

# **Classical Civilisation**

Advanced GCE 2756

## **Mark Scheme for June 2010**

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- A1 (a)**
- (i)** Venus bathing and attendant nymphs. High Rochester
  - (ii)** Genii Cucullati, Netherby, Cumberland
  - (iii)** Stone
  - (iv)** Relief

**[AO1 = 10 marks]**

- (b)** The first point to make is that the faces of all three figures are thoroughly Celtic. They have the staring eyes, long straight noses, and downcast slits of mouths which characterise so many of the heads found in Roman Britain. The overall composition and execution of detail is crude but striking. That said, the story depicted in Sculpture A is a Classical one, as is the architectural framework. This is a real fusion of Roman and native British, thoroughly deserving the description of being 'Romano-British'. Sculpture B also has the Classical architectural framework, but overall is largely Celtic.

**[AO1 = 6 + AO2 = 9 = 15 marks]**

- (c)** It's not high Classical art, but it has vigour and charm. Certainly the balanced composition is effective. Venus is neatly framed by the two nymphs and columns. There is an attempt at depicting the water and the twist in Venus' body. There is also a suggestion of depth and a degree of anatomical detail and realism. Expect answers to make comparisons with the merits and failings of a range of other pieces of art found in Roman Britain.

**[AO1 = 6 + AO2 = 14 = 20 marks]**

**[Quality of Written Communication = 5 marks]**

**[Total AO1: 22 marks + AO2: 23 marks + AO3: 5 marks = 50 marks]**

- A2 (a) (i)** A=Aisled House  
B=Cottage House  
C=Winged Corridor Villa  
D=Courtyard Villa (5)
- (ii)** B=Lockleys, First Century AD,  
D=North Leigh, Fourth Century AD (5)

**[AO1 = 10 marks]**

- (b)** It is possible to trace the development from the simple 'casa' type villa with a row of rooms through to the elaborate courtyard villa. Hill and Ireland use the example of Lockleys to demonstrate the first stages of the architectural development (pp89-92) from simple native round house, to a cottage house. By the middle of the second century, the verandah has been replaced by a more substantial corridor and a new wing added at one end of the building. By the middle of the fourth century a further wing was added to the other end of the building, completing its transformation into a winged corridor villa. The courtyard villa represents the logical end of this process with buildings ranged round all four sides of a large courtyard. Factors which governed the development of the villa were farming, entertainment, accommodation requirements, the need to impress the Celts, religion. Candidates will need to make reference to specific sites to illustrate each of the above factors.

**[AO1 = 6 + AO2 = 9 = 15 marks]**

- (c)** Answers should include discussion of both the recreational and economical purposes of the villa. Occasionally imperial officials (e.g. at Woodchester) lived there but more often it would have been the wealthy Romano-British, members of the upper classes of the native society who had become thoroughly Romanised and would enjoy impressive winged corridor villas (e.g. at Lockleys) and the benefits of Roman civilisation (heating systems, etc.). However, these people might not have lived there all the time but possibly used such places for weekend entertainment purposes. At other times a bailiff might have been employed by the land owner who then would not have needed to maintain regular personal oversight of the farming activities. There was also the need for slaves to attend to the practical needs of the farm. The evidence of barns, stables, mills and corn dryers show the agrarian side to a villa. Discussion of the importance of each concern will naturally form the heart of the answer and credit will also be gained for a range of valid examples.

**[AO1 = 6 + AO2 = 14 = 20 marks]**

**[Quality of Written Communication = 5 marks]**

**[Total AO1: 22 marks + AO2: 23 marks + AO3: 5 marks = 50 marks]**

- B3** The importance of the evidence for Christianity should not be overstated. The earliest literary evidence, from Tertullian, is as late as 200 AD. It is only by 314 AD that there are signs of an established hierarchy with various British clergy attending the Council of Arles. Archaeological evidence filling the intervening period is slender. Most notable is the Water Newton treasure. With the final legalisation of Christianity, the faith probably began to make accelerated progress. Yet, in the words of Hill and Ireland, "it would be wrong to see at this time a wholesale conversion of the country, especially since archaeology provides virtually no incontrovertible evidence for worship in urban centres, in sharp contrast to the continued use of pagan buildings." However the fourth century saw the country estates with mosaic floors and wall-paintings bearing Christian motifs. Yet the continuing presence of pagan elements in such mosaics, now in the guise of Christian allegory, suggests the tenacity of earlier Classical forms. Answers will also need to consider the other religious beliefs practised in Britain.

Druidism caused much fascination for Roman writers but it is impossible to tell how prevalent their practices were in Britain. There is plenty of evidence for dedications to the whole of the Roman pantheon with especial emphasis laid on Jupiter, Juno and Minerva. There is also the possibility of considering the influence of emperor-worship and the Roman practice of 'interpretatio Romana', the attempted equation of a Celtic divinity with a Classical counterpart based upon some shared characteristic. As for Eastern cults there is evidence for the worship of Isis. However, Mithraism was the most influential and plenty of temples have been found throughout Roman Britain.

**[Total AO1: 22 marks + AO2: 23 marks + AO3: 5 marks = 50 marks]**

- B4** The use of public buildings played an essential part in the Romanisation of the province of Britain. Fora provided the stability for peace to flourish where public buildings like the basilica, used for judicial purposes, and the temple of the imperial cult were sited, and business and commerce were conducted in the macellum. Thus they enforced law and order and offered a focal point for business to flourish. The essentially tolerant attitude to Celtic and other religions is another important factor in the successful 'civilisation' of the province. The building of temples also focused attention and worship upon the Roman pantheon. The provision of theatres and amphitheatres would have provided entertainment and relaxation and according to Hill and Ireland, bath-houses 'were almost as important for the conduct of law, administration and above all business and commerce as the forum and basilica.' The construction of private mansions also highlighted the material advantages to be had in supporting the Roman system of government but also provided an increase in the production of food which was vital for supporting life in the towns and feeding the army. The construction of a road network was crucial for the transportation of these goods. As for which factor was the most important, look for a reasoned line of argument supported by appropriate evidence.

**[Total AO1: 22 marks + AO2: 23 marks + AO3: 5 marks = 50 marks]**

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