St. Andrews Scots School

Adjacent Navniti Apartment,I.P. Extension, Patparganj, Delhi – 110092
Session: 2026-2027

Class-V **Subject- English**

Poem – Tragic Story
By William Makepeace Thackeray

Work – 1

Write down 'Rhyming words' and 'Word meanings' from the poem.

Work – 2

B. Answer the following questions

1. The sage wondered why his pigtail always hung behind him.
2. He tried to solve the mystery by turning himself round and round in many different ways, hoping the pigtail would change its position and move in front of his face.
3. The sage turned round, spun in and out, moved right and left, up and down, and twisted, twirled, and tacked.
4. No matter how much the sage moved or tried, the pigtail stayed firmly and steadily hanging behind him.
5. The adjectives used for the pigtail are stout and faithful

Work – 3

C. Reference to Context

1. a) 'He' is the sage mentioned in the poem.
   b) The curious case was that the sage's pigtail always hung behind him, and he wanted to change its position and hang it in front of him.
   c) He decided to try turning himself around and making various movements to change the position of the pigtail.
2. a) The sage spun all day to move the pigtail from behind him to in front of him.
   b) It was in vain because, despite all his efforts, the pigtail remained hanging behind him and didn't change its position.
   c) It was a foolish attempt because no amount of spinning or movement could change the natural position of his pigtail.