

**ADVANCED GCE****CLASSICAL CIVILISATION (JACT)**

Greek and Roman Historians

2750

Candidates answer on the Answer Booklet

OCR Supplied Materials:

- 8 page Answer Booklet

Other Materials Required:

None

Monday 14 June 2010
Afternoon

Duration: 1 hour 30 minutes**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

- Write your name clearly in capital letters, your Centre Number and Candidate Number in the spaces provided on the Answer Booklet.
- Use black ink.
- Read each question carefully and make sure that you know what you have to do before starting your answer.
- You must answer **one** question from Section A and **one** question from Section B.
- Start your answer to each question on a new page.
- Use an 8 page answer booklet followed by a 4 page booklet if extra paper is required.
- Do **not** write in the bar codes.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

- The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.
- All questions are worth 50 marks in total including 5 marks for quality of written communication.
- The total number of marks for this paper is **100**.
- This document consists of **8** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

Section A

Answer **one** question from this section.

A1 Read the following translations and answer the questions at the end.

PASSAGE 1

Xerxes laughed. 'Demaratus,' he exclaimed, 'what an extraordinary thing to say! Do you really suppose a thousand men would fight an army like mine? Now tell me, would *you* who were once, as you say, king of these people, be willing at this moment to fight ten men single-handed? And yet, if things in Sparta are really as you have described them, then, according to your laws, you as king ought to take on a double share – so that if every Spartan is a match for ten men of mine, I should expect you to be a match for twenty. Only in that way can you prove the truth of your claim. But if you Greeks, who think so much of yourselves, are all of the size and quality of those I have spoken with when they have visited my court – and of yourself, Demaratus – there is some danger of your words being nothing but an empty boast. But let me put my point as reasonably as I can – how is it possible that a thousand men, or ten thousand, or fifty thousand, should stand up to an army as big as mine, especially if they were not under a single master, but all perfectly free to do as they pleased? Suppose them to have five thousand men: in that case we should be more than a thousand to one!

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15

HERODOTUS, *The Histories* 7.103 (A. de Sélincourt; Penguin)

PASSAGE 2

Then, with the help of his secretary, Epaphroditus, he stabbed himself in the throat and was already half dead when a centurion entered, pretending to have rushed to his rescue, and staunching the wound with his cloak. Nero muttered: 'Too late! But, ah, what fidelity!' He died, with eyes glazed and bulging from their sockets, a sight which horrified everybody present. He had made his companions promise, whatever happened, not to let his head be cut off, but to arrange in some way that he should be buried all in one piece. Galba's freedman Icelus, who had been imprisoned when the first news came of the revolt and was now at liberty again, granted this indulgence.

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They laid Nero on his pyre, dressed in the gold-embroidered white robes which he had worn on 1 January. The funeral cost 2,000 gold pieces. Ecloge and Alexandria, his old nurses, helped Acte, his mistress, to carry the remains to the Pincian Hill, which can be seen from the Campus Martius.

10

SUETONIUS, *Nero* 49-50 (R. Graves; Penguin)

- (a) Briefly outline what Suetonius has been describing just before Passage 2 opens. [10]
- (b) How does Herodotus portray Xerxes' character in Passage 1? [15]
- (c) Using **both** these passages as a starting point, explain which of the two authors you consider to be the better biographer. [20]

[Quality of Written Communication: 5 marks]

[Total: 50 marks]

A2 Read the following translations and answer the questions at the end.

PASSAGE 1

'When our fathers stood against the Persians they had no such resources as we have now; indeed, they abandoned even what they had, and then it was by wisdom rather than by good fortune, by daring rather than by material power, that they drove back the foreign invasion and made our city what it is today. We must live up to the standard they set: we must resist our enemies in any and every way, and try to leave to those who come after us an Athens that is as great as ever.'

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This was Pericles' speech. The Athenians considered that his advice was best and voted as he had asked them to vote. Their reply to the Spartans was the one that he had suggested, both on the main issue and on the separate points: that they would do nothing under duress, but that they were willing, according to the terms of the treaty, to reach a settlement on the various complaints on a fair and equal basis. The ambassadors returned to Sparta, and no further embassy was sent.

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These, then, were the causes of complaint and the differences which occurred between the two powers before the outbreak of war and which arose immediately from the affairs of Epidamnus and of Corcyra. There was still communication between the two states, and people travelled to and fro without heralds, though with considerable suspicion, since events were going on which amounted to a cancellation of the treaty and an excuse for open war.

15

THUCYDIDES, *History of the Peloponnesian War* 1: 144-6 (R. Warner; Penguin)

PASSAGE 2

'Responsibility rests with emperor and senate. They have given immorality a free hand. Now they are compelling the Roman upper class to degrade themselves as orators or singers on the stage. It only remains to strip and fight in boxing-gloves instead of joining the army. Does expert attention to effeminate music and songs contribute to justice, or does it make the knights who serve as judges give better verdicts? And this vileness continues even at night! Good behaviour has no time left for it. In these promiscuous crowds, debauchees are emboldened to practise by night the lusts they have imagined by day.'

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This licence was just what most people approved – though they put it more respectably. 'But our ancestors, too,' they suggested, 'did not shrink from such public entertainment as contemporary resources permitted. Ballet-dancers were imported from Etruria, horse-racing from Thurii. Ever since the annexation of Greece and Asia, performances have become more ambitious. Two hundred years have passed since the Triumph of Lucius Mummius – who first gave that sort of show here – and during that time no upper-class Roman has ever demeaned himself by *professional* acting. As for a permanent theatre, it was more economical than the construction and demolition of a new one every year, at vast expense.'

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15

TACITUS, *The Annals of Imperial Rome* 14.20 (M. Grant; Penguin)

- (a) What has Pericles said just before Passage 1 from Thucydides opens? [10]
- (b) How is Passage 2 from Tacitus designed to shock us? [15]
- (c) Using these passages as a starting point, explain which author makes the more effective use of speeches in his work. [20]

[Quality of Written Communication: 5 marks]

[Total: 50 marks]

Section B

Answer **one** question from this section.

Start your answer on a new page.

- B3** Who do you think is a more interesting character, Pericles or Nero? In your answer, you should include reference to **both** Thucydides and Suetonius. [50]
- B4** Who shows the greater understanding of human nature, Herodotus or Tacitus? In your answer, you should refer to the works of **both** historians. [50]
- B5** Which of the four authors that you have read makes the most interesting use of religion and omens in his work? In your answer, you should include discussion of the works of **at least one** Greek and **at least one** Roman author. [50]

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