Answer the following two questions, each in a paragraph of at least 12 lines. Make sure to use specific examples from the play to back up your answer. You are also allowed to use no more than three lines from an outside source as long as you cite it (put it between quotations and give the web link address or book title at the end of the page).

1. What does the word “trifles” mean? What effect does the title “Trifles” have on the play? What are the things that the men laugh at and mock in Mrs. Wright’s house? How do Mrs. Hale and Mrs. Peters feel about the men’s ridicule of some of Mrs. Wright’s things? What do these trifles tell us about Mrs. Wright’s character? What do they tell us about the murder of Mr. Wright? What are the symbolic meanings of these “trifles”? How do these trifles eventually provide evidence for the case against Mrs. Wright? In other words, what do these trifles tell us about the murder of Mr. Wright.
2. The play starts out as an investigation into the murder of Mr. Wright by the county attorney, sheriff, and Mr. Hale, the last two who bring their wives along. From looking at the stage directions, how does the women’s stage movement show their position in society and how they are treated by their husbands? Why do the women stay in the kitchen and not go upstairs with the men to investigate the murder? What do they do in the kitchen and what does that tell us about the way they feel about Mrs. Wright? On the other hand, how do they feel about Mr. Wright and why? Why do they choose to cover the evidence up at the end?