***AQA-style Language Paper 2A:***

***Writers’ Viewpoints and Perspectives***



***ELEPHANTS***

**SOURCE A: George Orwell – “Shooting an Elephant”**

***In this account, set in 1936, George Orwell is a young police officer serving in Burma, India, which was then part of the British Empire. He has been sent to deal with a troublesome elephant.***

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**SOURCE B:** Taken from ***The Daily Mail*** online, March 28th, 2011

**Anne's agony: battered, kicked and stabbed,**

**the desperate plight of Britain's last circus elephant**

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**Q1: Read Source A, lines 27 to the end.**

**Choose four statements below which are TRUE.**

* **Orwell was keen to shoot the elephant.**
* **The elephant is causing chaos, stampeding in the village.**
* **Orwell felt that it would be cruel to shoot the elephant.**
* **Orwell lay down to get a better aim.**
* **Orwell claims to be a good shot with the rifle.**
* **Orwell claims to be a poor shot with the rifle.**
* **The villagers wanted to see Orwell shoot the elephant.**

**Q2: Refer to source A and Source B. Write a summary to explain the differences in the writers’ attitudes to the elephant they each describe.**

**Q3: Re-read the extract below, from Source B.**

“With each repeated blow, the pitchfork makes a sickening thwack as it slams into Anne the elephant's hide. She flinches, at one point even appearing to lose her footing under the weight of a particularly savage strike. The disturbing images come from a secretly shot video which campaigners say lays bare the cruel reality of her life as Britain's last circus elephant.

In secretly shot video, a worker swings a vicious kick into the belly of 58-year-old Anne the elephant. Animal Defenders International planted the device because of concerns about how Anne was being treated at Bobby Roberts's Super Circus. It shows Anne enduring the abuse at the hands of her so-called ‘carers’ while shackled in a dingy barn during the circus' winter break.

As well as being repeatedly hit with a pitchfork by one worker employed to feed and look after her, the 58-year-old elephant also appears to be stabbed in the face with the tool's metal prongs during one attack. A total of 48 strikes, including kicks to her body and head, were recorded as she was left chained to the spot by her legs.”

**How does the writer use language here to convey the cruelty suffered by Annie the circus elephant?**

**Q4:** Now refer to **both** Source A **and** Source B.

Compare how the writers convey their attitudes to the elephant they

each describe. [16 marks]

In your answer, you should:

• **compare their** different **attitudes**

• **compare** the **methods** they use to convey their attitudes

• **support** your ideas **with quotations** from both texts