



Wednesday 21 May 2014 – Afternoon

AS GCE CLASSICS: CLASSICAL CIVILISATION

F385/01 Greek Historians

Duration: 1 hour 30 minutes

Candidates answer on the Question Paper.

OCR supplied materials:

- 12 page Answer Booklet (OCR12)
(sent with general stationery)

Other materials required:

None



INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Complete the boxes on the Answer Booklet with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- Use black ink.
- Answer **one** question from Section A and **one** question from Section B.
- Read each question carefully. Make sure you know what you have to do before starting your answer.
- Start your answer to each question on a new page.
- Write the number of each question answered in the margin.
- Do **not** write in the bar codes.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

- The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.
- The total number of marks for this paper is **100**.
- This document consists of **4** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

INSTRUCTION TO EXAMS OFFICER/INVIGILATOR

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Answer **one** question from Section A and **one** question from Section B.

SECTION A – Commentary Questions

Answer **either** Question 1 **or** Question 2.

Marks are awarded in parts (b) and (c) of Questions 1 and 2 for the quality of written communication in your answer.

1 Read the passage and answer the questions.

Cyrus was delighted with this advice, which he thought was excellent. With many compliments to Croesus he gave orders to the guard to put the proposal into practice. Then turning to Croesus, 'I see,' he said, 'that though you are a king you are ready to do me good service in word and deed. I should like to make you some return: ask, therefore, for whatever you wish, and it shall immediately be yours.'

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'Master,' Croesus answered, 'you will please me best if you let me send these chains to the god of the Greeks, whom I most honoured, and ask if he is accustomed to cheat his benefactors.' Cyrus asked the reason for this request, whereupon Croesus repeated the whole story of what he had hoped to accomplish and of the answers of the oracles, and dwelt at length upon the rich gifts he had sent and on how his belief in the prophecies had emboldened him to invade Persia. Then he ended by repeating his request for permission to reproach Apollo for his deceit. Cyrus laughed, and told Croesus he should have what he wanted, and anything else he might ask for, no matter when. Croesus, therefore, sent to Delphi, and instructed his messengers to lay the chains on the threshold of the temple; then, pointing to the chains, they were to ask the god if, when such things were the fruits of war, he was not ashamed to have encouraged Croesus by his oracles to invade Persia in the confident hope of destroying the power of Cyrus. And they were also to ask if it was the habit of Greek gods to be ungrateful.

10

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Herodotus, *The Histories* 1.90

- (a) Briefly describe what has happened to Croesus so far in Book 1 before this passage begins. [10]
- (b) How far is this passage typical of Herodotus' style of writing? In your answer, you should include discussion of what Herodotus says and how he says it. [20]
- (c) Using this passage as a starting point, explain how sympathetic Herodotus is towards Croesus and other non-Greeks. [25]

Do **not** answer this question if you have already answered Question 1.

Marks are awarded in parts (b) and (c) of Questions 1 and 2 for the quality of written communication in your answer.

2 Read the passage and answer the questions.

'I do not understand these long speeches which the Athenians make. Though they said a great deal in praise of themselves, they made no attempt to contradict the fact that they are acting aggressively against our allies and against the Peloponnese. And surely, if it is the fact that they had a good record in the past against the Persians and now have a bad record as regards us, then they deserve to pay double for it, since, though they were once good, they have now turned out bad. We are the same then and now, and if we are sensible, we shall not allow any aggression against our allies and shall not wait before we come to their help. They are no longer waiting before being ill treated. Others may have a lot of money and ships and horses, but we have good allies, and we ought not to betray them to the Athenians. And this is not a matter to be settled by law-suits and by words: it is not because of words that our own interests are suffering. Instead we should come to the help of our allies quickly and with all our might. And let no one try to tell us that when we are being attacked we should sit down and discuss matters; these long discussions are rather for those who are meditating aggression themselves. Therefore, Spartans, cast your votes for the honour of Sparta and for war! Do not allow the Athenians to grow still stronger! Do not entirely betray your allies! Instead let us, with the help of heaven, go forward to meet the aggressor!'

Thucydides, *History of the Peloponnesian War* 1.86

- (a) Briefly describe the arguments made by the Corinthians and the Athenians in the debate at Sparta before this passage begins. [10]
- (b) How convincing do you find the points made in this passage? In your answer, you should include discussion of what is said and how it is said. [20]
- (c) Explain how typical this passage is of how Thucydides uses speeches in his work. [25]

[Section A Total: 55]

SECTION B – Essays

Answer **one** question.

Start your answer on a new page.

Marks are awarded for the quality of written communication in your answer.

- 3** ‘Thucydides’ work has nothing to offer us in 2014.’ How far do you agree with this statement?

In your answer, you should:

- consider the events and characters that Thucydides includes;
- include a discussion of the relevance of such events and characters to the modern reader;
- use evidence from *The History of the Peloponnesian War*.

[45]

- 4** ‘Plutarch is a better storyteller than biographer.’ How far do you agree with this statement?

In your answer, you should:

- consider the characterisation and stories in his work;
- include a discussion of his style and aims;
- use evidence from the *Life of Themistocles* and *Life of Pericles*.

[45]

- 5** Who is the best historian – Herodotus, Thucydides or Plutarch?

In your answer, you should:

- consider the purposes of history-writing;
- include a discussion of how successful each author is in his writing;
- use specific evidence from Herodotus’ *The Histories*, Thucydides’ *History of the Peloponnesian War* and Plutarch’s *Life of Pericles* and *Life of Themistocles*.

[45]

[Section B Total: 45]



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