



Cambridge International AS & A Level

CLASSICAL STUDIES

9274/31

Paper 3 Classical History: Sources and Evidence

October/November 2021

1 hour 30 minutes



You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **one** question.
- Follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper, ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 50.
- Each question is worth 50 marks.

This document has **4** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

You are advised to spend 20 minutes thinking about the three passages in the question you have chosen to answer, and then 10 minutes planning your answer.

Answers need to make use of all three passages given for the question you are answering.

1 The Changing World of Athens: its friends and enemies

Read the following passage and answer the question that follows:

The first year of the war, 431 BCE, went exactly according to Pericles' policy recommendations and plans ... The democratic political order had brought Athens to the height of wealth and power. Athens appeared to be a whole new kind of super-polis, capable, it seemed, of taking on the Spartans in a new kind of war.

J Ober, *The Rise and Fall of Classical Greece* (2015) (adapted with omissions)

How significant was the impact of war on ordinary people during this period? In your answer you should consider the passage above and your wider reading as well as the two passages below: [50]

AMPHITHEUS [offering the third skin]: Now then, *this* one is for *thirty* years, by land and sea.
 DIKAIOPOLIS [inhaling deeply what is evidently an exquisite aroma]: Holy Dionysia! *This* has the scent of ambrosia and nectar, and of not having to listen out for the words 'three days' rations'. [He puts the skin to his lips.] And in my mouth it says, 'Go where you please!' Yes, I'll take this one; [pouring a little of the wine on the ground] I hereby make peace; and then I'll drink the lot of it, and the Acharnians can do what *they* please! I'm done with troubles, I'm done with war, and I'm going to go inside and celebrate the Country Dionysia! [He takes the skin into his house.]

Aristophanes, *Acharnians*, 194–202 (adapted)

The Athenians react to the reports about the Sicilian disaster:

And when they did recognise the facts, they turned against the public speakers who had been in favour of the expedition, as though they themselves had not voted for it, and also became angry with the prophets and soothsayers and all who at the time had, by various methods of divination, encouraged them to believe that they would conquer Sicily. They were feeling the stress in every department and on every front, and now, after this last blow, great indeed was the fear that beset them and the consternation. Not only was the state as a whole and the mind of every man in it weighed down by the thought of the loss of so many hoplites, cavalry, and men of military age who, they saw, could not be replaced; they saw, too, that the numbers of ships in the docks were inadequate, as was the money in the treasury, and that there were no crews for the ships. So at the moment they had little hope of being able to survive; they thought that their enemies in Sicily, after their great victory, would set sail immediately with their fleet for Piraeus, that their enemies at home would now most certainly redouble their efforts and attack them with all their might by land and sea, and that their own allies would revolt and join in the attack.

Thucydides, *History of the Peloponnesian War*, 8. 1

2 The Roman Empire: civilisation or submission?

Read the following passage and answer the question that follows:

Roman goals for their provinces were straightforward and pragmatic: the raising of tax and the maintenance of power. Crucial elements of the infrastructure that made these goals achievable were the long straight roads that crossed the landscape and the cities that they linked together. Administration and taxation could be conducted through these cities.

A Erskine, *Roman Imperialism* (2010) (adapted)

To what extent were the Romans interested in understanding the culture and customs of the peoples they conquered? In your answer you should consider the passage above and your wider reading as well as the two passages below: [50]

By far the most civilised inhabitants are those living in Kent (a purely maritime district), whose way of life differs little from that of the Gauls. Most of the tribes in the interior do not grow corn but live on milk and meat, and wear skins. All the Britons dye their bodies with woad, which produces a blue colour, and shave the whole of their bodies except the head and upper lip. Wives are shared between groups of ten or twelve men, especially between brothers and between fathers and sons; but the offspring of these unions are counted as the children of the man with whom a particular woman cohabited first.

Caesar, *Conquest of Gaul*, 5

Who the first inhabitants of Britannia were, whether natives or immigrants, remains obscure, as one would expect when dealing with barbarians. But their physical characteristics vary, and that variation is suggestive. The reddish hair and large limbs of the Caledonians proclaim a Germanic origin; the swarthy faces of the Silures, their generally curly hair and the fact that Hispania lies opposite, all lead one to believe that Iberians crossed in ancient times and occupied that land. Those nearest the Gauls are also like them. Perhaps their common origin still has force, perhaps their common situation under the heavens has shaped the physical type in lands that extend in different directions.

Tacitus, *Agricola*, 11

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