Question 3
(Suggested time — 40 minutes. This question counts as one-third of the total essay section score.)

It has often been said that what we value can be determined only by what we sacrifice. Consider how this statement applies to a character from a novel or play. Select a character that has deliberately sacrificed, surrendered, or forfeited something in a way that highlights that character’s values. Then write a well-organized essay in which you analyze how the particular sacrifice illuminates the character’s values and provides a deeper understanding of the meaning of the work as a whole.

You may choose a novel or play from the list below or one of comparable literary merit. Do not merely summarize the plot.

Othello
The Age of Innocence
The Poisonwood Bible
Antigone
The Portrait of a Lady
The Awakening
A Prayer for Owen Meany
Beloved
A Raisin in the Sun
The Crucible
The Scarlet Letter
Death of a Salesman
A Streetcar Named Desire
Ethan Frome
A Tale of Two Cities
King Lear
Tess of the d’Urbervilles
Linden Hills
Their Eyes Were Watching God
The Memory Keeper’s Daughter
Things Fall Apart
Much Ado About Nothing
A Thousand Acres
Noah’s Compass
The Women of Brewster Place