

Markscheme

May 2025

Classical Greek

Higher level and standard level

Paper 2

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Markbands for Option A, question 2 / Option B, question 4 / Option C, question 6 /Option D, question 8

The extended response questions are marked using the criteria and markbands below. These have been reproduced from the *Classical languages guide*.

Paper 2 – Extended response

Criterion A: Knowledge, understanding, and use of evidence

In relation to the prompt, how much knowledge and understanding of the prescribed core text does the response demonstrate?

How meaningfully and relevantly does the response incorporate evidence from sources beyond the prescribed core text?

Marks	Description
0	The response does not meet the standard described below.
1-2	The response demonstrates little knowledge and understanding of the core text and its contexts in relation to the prompt. The response does not meaningfully incorporate evidence from sources beyond the core text.
3-4	The response demonstrates some knowledge and understanding of the core text and its contexts in relation to the prompt. The response incorporates evidence from sources beyond the core text with some relevance to the prompt.
5-6	The response demonstrates good knowledge and understanding of the core text and its contexts in relation to the prompt. The response meaningfully incorporates evidence from sources beyond the core texts; examples have direct relevance to the prompt

Criterion B: Analysis and evaluation

To what extent does the response include analysis and evaluation of how the choices of language, technique, style, and/or broader authorial choices shape meaning and create effect?

Marks	Description
0	The response does not meet the standard described below.
1-2	The response is descriptive and/or contains little relevant analysis of textual features and/or the broader authorial choices. The response contains no meaningful evaluation of how such features and/or choices shape meaning or create effect.
3-4	The response contains some appropriate analysis of textual features and/or broader authorial choices but is reliant on description. There is some evaluation of how such features and/or choices shape meaning or create effect.
5-6	The response contains appropriate and at times convincing analysis of textual features and/or broader authorial choices. There is effective evaluation of how such features and/or choices shape meaning or create effect.

Option A

Prescribed core text: Verse — Homer, *Iliad* 22.56–78

1. (a) So that Hector could save the men and women of Troy (σώσης Τρῶας καὶ Τρωάδας) (accept: the Trojans with just Τρῶας) [1]; not give glory to Achilles (μὴ δὲ κῦδος ὀρέξῃς Πηλεΐδῃ) [1]; or be bereft of his life (αἰῶνος ἀμερθητός) [1].
- (b) Award [1] up to [3] for any of the following: Zeus will destroy him (Κρονίδης ... φθίσει); with a painful destiny (αἴση ἐν ἀργαλήῃ); on the threshold of old age (accept just: in his old age) (ἐπὶ γήραος); and has suffered/seen many evils (κακὰ πόλλα).
- (c) Mark only for length of syllables. Award [1] per line if all correct; [0] otherwise.
- (d) For a young man [1] it is good/proper/fitting to lie slain in battle [1], but for an old man [1] it is piteous [1].
- (e) By portraying Priam as begging Hector to come inside the walls and Hector as unmoved by his pleas, Homer shows in this passage that for Hector, military honour and glory are more important than his life or even his familial duties, but that for Priam, Hector's familial responsibility should be more important. Accept a range of varied and substantiated answers, awarding [1] up to [4] for each plausible point of analysis and [1] up to [4] for a relevant supporting quotation.

Points may include, but are not limited to:

- Priam addresses Hector as my child: ἐμὸν τέκος.
 - Emphasis on the importance of the men and women of Troy to highlight the vulnerability of the Trojan families as opposed to glory (enjambment of direct objects/alliteration of Τρῶας καὶ Τρωάδας).
 - Priam recognizes the importance of glory to Hector and appeals to him not to give Achilles the great glory of killing him (μὴ μέγα κῦδος ὀρέξῃς Πηλεΐδῃ: enjambment of Πηλεΐδῃ emphasizes that it would be Achilles who gets the honour if Hector is killed).
 - Highlighting of the familial relationship by Priam using the epithet “father, son of Kronos” (πατὴρ Κρονίδης) for Zeus.
 - Loss of one's sons and daughters centralized (chiasmus of υἱάς τ' ὄλλυμένους ἔλκηθίσας τε θύγατρας).
 - Violent death of children stressed (hyperbaton of τέκνα and βαλλόμενα).
 - Despite Priam's pleas, Hector is not persuaded: οὐδ' Ἔκτορι θυμὸν ἔπειθε.
2. (a) Mark in accordance with markbands on page 3.
 2. (b) Mark in accordance with markbands on page 3.

