INDIAN SCHOOL NIZWA - WORKSHEET

ENGLISH
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
CLASSROOM IN A SLUM

Name: _____ Date:_____ Class: XII Sec: ___

Read the extracts and answer the questions that follow:

I. *Belled, flowery, Tyrolese valley. Open-handed map*
Awarding the world its world
..... and yet for these children, these windows
not this map, their world, where all their future's painted with a fog.
A narrow street sealed in with lead sky far far from rivers,
capes and stars of words

1 What do the classroom walls have?
2 Why does the poet refer to the Tyrolese valley in these lines?
3 What are the narrow street and lead sky indicative of?

II. *Break O break open till they break the town*
And show the children to green fields, and make their world
Run azure on gold sands, and let their tongues
Run naked into books the white and green leaves open
History theirs whose language is the sun.

1 What is expected of the governor, inspector and visitor?
2 What are the windows doing in their lives at present?
3 What is meant by white and green leaves?
4 'History is theirs whose language is the sun'. Explain.

SHORT QUESTIONS

1 The walls of the classroom are decorated with the pictures of 'Shakespeare', 'buildings with domes', 'world maps' and 'beautiful valleys'. How do these contrast with the world of these children?
2 What is the theme of the poem?
3 Explain: 'Far from gusty waves'.
4 "So blot their maps with slums as big as doom," says Stephen Spender. What does the poet want to convey?