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# Classical Greek

## Higher level

### Paper 1

13 May 2026

**Zone A** afternoon | **Zone B** afternoon | **Zone C** afternoon

2 hours

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#### Instructions to students

- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Answer the questions relating to both extracts in one option.
- A dictionary is permitted for this examination paper.
- The maximum mark for this examination paper is **[40 marks]**.

Answer **one** option. Answer **all** questions relating to **both** extracts in that option.

### Option A

#### Extract 1: Prose — Xenophon, *Cyropaedia* 1.6.7–8

The Persian prince Cyrus talks with his father about what constitutes a good ruler.

“οὕτως ἐπίστασθαι ἀνθρώπων ἄλλων προστατεύειν ὅπως ἔξουσι πάντα τὰ ἐπιτήδεια ἔκπλεω\* καὶ ὅπως ἔσονται πάντες οἴους δεῖ, τοῦτο θαυμαστὸν δήπου ἡμῖν τότε ἐφαίνετο εἶναι.”

“ναὶ μὰ Δί’”, ἔφη, “ὦ πάτερ, μέμνημαι καὶ τοῦτό σου λέγοντος· συνεδόκει οὖν καὶ ἐμοὶ ὑπερμέγεθες εἶναι ἔργον τὸ καλῶς ἄρχειν· καὶ νῦν γ’,” ἔφη, “ταῦτά μοι δοκεῖ ταῦτα, ὅταν πρὸς αὐτὸ τὸ

- 5 ἄρχειν σκοπῶν λογίζωμαι. ὅταν μέντοι γε πρὸς ἄλλους ἀνθρώπους ἰδὼν κατανοήσω οἷοι ὄντες διαγίγνονται ἄρχοντες καὶ οἷοι ὄντες ἀνταγωνιστὰὶ ἡμῖν ἔσονται, πάνυ μοι δοκεῖ αἰσχρὸν εἶναι τὸ τοιούτους ὑποπτῆξαι καὶ μὴ θέλειν ἰέναι αὐτοῖς ἀνταγωνιζομένους· οὐς ἐγὼ αἰσθάνομαι ἀρξάμενος ἀπὸ τῶν ἡμετέρων φίλων τούτων ἡγουμένους δεῖν τὸν ἄρχοντα τῶν ἀρχομένων διαφέρειν τῷ καὶ πολυτελέστερον δειπνεῖν καὶ πλεον ἔχειν ἔνδον χρυσίον καὶ πλείονα χρόνον καθεύδειν καὶ πάντα
- 10 ἀπονώτερον τῶν ἀρχομένων διάγειν. ἐγὼ δὲ οἶμαι τὸν ἄρχοντα οὐ τῷ ῥαδιουργεῖν χρῆναι διαφέρειν τῶν ἀρχομένων, ἀλλὰ τῷ προνοεῖν καὶ φιλοπονεῖν.”

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\* ἔκπλεω (adj., n pl.): abundant, copious

(Option A continues on the following page)

**(Option A continued)**

1. (a) “οὕτως ἐπίστασθαι ... ἐφαίνετο εἶναι.” (lines 1–2). State what Cyrus’s father said was an admirable thing. Quotation of the Greek text is **not** required. [3]
- (b) “ὦ πάτερ ... καλῶς ἄρχειν” (lines 3–4). Outline Cyrus’s response to his father. Quotation of the Greek text is **not** required. [3]
- (c) καὶ νῦν γ’ ... σκοπῶν λογίζωμαι (lines 4–5). Outline what Cyrus says about the present. Quotation of the Greek text is **not** required. [2]
- (d) ὅταν μέντοι ... ἡμῖν ἔσονται (lines 5–6). State what Cyrus observes about other people. Quotation of the Greek text is **not** required. [2]
- (e) πάνυ μοι ... αὐτοῖς ἀνταγωνιουμένους (lines 6–7). Analyse Cyrus’s opinion. Support your answer with **four** quotations from the Greek text. [4]
- (f) Translate “οὐς ἐγὼ ... καὶ φιλοπονεῖν.” (lines 7–11). [16]

**(Option A continues on page 5)**

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(Option A continued)

**Extract 2: Verse — Hesiod, *Works and Days* 225–229; 236–241**

Hesiod outlines the benefits of ruling a city with justice.

οἱ δὲ δίκας ξείνοισι καὶ ἐνδήμοισι διδοῦσιν  
 ἰθείας καὶ μή τι παρεκβαίνουσι δικαίου,  
 τοῖσι τέθηγε<sup>1</sup> πόλις, λαοὶ δ' ἀνθεῦσιν ἐν αὐτῇ·  
 Εἰρήνη δ' ἀνὰ γῆν κουροτρόφος, οὐδέ ποτ' αὐτοῖς  
 5 ἀργαλέον πόλεμον τεκμαίρεται εὐρύοπα Ζεὺς·

[...]

