**“Boys and Girls” by Alice Munro Questions (27 Marks)**

**Answer the following questions on a piece of lined paper. Use complete sentences.**

1. Who is the narrator? What perspective does she have on the events in the story? (2)
2. Where and when does the story take place? How do you know? (3)
3. What roles are assigned to men and to women in the world of this story? How do the mother, the father, Henry Bailey, the narrator, and her brother Laird exemplify aspects of these masculine and feminine roles? (4)
4. What people and things represent freedom in this story? What people and things are not “free”? (2)
5. What do you see as the primary conflict in the story; in other words, where does the dramatic tension come from? (2)
6. What do you see as the turning point in the story? (1)
7. What changes occur in the course of the story -- to the girl, to her fantasies, to her relationship with Laird and her father? (3)
8. The phrase “only a girl” is used in two different situations. What meaning does the phrase have for the girl in each situation? How does it contribute to the overall meaning of the story? (2)
9. This sort of story is called a “coming of age” or “initiation” story. Why do you think that is? What is the girl “initiated” into? Of what does she become aware? (2)
10. In “Boys and Girls”, what does the girl gain? What does she lose? Do you think what she becomes reflects nature or nurture? Why? Do you see these changes and losses as necessary? Why or why not? (6)