Option B

Prescribed core text: Verse — Euripides, *Alcestis* 747–772

3. (a) Herakles was on his way to complete one of his Labours [1] and stopped to rest at Admetus' house as a guest. [1]
- (b) Award [1] up to [4] for any of the following: Herakles came at a time when the household was mourning; Herakles did not take what was offered to him; but he asked for more; Herakles got drunk; and sang loud songs; paying no attention to the mourning in the house.
- (c) He must receive the stranger/guest in his house (ἐγὼ μὲν ἐν δόμοισιν ἐστιῶ ξένον) [1], but he didn't follow his mistress (οὐδ' ἐφροσύμην ... ἐμὴν δέσποιναν) [1] and hold out his hand in mourning (οὐδ' ἐξέτεινα χεῖρ' ἀποιμώζων) [1].
- (d) He thought of Alcestis as a mother figure (ἐμοὶ ... ἦν μήτηρ) [1] who took on countless troubles (κακῶν γὰρ μυρίων ἐρρύετο) [1] by softening her husband's temper (ὀργὰς μαλάσσοις ἀνδρός) [1].
- (e) A range of valid interpretations may be found, but the θεράπων may be portrayed as loyal despite being frustrated and in mourning. Accept a range of varied and substantiated answers, awarding [1] up to [4] for each plausible point of analysis and [1] up to [4] for a relevant supporting quotation.

Points may include, but are not limited to:

- His extensive experience serving guests for the household (hyperbaton of πολλοὺς ... ξένους) highlights the length of his service.
 - The θεράπων faithfully serves Herakles despite not recognizing him, calls him ξένον despite his dislike for the guest (enjambment of κακίον; word choice characterizing Herakles as a criminal: πανοῦργον κλώπα καὶ ληστήν τινα).
 - Emotion and loyalty of the enslaved members of the household shown through their crying (enjambment of τέγγοντες highlighting that the enslaved members of the household are crying; first person plural ἐκλαίμεν emphasizes that the speaker is also crying).
 - Strong connection between the θεράπων and Alcestis (enjambment of μήτηρ; reference to his enslaver as a mother figure; use of possessive ἐμὴν modifying δέσποιναν).
 - Rhetorical question emphasizes his belief that he is right in feeling so strongly about the new guest: ἄρα τὸν ξένον / στυγῶ δικαίως, ἐν κακοῖς ἀφιγμένον;
4. (a) Mark in accordance with the markbands on page 3.
4. (b) Mark in accordance with the markbands on page 3.

Option C

Prescribed core text: Prose — Thucydides, *History of the Peloponnesian War* 2.48.3–2.49.3

5. (a) Some attempt to explain the causes of the disease [1] while Thucydides will describe its course [1]; **or** the other men talk according to their opinion [1] while Thucydides will relate observations/fact [1].
- (b) Because he himself had the disease (αὐτός νοσήσας) [1], because he had watched others suffering from the disease (ίδων ἄλλους πάσχοντας) [1].
- (c) That year happened to be particularly free from other illnesses [1]; and such few cases as occurred, all determined in/turned into the plague [1].
- (d) Award [1] up to [3] for any of the following: heat/fevers took hold of people’s head (τῆς κεφαλῆς θέρμαι... ἐλάμβανε); and redness and inflammation of the eyes (τῶν ὀφθαλμῶν ἐρυθήματα/φλόγωσις); the parts inside the mouth became blood-red (τὰ ἐντός αἱματώδη ἦν) (accept specific reference to the tongue and throat); and exhaled an unnatural/fetid breath (καὶ πνεῦμα ἄτοπον/δυσῶδες ἤφει).
- (e) It upsets the stomach/heart [1]; it discharges bile [1]; it produces a very great distress [1].
- (f) Thucydides constructs his figure as a plausible historian through a series of discursive choices designed to establish verisimilitude. Accept a range of varied and substantiated answers, awarding [1] up to [4] for each plausible point of analysis and [1] up to [4] for a relevant supporting quotation.

Points may include, but are not limited to:

- The contrast between his task as a historian describing the plague and other people who explain its causes and evolution establishes Thucydides’s credibility (polyptoton of λεγέτω μὲν ... ἐγὼ δὲ ... λέξω, contrast between ἀφ’ ὅτου γενέσθαι and οἷόν τε ἐγίγνετο).
 - Allusion to the oral transmission of the episode and its circumstances by other sources (ὡς ὠμολογεῖτο) support the narration.
 - The appearance of the first person, which shows his role both as a victim and as a witness of the plague and gives him authority to relate the facts (αὐτός τε νοσήσας καὶ αὐτός ίδων ἄλλους πάσχοντας).
 - The audience is encouraged to empathize and identify with the suffering of the author through the use of the first person (αὐτός τε νοσήσας).
 - The objectivity in describing the disease, which is achieved through specific and technical vocabulary related to the body and its symptoms: κεφαλῆς/ τῶν ὀφθαλμῶν ἐρυθήματα καὶ φλόγωσις/ καὶ τὰ ἐντός/ ἢ τε φάρυγξ καὶ ἡ γλῶσσα/ πταρμός καὶ βράγχος/ ἐς τὰ στήθη/ ἐς τὴν καρδίαν/ ἀποκαθάρσεις.
 - Thucydides’s extensive knowledge of all the symptoms is emphasized by the long enumeration as he categorizes the progression of the disease (focus on the progression by markers of time passing: ἐξαίφνης ... πρῶτον μὲν ... εὐθύς ... ἔπειτα ... καὶ ἐν οὐ πολλῷ χρόνῳ ... καὶ ὁπότε ...; repeated καὶ to stress large number of different symptoms).
6. (a) Mark in accordance with the markbands on page 3.
6. (b) Mark in accordance with the markbands on page 3.

