



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

Tuesday 19 May 2015 – Afternoon

AS GCE CLASSICS: CLASSICAL CIVILISATION

F385/01 Greek Historians



Candidates answer on the Answer Booklet.

OCR supplied materials:

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

Other materials required:

None

Duration: 1 hour 30 minutes



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.

Pericles was convinced of the rightness of his own views about not going out to battle, but he saw that for the moment the Athenians were being led astray by their angry feelings. So he summoned no assembly or special meeting of the people, fearing that any discussion would result in wrong decisions, made under the influence of anger rather than of reason. Meanwhile he saw to the defences of the city and kept things as quiet as he could. He did, however, constantly send out cavalry in order to stop enemy patrols from breaking into the country near the city and doing harm. One minor cavalry battle took place at Phrygia between a squadron of Athenians with Thessalian support and the Boeotian cavalry. The Athenians and Thessalians had the better of this engagement until the hoplites came up in support of the Boeotians, when the Athenians and Thessalians retreated, leaving a few dead behind. However, they recovered the bodies on the same day without asking for an armistice. On the next day the Peloponnesians put up a trophy. The help that Athens received from Thessaly was in accordance with the terms of the old treaty. The following Thessalian peoples came: the Larissaeans, the Pharsalians, the Cranonians, the Pyrasians, the Gyrtonians, and the Pheraeans. The contingent from Larissa was commanded by Polymedes and Aristonous, each leading one division. Menon was the commander of the Pharsalians, and the other cities also each had their own commanders.

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Finally, since the Athenians did not come out to offer battle, the Peloponnesians left their camp at Acharnae and laid waste some of the other demes lying between Mount Parnes and Mount Briessus. While they were still in Attica the Athenians sent off round the Peloponnesian fleet of 100 ships which they had equipped. On board the ships there were 1,000 hoplites and 400 bowmen. The commanders were Carcinus, the son of Xenotimus, Proteas, the son of Epicles, and Socrates, the son of Antigenes.

Thucydides, *History of the Peloponnesian War* 2 22–23

- (a)** Briefly describe the events from the outbreak of the Peloponnesian War in Book Two to the start of this passage. **[10]**
- (b)** In what ways is this passage typical of Thucydides' style of writing? In your answer, you should include discussion of what he says and how he says it. **[20]**
- (c)** 'In Thucydides' opinion, Pericles could do no wrong.' How far do you think that Thucydides' portrayal of Pericles is completely biased? In your answer, you should make use of this passage and the books of Thucydides which you have studied. **[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.

While this manoeuvre was being carried out, Aristides the son of Lysimachus, who was the first to learn about it, came to Themistocles' tent. The two men were anything but friends – indeed, it was actually Themistocles, as I have explained, through whose efforts he had been ostracized – but Aristides now arrived to warn him, as he stepped out of his tent, that the Greeks had been encircled. Themistocles knew his opponent for a frank and noble character at all times, but he especially admired his coming at this moment; so he let him into the secret of the scheme he was carrying on with Sicinnus, and appealed to Aristides as a man who commanded more confidence among the allies than himself, to join him in the effort to keep the Greeks at their stations and encourage them to fight a battle in the straits. Aristides praised Themistocles for what he had done and proceeded to go the round of the other generals and captains, urging them to join battle. While they were still wondering whether to believe his news, a Tenian trireme commanded by Panaetius, which had deserted from the enemy, arrived and left them in no doubt that they were now surrounded, so that in the end anger played its part as well as necessity, as the Greeks set out to face their danger.

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At daybreak Xerxes took his seat on some high ground, which enabled him to overlook his fleet and its order of battle. According to Phanodemus this place was situated above the temple of Heracles, at the point where the island of Salamis is separated from the mainland of Attica only by a narrow channel, but Acestodorus says that the king's point of vantage was near the Megarian frontier, above the hill known as 'The Horns'. A golden throne had been set up for him and a crowd of secretaries were in attendance, whose duty it was to record the events of the battle.

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Plutarch, *The Life of Themistocles* 12–13

- (a)** Briefly describe what Plutarch has told us about Themistocles before this passage begins. [10]
- (b)** In what ways does this passage illustrate Plutarch's interest in the details of the stories he tells? In your answer, you should include discussion of what he says and how he says it. [20]
- (c)** Using this passage as a starting point, discuss how effectively Plutarch portrays the importance of Themistocles in the Greek victory over the Persians at Salamis. [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 ‘It is the digressions that make Herodotus’ *The Histories* so interesting to read. How far do you agree with this opinion?

In your answer, you should:

- consider a range of different stories from *The Histories*
- include a discussion of other features which make *The Histories* interesting to read
- use evidence from Herodotus’ *The Histories*.

[45]

4 ‘Plutarch is at his best when he analyses how his characters think and act.’ How far do you agree with this statement?

In your answer, you should:

- consider how he presents the thoughts and actions of Themistocles and Pericles
- include an analysis of other aspects of his writing
- use evidence from Plutarch’s *Life of Themistocles* and *Life of Pericles*.

[45]

5 Which of the three Greek historians you have read do you think explains historical events most effectively?

In your answer, you should:

- consider a range of historical events presented by Herodotus, Thucydides and Plutarch
- include a discussion of how well each writer explains these events
- use evidence from **all three** writers.

[45]

[Section B Total: 45]

END OF QUESTION PAPER



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