating the rest of the words, 'O learned judge'?

Ans: Gratiano is not a quiet person like Antonio. As soon as he hears Portia's comments he is thrilled, as he gets to know that Antonio is free from death.

3. You press me far, and therefore I will yield ..... I have a mind to it. (pg 77)

a. Identify the speaker and the addressee.

Ans: Portia/ Bassanio

b. What does Portia say about her payment for her services?

Ans:Portia says that she did this to satisfy herself and to relieve Antonio from the clutches of the Jew.

c.How does Bassanio insist that Portia should take something as a token of gratitude?

Ans:Bassanio insists that Portia should take something as a token of love as she saved his friend's life.

## **II. Answer the following :-**

1.Character sketch for Portia

2.Explain Gratiano's reaction towards Shylock.

3.Which character do you like the most ? State two reasons for the same.