Option D

Prescribed core text: Prose — Antiphon, *On the Murder of Herodes* 20–22

7. (a) Euxitheus was going to see his father (ὡς τὸν πατέρα) [1]; Herodes was going to release slaves (ἀνδράποδα ἀπολύσων) [1].
- (b) The slaves whom Herodes was to release [1]; and the Thracians who were to purchase their freedom [1].
- (c) They happened to meet with a storm (ἐτύχομεν δὲ χειμῶνί) [1]; they were forced to put in at a place in Methymna (ἠναγκάσθημεν κατασχεῖν εἰς τῆς Μηθυμναίας τι χωρίον) [1]; where the boat on to which Herodes transhipped lay at anchor (οὗ τὸ πλοῖον ὥρμει τοῦτο εἰς ὃ μετεκβάντα τὸν Ἡρώδη) [1].
- (d) There is no evidence that he persuaded Herodes to accompany him [1]; nor that he made the voyage on business of his own [1].
- (e) He went there to kill Herodes / he premeditated murder [1].
- (f) To put in at a particular spot [1]; and to tranship [1].
- (g) Antiphon constructs Euxitheus's innocence through a series of discursive resources pointing to the lack of proof from the prosecution, and to the random circumstances. Accept a range of varied and substantiated answers, awarding [1] up to [4] for each plausible point of analysis and [1] up to [4] for a relevant supporting quotation.

Points may include, but are not limited to:

- Construction of coincidence through the use of parallel constructions in relation to Euxitheus and Herodes, ruling out a motive for his death: ἐπλέομεν δὲ εἰς τὴν Αἴνον, ἐγὼ μὲν ὡς τὸν πατέρα ὁ δ' Ἡρώδης ἀνδράποδα θραξὶν ἀνθρώποις ἀπολύσω.
- Uncertainty about the veracity of the accusation, expressed with verbs of speech (*verba dicendi*): ὃν φασιν ὑπ' ἐμοῦ/ φασὶν ἀποθανεῖν αὐτόν.
- Appeal to outside witnesses confirming his declaration: τούτων δ' ὑμῖν τοὺς μάρτυρας παρέξομαι./ Μάρτυρες.
- The construction of circumstances as casual through specific vocabulary and phrases: ἐτύχομεν/ μᾶλλον ἐγίγνετο ἢ τύχη/ ἀλλ' ἀνάγκη καὶ τοῦτο ἐγίγνετο.
- Creation of empathy towards himself through the use of the first person: ἐγὼ ἐποίησάμην/ ἐγὼ μὲν ὡς τὸν πατέρα/ παρέξομαι/ ἐγὼ φαίνομαι/ etc.
- Engagement of the audience in his defence through the appeal to the second person: ὦ ἄνδρες/ ὑμῖν/ σκοπεῖτε.
- Negation of alternative facts to stress his version of the story (litotes/double negation): οὔτ' αἶ ἐγὼ ἄνευ προφάσεως ἱκανῆς φαίνομαι τὸν πλοῦν ποιησάμενος εἰς τὴν Αἴνον/ οὔτε κατασχόντες εἰς τὸ χωρίον τοῦτο ἀπὸ παρασκευῆς οὐδεμιᾶς.
- Contrast between what he is accused of and his reason to travel to Mytilene: οὔτε γὰρ πείσας τὸν ἄνδρα οὐδαμοῦ ἀπελέγχομαι σύμπλουν μοι γενέσθαι, ἀλλ' αὐτὸς καθ' αὐτόν τ' ὃν πλοῦν πεποιημένος ἔνεκα πραγμάτων ἰδίων.
- Denial of wrongdoing by refuting specific accusations (παρασκευῆς οὐδεμιᾶς; οὐδενὶ μηχανήματι, οὐδ' ἀπάτη).

8. (a) Mark in accordance with markbands on page 3.

8. (b) Mark in accordance with markbands on page 3.