θάλλουσιν δ' ἀγαθοῖσι διαμπερές· οὐδ' ἐπὶ νηῶν  
 νίσσονται, καρπὸν δὲ φέρει ζείδωρος ἄρουρα.  
 οἷς δ' ὕβρις τε μέμηλε κακὴ καὶ σχέτλια ἔργα,  
 τοῖς δὲ δίκην Κρονίδης τεκμαίρεται εὐρύοπα Ζεὺς.  
 10 πολλάκι καὶ ξύμπασα πόλις κακοῦ ἀνδρὸς ἀπηύρα<sup>2</sup>,  
 ὅστις ἀλιτραίνῃ<sup>3</sup> καὶ ἀτάσθαλα μηχανάται.

<sup>1</sup> θάλλω: I grow, thrive

<sup>2</sup> ἀπηύρα (third person sg. imperfect), from ἀπαυράω: I suffer

<sup>3</sup> ἀλιτραίνω = ἀλιταίνω: I sin, offend

**Summary of Extract 2:**

The cities of those who dispense fair judgement blossom; Peace is present, Zeus does not mark them out for war, and their crops thrive. But Zeus marks out for punishment those rulers who are wicked, as well as their cities.

The following question refers to Extract 1 **and** Extract 2.

2. Contrast how Xenophon and Hesiod characterize rulership in the two extracts. Support your answer by quoting **precise** evidence from the Greek text of **both** extracts. [4]

The following question refers **only** to Extract 2.

3. Analyse how Hesiod uses language to portray the benefits of ruling a city with justice. Support your answer by quoting **precise** evidence from the Greek text. [6]

**End of Option A**

## Option B

### Extract 3: Verse — Euripides, *Iphigenia in Aulis* 334–352

At Aulis, Menelaus accuses Agamemnon (his brother, and the commander of the Greek army) of inconsistency in his behaviour and a lack of loyalty toward his friends.

- νοῦς δέ γ' οὐ βέβαιος ἄδικον κτῆμα κοῦ σαφὲς φίλοις.  
 βούλομαι δέ σ' ἐξελέγξαι, καὶ σὺ μήτ' ὀργῆς ὑπο  
 ἀποτρέπου τάληθές οὔτ' αὖ κατατενῶ<sup>1</sup> λίαν ἐγώ.  
 οἶσθ', ὅτ' ἐσπούδαζες ἄρχειν Δαναΐδαις πρὸς Ἰλιον<sup>2</sup>,  
 5 τῷ δοκεῖν μὲν οὐχὶ χρήζων, τῷ δὲ βούλεσθαι θέλων,  
 ὡς ταπεινὸς ἦσθα, πάσης δεξιᾶς προσθιγγάνων  
 καὶ θύρας ἔχων ἀκλήστους τῷ θέλοντι δημοτῶν  
 καὶ διδοὺς πρόσρησιν ἐξῆς πᾶσι — κεῖ μή τις θέλοι —  
 τοῖς τρόποις ζητῶν πρίασθαι τὸ φιλότιμον ἐκ μέσου;  
 10 κᾶτ', ἐπεὶ κατέσχεες ἀρχάς, μεταβαλὼν ἄλλους τρόπους  
 τοῖς φίλοισιν οὐκέτ' ἦσθα τοῖς πρὶν ὡς πρόσθεν φίλος,  
 δυσπρόσιτος<sup>3</sup> ἔσω τε κλήθρων<sup>4</sup> σπάνιος. ἄνδρα δ' οὐ χρεὼν  
 τὸν ἀγαθὸν πράσσοντα μεγάλα τοὺς τρόπους μεθιστάναι,  
 ἀλλὰ καὶ βέβαιον εἶναι τότε μάλιστα τοῖς φίλοις,  
 15 ἥνίκ' ὠφελεῖν μάλιστα δυνατός ἐστιν εὐτυχῶν.  
 ταῦτα μὲν σε πρῶτ' ἐπῆλθον, ἵνα σε πρῶθ' ἡῦρον κακόν.  
 ὡς δ' ἐς Αὔλιν ἦλθες αὖθις χώ<sup>5</sup> Πανελλήνων στρατός,  
 οὐδὲν ἦσθ', ἀλλ' ἐξεπλήσσου<sup>6</sup> τῇ τύχῃ τῇ τῶν θεῶν,  
 οὐρίας πομπῆς σπανίζων.

