***Practice Question 6.***

***Animal Farm* by George Orwell and *The Clothes They Stood Up In* by Alan Bennett**

**Read the two extracts below and then answer both part a) and part b).**

You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on part a) and 30 minutes on part b).

For part a), you should focus only on the extracts here rather than referring to the rest of your studied text.

**a)** Compare how the writers present the links between possessions and the identity of the characters in these two extracts. You should consider:

the situations and experiences faced by the characters

how the characters react to these situations and experiences

how the writers’ use of language and techniques creates effects.

**[20]**

**AND**

**b)** Explore another moment in *Animal Farm* where Orwell shows the identity of the animals being controlled.

**[20]**

**Extract 1 from: *Animal Farm* by George Orwell**

*The animals have just rebelled and taken control of the farm. Here they get rid of all the things that remind them of Mr Jones.*

The harness-room at the end of the stables was broken open; the bits, the nose-rings, the dog-chains, the cruel knives with which Mr Jones had been used to castrate the pigs and lambs, were all flung down the well. The reins, the halters, the blinkers, the degrading nosebags, were thrown onto the rubbish fire which was burning in the yard. So were the whips. All the animals capered with joy when they saw the whips going up in flames. Snowball also threw onto the fire the ribbons with which the horses’ manes and tails had usually been decorated on market days.

‘Ribbons,’ he said, ‘should be considered as clothes, which are the mark of a human being. All animals should go naked.’

When Boxer heard this he fetched the small straw hat which he wore in summer to keep the flies out of his ears, and flung it onto the fire with the rest.

In a very little while the animals had destroyed everything that reminded them of Mr Jones. Napoleon then led them back to the store-shed and served out a double ration of corn to everybody, with two biscuits for each dog. Then they sang ‘Beasts of England’ from end to end seven times running, and after that they settled down for the night and slept as they had never slept before.

***Please Turn Over***

**Extract 2 from: *The Clothes They Stood Up In* by Alan Bennett**

*Mr and Mrs Ransome have been burgled. In this extract, Mrs Ransome thinks about the possessions that she and her husband have lost.*

Mrs Ransome could see the cheerful side of things, but then she always did. When they had got married they had kitted themselves out with all the necessities of a well-run household; they had a dinner service, a tea service plus table linen to match; they had dessert dishes and trifle glasses and cakestands galore. There were mats for the dressing-table, coasters for the coffee table, runners for the dining table; guest towels with matching flannels for the basin, lavatory mats with matching ones for the bath. They had cake slices and fish slices and other slices besides, delicate trowels in silver and bone the precise function of which Mrs Ransome had never been able to fathom. Above all there was a massive many-tiered canteen of cutlery, stocked with sufficient knives, forks and spoons for a dinner party for twelve. Mr and Mrs Ransome did not have dinner parties for twelve. They did not have dinner parties. They seldom used the guest towels because they never had guests. They had transported this paraphernalia with them across thirty-two years of marriage to no purpose at all that Mrs Ransome could see, and now at a stroke they were rid of the lot. Without quite knowing why, and while she was washing up their two cups in the sink, Mrs Ransome suddenly burst out singing.