1. Does Shakespeare’s ‘Sonnet CXXX’ make it a plea for realism or is it a romantic poem despite appearances? Give reasons for your answer. 25

2. Compare John Donne’s ‘The Sun Rising’ and Shakespeare’s ‘My Mistress’ Eyes are Nothing like the Sun’. Do they treat the Petrarchan conventions of stock similes and hyperbole in the same way? 25

3. Discuss the theme of friendship as depicted by Shakespeare in The Merchant of Venice. 25

4. Critically analyse the Courtroom Scene in The Merchant of Venice. 25

5. Why is it difficult for the poor to rise above their station in Oliver Twist? 25

6. Critically analyse Oliver Twist as a novel about city life. 25