<sup>1</sup> κατατείνω: I make a long speech

<sup>2</sup> Ἰλιος, ου, ή: Troy

<sup>3</sup> δυσπρόσιτος, ον (adj.): hard to access

<sup>4</sup> κλήθρων, τα: house

<sup>5</sup> χώ: καὶ ὁ

<sup>6</sup> ἐξεπλήσσου (second person sg. imperfect passive), from ἐκπλήσσω: I strike, astound

(Option B continues on the following page)

**(Option B continued)**

4. (a) νοῦς δέ γ' ... σαφὲς φίλοις (line 1). State what an unstable mind is, according to Menelaus. Quotation of the Greek text is **not** required. [2]
- (b) βούλομαι δέ ... λίαν ἐγώ (lines 2–3). Outline Menelaus's intentions. Quotation of the Greek text is **not** required. [2]
- (c) οἶσθ', ὅτ' ... βούλεσθαι θέλων (lines 4–5). Identify the contrast between what Agamemnon pretended and what he truly wanted. Quotation of the Greek text is **not** required. [2]
- (d) ὥς ταπεινὸς ἦσθα ... ἐκ μέσου; (lines 6–9). Outline by what methods Agamemnon attempted to gain popularity. Support your answer with **four** quotations from the Greek text. [4]
- (e) κᾶτ', ἐπεὶ ... κλήθρων σπάνιος (lines 10–12). Outline how Agamemnon behaved when he obtained his command. Quotation of the Greek text is **not** required. [3]
- (f) Translate ἄνδρα δ' οὐ ... οὐδὲν ἦσθ' (lines 12–18). [16]
- (g) ἀλλ' ἐξεπλήσσου ... πομπῆς σπανίζων (lines 18–19). Identify what astounded Agamemnon. Quotation of the Greek is **not** required. [1]

**(Option B continues on the following page)**



(Option B continued)

**Extract 4: Prose — Plutarch, *Nicias* 5.1–2**

Plutarch describes the behaviour of Nicias, an Athenian general and politician.

- οὕτω δὴ διακείμενος εὐλαβῶς πρὸς τοὺς συκοφάντας οὔτε συνεδείπνει τινὶ τῶν πολιτῶν οὔτε κοινολογίαις οὔτε συνδιημερεύσεσιν ἐνέβαλλεν ἑαυτόν, οὐδ' ὅλως ἐσχόλαζε ταῖς τοιαύταις διατριβαῖς, ἀλλ' ἄρχων μὲν ἐν τῷ στρατηγίῳ διετέλει μέχρι νυκτός, ἐκ δὲ βουλῆς ὕστατος ἀπῆει πρῶτος ἀφικνούμενος. εἰ δὲ μηδὲν ἐν κοινῷ πράττειν ἔχοι, δυσπρόσοδος ἦν καὶ δυσέντευκτος
- 5 οἰκουρῶν καὶ κατακεκλεισμένος<sup>1</sup> οἱ δὲ φίλοι τοῖς ἐπὶ τὰς θύρας φοιτῶσιν ἐνετύγχανον, καὶ παρητοῦντο<sup>2</sup> συγγνώμην ἔχειν, ὥς καὶ τότε Νικίου πρὸς δημοσίας χρείας τινὰς καὶ ἀσχολίας ὄντος.

<sup>1</sup> κατακλείω: shut in, enclose

<sup>2</sup> παρητοῦντο: imperfect of παραιτοῦμαι

**Summary of Extract 4:**

Fearing false accusers, Nicias avoided social interactions with citizens. He worked tirelessly, and even during his free time remained secluded at home. His friends made excuses for him to the people trying to gain access to him.

The following question refers to Extract 3 **and** Extract 4.

5. Compare and contrast the attitudes of Nicias and Agamemnon in the two extracts. Support your answer by quoting **precise** evidence from the Greek text of **both** extracts. [4]

The following question refers **only** to Extract 4.

6. Analyse how Plutarch emphasizes the key traits of Nicias's behaviour and disposition. Support your answer by quoting **precise** evidence from the Greek text. [6]

**End of Option B**

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#### References:

- Extract 1** Xenophon, n.d. *Cyropaedia*. E. C. Marchant (ed.) 1910. [online] Available at: <https://artflsrv03.uchicago.edu/philologic4/Greek/navigate/440/1/7/7/> and <https://artflsrv03.uchicago.edu/philologic4/Greek/navigate/440/1/7/8/> [Accessed 24 April 2025]. Source adapted.
- Extract 2** Hesiod, n.d. *The Homeric Hymns and Homeric with an English translation by Hugh G. Evelyn-White. Works and Days*. H. G. Evelyn-White (ed.) 1914. [online] Available at: <https://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/text?doc=Perseus%3Atext%3A1999.01.0131%3Acard%3D202> [Accessed 24 April 2025]. Source adapted.
- Extract 3** Euripides. *Euripidis Fabulae, vol. 3*. G. Murray (ed.) 1913. [online] Available at: <https://artflsrv03.uchicago.edu/philologic4/Greek/navigate/157/1/15/5/> to <https://artflsrv03.uchicago.edu/philologic4/Greek/navigate/157/1/16/2/> [Accessed 24 April 2025]. Source adapted.
- Extract 4** Plutarch. *Plutarch's Lives, Nicias, with an English translation by Bernadotte Perrin*. B. Perrin (ed.) Cambridge, Mass., Harvard University Press. London, William Heinemann Ltd. 1916. 3. [online] Available at: <https://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/text?doc=Perseus%3Atext%3A2008.01.0071%3Achapter%3D5%3Asection%3D1> [Accessed 14 May 2026]. Source adapted.