

Section A

Prophecy in general and Pre-canonical Prophets

- 1 'We know where Israelite prophecy came from.' How far do you agree? [25]
- 2 'Prophets were nothing more than clever politicians.' Evaluate this claim with reference to **either** Moses **or** Samuel. [25]
- 3 'Elijah was the greatest of the pre-exilic prophets.' Discuss. [25]
- 4 Critically assess the view that symbolic acts were more important than miracles in the work of the prophets. [25]
- 5 Examine the importance of ecstasy in pre-exilic prophecy. [25]

Section B

Pre-exilic Prophets, with special reference to Amos, Hosea, Isaiah of Jerusalem and Jeremiah

- 6 'Their personal experiences explain everything about their prophecies.' Consider this claim with reference to both Amos and Hosea. [25]
- 7 Examine Isaiah's use of the concepts of God's absolute power and holiness. [25]
- 8 Assess the importance of Jeremiah's call for his work and message. [25]
- 9 'Pre-exilic writing prophets wrote down their sayings. The prophets who came before them did not. That is the only difference between them.' How far do you agree? [25]

Section C

REVISED STANDARD VERSION

- 10** Comment on points of interest or difficulty in **four** of the following passages (wherever possible answers should refer to the context of the passage but should not retell the story from which the passage is taken): [25]
- (a) The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brethren – him you shall heed – just as you desired of the LORD your God at Horeb ...
(Deuteronomy 18:15–16a)
- (b) Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. And the LORD called Samuel again the third time. (1 Samuel 3:7–8a)
- (c) Now when the king dwelt in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies round about, the king said to Nathan the prophet, “See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent.” And Nathan said to the king, “Go, do all that is in your heart; for the LORD is with you.” (2 Samuel 7:1–3)
- (d) But [Elijah] himself went a day’s journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a broom tree; and he asked that he might die, saying, “It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life; for I am no better than my fathers.” And he lay down and slept under a broom tree; and behold, an angel touched him, and said to him, “Arise and eat.” (1 Kings 19:4–5)
- (e) Now Naboth the Jezreelite had a vineyard in Jezreel, beside the palace of Ahab king of Samaria. And after this Ahab said to Naboth, “Give me your vineyard, that I may have it for a vegetable garden, because it is near my house; and I will give you a better vineyard for it; or, if it seems good to you, I will give you its value in money.” (1 Kings 21:1–2)
- (f) Thus says the LORD:
“For three transgressions of Israel, and for four,
I will not revoke the punishment;
because they sell the righteous for silver,
and the needy for a pair of shoes ...” (Amos 2:6)
- (g) “And on that day,” says the Lord GOD,
“I will make the sun go down at noon,
and darken the earth in broad daylight.
I will turn your feasts into mourning,
and all your songs into lamentation ...” (Amos 8:9–10a)
- (h) Therefore I will hedge up her way with thorns;
and I will build a wall against her,
so that she cannot find her paths.
She shall pursue her lovers, but not overtake them;
and she shall seek them, but shall not find them.
Then she shall say, “I will go and return to my first husband,
for it was better with me than now.” (Hosea 2:6–7)

- (i) Let me sing for my beloved a love song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill.
He dugged it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watchtower in the midst of it,
and hewed out a wine vat in it;
and he looked for it to yield grapes
but it yielded wild grapes. (Isaiah 5:1–2)
- (j) ... the LORD of hosts will come down
to fight upon Mount Zion and upon its hill.
Like birds hovering, so the LORD of hosts will protect Jerusalem;
he will protect and deliver it,
he will spare and rescue it. (Isaiah 31:4c–5)
- (k) The word of the LORD came to me: “You shall not take a wife, nor shall you have sons or daughters in this place. For thus says the LORD concerning the sons and daughters who are born in this place, and concerning the mothers who bore them and the fathers who begot them in this land: They shall die of deadly diseases.” (Jeremiah 16:1–4a)

NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION

- 10** Comment on points of interest or difficulty in **four** of the following passages (wherever possible answers should refer to the context of the passage but should not retell the story from which the passage is taken): [25]
- (a) The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own brothers. You must listen to him. For this is what you asked of the LORD your God at Horeb ... (Deuteronomy 18:15–16a)
- (b) Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD: The word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. The LORD called Samuel a third time ... (1 Samuel 3:7–8a)
- (c) After the king was settled in his palace and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, he said to Nathan the prophet, “Here I am, living in a palace of cedar, while the ark of God remains in a tent.” Nathan replied to the king, “Whatever you have in mind, go ahead and do it, for the LORD is with you.” (2 Samuel 7:1–3)
- (d) While [Elijah] himself went a day’s journey into the desert. He came to a broom tree, sat down under it and prayed that he might die. “I have had enough, LORD,” he said. “Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors.” Then he lay down under the tree and fell asleep. All at once an angel touched him and said, “Get up and eat.” (1 Kings 19:4–5)
- (e) Some time later there was an incident involving a vineyard belonging to Naboth the Jezreelite. The vineyard was in Jezreel, close to the palace of Ahab king of Samaria. Ahab said to Naboth, “Let me have your vineyard to use for a vegetable garden, since it is close to my palace. In exchange I will give you a better vineyard or, if you prefer, I will pay you whatever it is worth.” (1 Kings 21:1–2)
- (f) This is what the LORD says:
 “For three sins of Israel, even for four,
 I will not turn back my wrath.
 They sell the righteous for silver,
 and the needy for a pair of sandals.” (Amos 2:6)
- (g) “In that day,” declares the Sovereign LORD,
 “I will make the sun go down at noon
 and darken the earth in broad daylight.
 I will turn your religious feasts into mourning
 and all your singing into weeping.” (Amos 8:9–10a)
- (h) Therefore I will block her path with thornbushes;
 I will wall her in so that she cannot find her way.
 She will chase after her lovers but not catch them;
 she will look for them but not find them.
 Then she will say,
 “I will go back to my husband as at first,
 for then I was better off than now.” (Hosea 2:6–7)
- (i) I will sing for the one I love a song about his vineyard:
 My loved one had a vineyard on a fertile hillside.
 He dug it up and cleared it of stones
 and planted it with the choicest vines.
 He built a watchtower in it
 and cut out a winepress as well.
 Then he looked for a crop of good grapes,
 but it yielded only bad fruit. (Isaiah 5:1–2)

- (j) ... the LORD Almighty will come down
to do battle on Mount Zion and on its heights.
Like birds hovering overhead,
the LORD Almighty will shield Jerusalem;
he will shield it and deliver it,
he will 'pass over' it and will rescue it. (Isaiah 31:4c–5)
- (k) Then the word of the LORD came to me: “You must not marry and have sons or daughters in this place.” For this is what the LORD says about the sons and daughters born in this land and about the women who are their mothers and the men who are their fathers: “They will die of deadly diseases.” (Jeremiah 16:1–4a)

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