**Question 1**

Why is Sir Alexander Heathcote referred to as an exact man?

Give six precise points from the text to support your answer. Describe, in brief, his encounter with the Chinese artisan in Ha Li Chuan. In what way did it burden Sir Alexander Heathcote? [3 +12]

**Answer 1**

* **Pg - 59**
  + Exactly six foot three and a quarter inch tall.
  + Rose at seven o’ clock every morning.
  + Joined his wife at breakfast with one boiled egg cooked precisely for 4 mins with 2 pieces of toast with one spoon full of Cooper’s marmalade and drink one cup of china tea.
  + Would take a hackney carriage from his home in Cadogan Gardens at exactly 8:20 and arrive at foreign office promptly at 8:59, returning home again on stroke of 6.
  + He was the only son of the general and thus been exact from an early age.
  + He had taken an amateur interest in the art of Ming Dynasty. During his career he was posted as a minister in Peking where he was given an opportunity to observe the art in their natural habitat.
  + Being an exact man he wrote his own will.
* **Pg - 61** Second paragraph “On one such journey”
  + How he reaches Ha Li Chuan.
  + Entering the workshop.
  + Describing the craftsman.
  + His love for Ming art is shared by the craftsman which leads to the craftsman bringing the Chinese statue.
  + Minister is enthrawled and wishes to own it, the craftsman gives it to him.
* **Pg - 63 - 64** 
  + He has to return the favor within the calendar year.

**Question 2**

i) Write on the Chinese traditions and customs referred to by Jeffrey Archer in his short story The Chinese Statue. How are they central to the plot of the story? [8]

ii) What, in the story, is referred to as the ‘property of a gentleman’ by the

Sotheby’s? Narrate briefly the circumstances under which this property arrives at

the auction house. [7]

**Answer 2**

* **Pg - 62**
* **Pg - 63**
* **Pg 64**
  + They are important to the plot
  + It builds the story
  + It shows the relationship between the craftsman and the minister
  + It highlights the character of the minister
* **Pg - 59** Second paragraph
  + How the statue was handed over through generations.
  + How Alex, had to give it up for auction in order to earn enough money to repay his debts which he had lost while devising new strategies for roulette.