

**Instruction : This worksheet must be solved in the Eng lit MOV notebook.**

**Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow :**

**QUESTION 1**

A gentle scroll\_ Fair Lady, by your leave,  
I come by note, to give and to receive,  
Like one of two contending in a prize,  
That thinks he hath done well in people's eyes,  
Hearing applause and universal shout,  
Giddy in spirit, still gazing, in a doubt  
Whether those peals of praise be his or no,  
So, thrice\_Fair Lady, stand I, even so,  
As doubtful whether what I see be true,  
Until confirm'd, sign'd, ratified by you.

- a. Who is the speaker here? Where did he find the 'gentle scroll'? Briefly write what is written on the scroll
- b. What does Bassanio mean when he says, ' I come by note, to give and to receive'?
- c. How does Bassanio describe his feelings at this point of time.?
- d. Explain : (i) contending in a prize (ii) Giddy in spirit (iii) peals of praise
- e. Bassanio is doubtful of his victory and wants Portia to confirm it. What does this say to you about his character?

**QUESTION 2:**

**Bassanio : Here are few of the unpleasant words**

**That ever blotted paper! Gentle lady,**

**When I did first impart my love to you,**

**I freely told you all the wealth I had**

**Ran in my veins,- I was a gentleman,**

**And then I told you true: and yet, dear lady,**

**Rating myself at nothing, you shall see**

**How much I was a braggart. When I told you**

**My state was nothing, I should then have told you**

**That I was worse than nothing, for, indeed,**

**I have engaged myself to a dear friend,**

**Engaged my friend to his mere enemy,**

**To feed my means.**

- a. What does the paper refer to here? Who has brought it? What is meant by 'Shrewd' contents?
- b. What is Bassanio wealth? Why was it his only wealth? Base your answer on the play so far.
- c. What does Bassanio call himself a braggart even though he has confessed to have nothing?
- d. Immediately after these lines, Bassanio uses a metaphor to describe the paper and its contents. Explain the comparison.
- e. What are the contents of the letter?