



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

Tuesday 20 June 2017 – Afternoon

A2 GCE CLASSICS: CLASSICAL CIVILISATION

F390/01 Virgil and the world of the hero



Candidates answer on the Answer Booklet.

OCR supplied materials:

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

Other materials required:

None

Duration: 2 hours



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 barcodes.

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**.
- Quality of written communication will be assessed in this paper.
- This document consists of **8** 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.

1 Read the passage and answer the questions.

Come now, Erato, and I shall tell of the kings of ancient Latium, of its history, of the state of this land when first the army of strangers beached their ships on the shores of Ausonia. I shall recall too, the cause of the first battle – come, goddess, come and instruct your prophet. I shall speak of fearsome fighting, I shall speak of wars and of kings driven into the ways of death by their pride of spirit, of a band of fighting men from Etruria and the whole land of Hesperia under arms. For me this is the birth of a higher order of things. This is a greater work I now set in motion.

5

10

King Latinus was by this time an old man and he had reigned over the countryside and the cities for many peaceful years. We are told that he was the son of Faunus and the Laurentine nymph Marica. The father of Faunus was Picus, and the father claimed by Picus was Saturn. Saturn then was the first founder of the line. By divine Fate Latinus had no male offspring. His son had been snatched from him as he was rising into the first bloom of his youth. An only daughter tended his home and preserved the succession for this great palace. She was now grown to womanhood and at the age for marriage and many were seeking her hand from great Latium and the whole of Ausonia, Turnus the handsomest of them all, his claim supported by the long line of his forbears. The queen Amata longed above all things to see him married to her daughter, but many frightening portents from the gods forbade it.

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Virgil, *Aeneid* Book 7 40–58

(a) ‘This is a greater work I now set in motion’ (lines 9–10). How far do you agree that the second half of the *Aeneid* is superior to the first half of the epic? [25]

(b) ‘Goddesses and women always oppose Aeneas and Roman destiny.’ To what extent is this true of the books of the *Aeneid* you have studied? [25]

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

2 Read the passages and answer the questions.

PASSAGE 1

So he spoke, and steadyng his long-shadowed spear he let it fly,
and did not miss, hitting in the centre of the son of Peleus' shield:
but the spear rebounded far from the shield. Hektor was angered
that his swift spear had flown wasted from his hand, and stood there
in dismay, as he had no second ash spear. He called in a great shout
to Deiphobos of the white shield, and asked him for a long spear. 5
But Deiphobos was not there near him. Then Hektor realised in his
heart, and cried out: 'Oh, for sure now the gods have called me to
my death! I thought the hero Deiphobos was with me: but he is
inside the wall, and Athene has tricked me. So now vile death is
close on me, not far now any longer, and there is no escape. This
must long have been the true pleasure of Zeus and Zeus' son the
far-shooter, and yet before now they readily defended me: but now
this time my fate has caught me. Even so, let me not die ingloriously,
without a fight, without some great deed done that future men will
hear of.' 10
15

Homer, *Iliad* Book 22 290–305

PASSAGE 2

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Virgil, *Aeneid* Book 12 854–886

(a) How successfully does Virgil make Passage 2 a moving piece of writing? [25]

(b) For whom do you feel the greater sympathy, Hektor or Turnus? In your answer, you should use these passages and the books of the *Iliad* and *Aeneid* you have studied. [25]

[Section A Total: 50]

SECTION B – Essays

Answer **one** question.

Start your answer on a new page.

3 ‘A totally detestable hero who is too dependent and thoroughly demoralised.’
How far do you agree with this assessment of Aeneas? [50]

4 ‘A poem which praises peace and condemns war.’
Is this statement more true of the *Iliad* or of the *Aeneid*? [50]

[Section B Total: 50]

END OF QUESTION PAPER



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