Part 2 a

(A) The current database is ok for a Vet clinic that isn’t very popular or a vet clinic that doesn’t have too many patients. My reasoning behind this is because it doesn’t allow mass editing or to import lots of new patients at once. Also finding a certain appointment and editing it would be much easier on a RDBMS as we can search by ID numbers to find the appointment we want instantly. A function that worked well was its simplistic design its quick and easy for anyone to add information so it can be picked up quick by anyone. However, if the time is taken to learn a RDBMS system it can save time in the long run and although it may be a more complicated system to learn it is much more useful because of its added features such as query searches and query views. RDBMS are also much more secure as they auto save after you created the information whereas with the excel sheet you can add in lots of information and then forget to save it and then you have no information. In summation RDBMS are secure, safe and have lots of gadgets which make them useful, but they can take much longer to learn compared to excel. So, I would say excel is ok in the short term for small businesses, but they should definitely make the transition to a RDBMS.

(B) The problems with the current system is that it cannot be edited easily, it’s difficult to find specific information. The information is difficult to read and can be deleted without recollection very easily. You can forget to save the file and then all the information stored is gone this kind of information is also more susceptible to hackers than a regular RDBMS. Excel spreadsheets also have much less storage capacity excel can store 16,000 columns of data and 1 million however, this pales in comparison to the storage or a RDBMS. Also the bigger our Excel file gets the slower its processing speed becomes whereas with a “RDBMS can process millions of records of data without losing speed”. Lastly human error can be a huge issue when using excel as the file can be shared among people this can cause data to be deleted and changed without other users becoming aware but a RDBMS can only be edited by one person at a time this makes the databases information more concrete and stored. Databases are used to “create edit and maintain database files and records, enabling easier file and record creation”. They are an efficient way to store lots of information and records they take up very little space and can be easy enough to find required information.