

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 for the quality of written communication in your answer.

1 Read the passage and answer the questions.

Even as he threw out these words, a squall came howling from the north, catching his sail full on and raising the waves to the stars. The oars broke, the prow was wrenched round, and as they lay beam on to the seas, there came towering over them a sheer mountain of water. Some of the ships were hanging on the crests of the waves; for others the waters opened and in the troughs could be seen the seabed and the seething sand. Three of them were caught by the south wind and driven off course on to a reef hidden in mid-ocean – Italians know it as the Altars – a huge spine of rock just under the surface; three of them the southeaster took and carried helplessly from the high sea on to the sandbanks of the Syrtes, ran them aground and blocked them in with walls of sand; before the very eyes of Aeneas, the ship that carried the faithful Orontes and his Lycians was struck on the stern by a great sea and the helmsman was swept away head first into the water. Three times she spun round on the same spot till the swift whirlpool sucked her down. Here and there men could be seen swimming in the vast ocean, and with them in the waves their armour, spars of wood and the treasures of Troy. One by one the stout ships of Ilioneus and brave Achates, then Abas and old Aletes, succumbed to the storm. The fastenings of the ships' sides were loosened, the deadly water poured in and the timbers sprang. 5

Neptune, meanwhile, observed the loud disturbance of the ocean, the rampaging of storms, the draining of his deepest pools, and was moved to anger. Rising from the depths, he lifted his head high above the crests of the waves and looked serenely out over the sea at Aeneas' fleet scattered over the face of the waters and the Trojans overwhelmed by the waves and by the rending of the sky. He recognized at once the anger and the cunning of his sister Juno and instantly summoned the east wind and the west and spoke to them in these words: 'Is it your noble birth that has made you so sure of yourselves? Do you winds now dare to move heaven and earth and raise these great masses of water without my divine authority? I could take you now and ... but first I must still the waves you have stirred up. For any crimes you commit in the future, you will pay a dearer price.' 10 15 20 25

Virgil, *Aeneid* Book 1 103–136

- (a) How successfully does Virgil make this passage a dramatic piece of writing? [25]
- (b) How similar is the portrayal of the gods and goddesses in this passage to their portrayal elsewhere in the first half of the *Aeneid* (Books 1, 2, 4 and 6)? [25]

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

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

2 Read the passages and answer the questions.

PASSAGE 1

The men in ambush saw them coming and rushed out on them, then quickly surrounded the herds of cattle and fine flocks of white-woolled sheep, and killed the shepherds with them. But when the besiegers heard the great commotion among their cattle from where they sat in their assembly-place, they immediately mounted behind their high-stepping horses and went in pursuit and quickly overtook them. Then they formed for battle and fought it out by the banks of the river, casting at each other with their bronze-tipped spears. And Strife and Confusion were in their company, and cruel Death – she gripped one man alive with a fresh wound on him, and another one unwounded, and was dragging a dead man by the feet through the shambles: the cloak on her shoulders was deep red with men’s blood. The figures closed and fought like living men, and dragged away from each other the bodies of those who were killed. 5 10

And he made on it a field of soft fallow, rich ploughland, broad and triple-tilled. There were many ploughmen on it, wheeling their teams and driving this way and that. Whenever they had turned and reached the headland of the field, a man would come forward and put a cup of honey-sweet wine in their hands: then they would turn back down the furrows, pressing on through the deep fallow to reach the headland again. The field darkened behind them, and looked like earth that is ploughed, though it was made in gold. This was the marvel of his craftsmanship. 15

Homer, *Iliad* Book 18 526–549

PASSAGE 2

On one side was Augustus Caesar, leading the men of Italy into battle alongside the Senate and the People of Rome, its gods of home and its great gods. High he stood on the poop of his ship while from his radiant forehead there streamed a double flame and his father's star shone above his head. On the other wing, towering above the battle as he led his ships in line ahead, sailed Agrippa with favouring winds and favouring gods, and the beaks of captured vessels flashed from the proud honour on his forehead, the Naval Crown. On the other side, with the wealth of the barbarian world and warriors in all kinds of different armour, came Antony in triumph from the shores of the Red Sea and the peoples of the Dawn. With him sailed Egypt and the power of the East from as far as distant Bactria, and there bringing up the rear was the greatest outrage of all, his Egyptian wife! On they came at speed, all together, and the whole surface of the sea was churned to foam by the pull of their oars and the bow-waves from their triple beaks. They steered for the high sea and you would have thought that the Cycladic Islands had been torn loose again and were floating on the ocean, or that mountains were colliding with mountains, to see men in action on those ships with their massive, turreted sterns, showering blazing torches of tow and flying steel as the fresh blood began to redden the furrows of Neptune's fields. In the middle of all this the queen summoned her warships by rattling her Egyptian timbrels – she was not yet seeing the two snakes there at her back – while Anubis barked and all manner of monstrous gods levelled their weapons at Neptune and Venus and Minerva. There in the eye of battle raged Mars, engraved in iron, the grim Furies swooped from the sky and jubilant Discord strode along in her torn cloak with Bellona at her heels cracking her bloody whip. But high on the headland of Actium, Apollo saw it all and was drawing his bow. In terror at the sight the whole of Egypt and of India, all the Arabians and all the Shebans were turning tail and the queen herself could be seen calling for winds and setting her sails by them.

Virgil, *Aeneid* Book 8 678–708

- (a) Using Passage 2 as a starting point, how far do you think Virgil glorifies war? [25]
- (b) Who makes the more effective use of shields, armour and weapons to enrich his epic, Virgil or Homer? In your answer you should use these passages and the books of the *Aeneid* and *Iliad* that you have studied. [25]

[Section A Total: 50]

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 'The characterisation of Aeneas adds nothing to the success of the *Aeneid*.' How far do you agree with this assessment? [50]
- 4 Discuss whether you think the importance of family is emphasised more in the *Iliad* than in the *Aeneid*. [50]

[Section B Total: 50]

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