Sample Exam Questions

1. (Page 1) How does Roy create atmosphere in this extract? Look closely at the lexis, imagery and grammar. Consider also the impact of the narrative voice. Go on to discuss the presentation of tragedy in at least one other episode in the novel.

2. (Page 44) What do you find interesting about Roy’s presentation of Ammu and her situation in this extract? Look closely at the use of lexis, imagery and grammar. Consider also the punctuation and orthography (spelling) as well as anything else you consider interesting. Discuss marriage as a theme in the rest of the novel.

3. (Page 49) Discuss the presentation of Pappachi in this extract. Consider the use of language, including lexis, imagery and grammar, as well as the importance of the narrative development and the narrative voice. Go on to explore the importance of Pappachi’s frustration to the rest of the novel.

4. (Pages 91–2) Explore the way Roy presents the relationship between Estha and Rahel in this extract. Comment on her use of lexis, grammar, dialogue, the development of the narrative and anything else you consider relevant. Go on to discuss the importance of this relationship to the rest of the novel.

5. (Page 108–9) Look closely at the way Roy portrays Estha’s confusion and vulnerability in this extract. Consider punctuation, narrative stance, imagery, lexis, grammar and anything else you find important. Go on to discuss the importance of the incident with the Orangedrink Lemondrink man in the novel.

6. (Pages 111–112) Explore the way Roy presents the conflict between mother and daughter in this extract. Look closely at the use of language in the narrative voice and the dialogue, including the lexis, imagery and grammar, as well as the narrative development. Discuss how this key point goes on to affect Rahel in the rest of the novel.

7. (Page 260–1) Discuss the presentation of Baby Kochamma and the Ayemenem house in this extract. Consider Roy’s use of the narrative voice, development of the narrative, lexis, grammar, and anything else you consider important. Go on to discuss the importance of location in one other episode of the novel.