



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

**A Level Classical Greek
H444/01 Unseen Translation
Sample Question Paper**

Version 1.1

Date – Morning/Afternoon

Time allowed: 1 hour 45 minutes



You must have:

- the OCR 8-page A Level Classical Greek Answer Booklet (*sent with general stationery*)

Do not use:

- a dictionary

Other materials required:

- None



INSTRUCTIONS

- Use black ink.
- Complete the boxes on the front of the Answer Booklet.
- Answer **all** the questions.
- Additional paper may be used if required but you must clearly show your candidate number, centre number and question number(s).
- Do **not** write in the bar codes.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is **100**.
- The marks for each question are shown in brackets [].
- This document consists of **4** pages.

Section A: Unseen Prose

Passage 1

A hastily assembled Athenian army inflicts an embarrassing defeat on a Corinthian force.

The Corinthians seized the heights of Geraneia and invaded the territory of Megara with their allies, thinking that the Athenians would be too occupied with Aigina to help the Megarians or, if they did, they would be forced to abandon Aigina.

οἱ δὲ Ἀθηναῖοι τὸ μὲν πρὸς Αἰγίνῃ στράτευμα οὐκ ἐκίνησαν, τῶν δ' ἐκ τῆς πόλεως ὑπολοίπων οἷ τε πρεσβύτατοι καὶ οἱ νεώτατοι ἀφικνοῦνται εἰς τὰ Μέγαρα, Μυρωνίδου στρατηγούντος.

καὶ μάχης γενομένης ἰσορρόπου¹, ἐνόμισαν αὐτοὶ ἑκάτεροι οὐκ ἔλασσον ἔχειν ἐν τῷ ἔργῳ. καὶ οἱ μὲν Ἀθηναῖοι (ἐκράτησαν γὰρ ὅμως μᾶλλον), ἀπελθόντων τῶν Κορινθίων τροπαῖον² ἔστησαν. οἱ δὲ Κορίνθιοι κακιζόμενοι³ ὑπὸ τῶν ἐν τῇ πόλει πρεσβυτέρων, καὶ παρασκευασάμενοι, ἡμέραις ὕστερον δώδεκα ἐλθόντες ἀντίστασαν τροπαῖον καὶ αὐτοὶ ὡς νικήσαντες.

καὶ οἱ Ἀθηναῖοι ἐκβοηθήσαντες ἐκ τῶν Μεγάρων τοὺς τε τὸ τροπαῖον² ἰσάντας διαφθείρουσι καὶ τοῖς ἄλλοις ξυμβalόντες ἐκράτησαν. οἱ δὲ νικώμενοι ὑπεχώρουν, καί τι αὐτῶν μέρος οὐκ ὀλίγον, προσβιασθὲν⁴ καὶ διαμαρτὸν τῆς ὁδοῦ, εἰσέπεσεν εἰς χωρίον ᾧ ἔτυχεν ὄρυγμα⁵ μέγα περιεῖργον⁶ καὶ οὐκ ἦν ἔξοδος. οἱ δὲ Ἀθηναῖοι, περιστήσαντες κύκλω τοὺς ψιλούς⁷, κατέλευσαν⁸ πάντας τοὺς εἰσελθόντας, καὶ πάθος μέγα τοῦτο Κορινθίοις ἐγένετο.

Thucydides 1. 105–106

Names

τὰ Μέγαρα
ὁ Μυρωνίδης -ου

Megara
Myronides

Words

¹ ἰσόρροπος –ον

indecisive

² τὸ τροπαῖον

trophy

³ κακίζω

I insult, mock

⁴ προσβιάζω

I put under pressure

⁵ τὸ ὄρυγμα τοῦ ὀρύγματος

ditch

⁶ περιεῖργω

I surround

⁷ οἱ ψιλοί

light-armed troops

⁸ καταλεύω

I stone to death

1 Translate Passage 1 into English.

[50]

Please write your translation on alternate lines.

Section B: Unseen Verse

Passage 2

The dying Alkestis, in the presence of the Chorus, tells her husband Admetos to look after their young children when she is gone.

ALKESTIS: Children, you have heard your father say that he will not marry again when I die, and that you will still be held in the same respect.

ADMETOS: I did say that, and I stand by what I said.

AL: On that condition, then, receive our children from my hand.

*Αδ δέχομαι, φίλον γε δῶρον ἐκ φίλης χερός.
 Αλ σύ νυν γενοῦ τοῖσδ' ἀντ' ἐμοῦ μήτηρ τέκνοισ.
 Αδ πολλή μ' ἀνάγκη, σοῦ γ' ἀπεστερημένοις
 Αλ ᾧ τέκν', ὅτε ζῆν χρῆν μ', ἀπέρχομαι κάτω.
 Αδ οἴμοι, τί δράσω δῆτα σοῦ μονούμενος; 5
 Αλ χρόνος μαλάξει¹ σ'. οὐδέν ἐσθ' ὁ κατθανών.
 Αδ ἄγου με σὺν σοί, πρὸς θεῶν, ἄγου κάτω.
 Αλ καὶ μὴν σκοτεινὸν² ὄμμα μου βαρύνεται.
 Αδ ἀπωλόμην ἄρ', εἴ με δὴ λείψεις, γύναι.
 Αλ ὡς οὐκέτ' οὔσαν οὐδὲν ἂν λέγοις ἐμέ. 10
 Αδ ὄρθου³ πρόσωπον, μὴ λίπης παῖδας σέθεν.
 Αλ οὐ δῆθ' ἐκοῦσά γ'· ἀλλὰ χαίρετ', ᾧ τέκνα.
 Αδ βλέπον πρὸς αὐτούς, βλέπον.
 Αλ οὐδέν εἰμ' ἔτι.
 Αδ τί δράς; προλείπεις;
 Αλ χαῖρ'.
 Αδ ἀπωλόμην τάλας.
 Χο βέβηκεν, οὐκέτ' ἔστιν Ἀδμήτου γυνή. 15*

Euripides, *Alkestis* 376ff.

Words

¹ μαλάσσω	I heal
² σκοτεινός –ή –όν	dark, in darkness
³ ὀρθόω	I lift up

- 2 (a) Translate Passage 2 into English. [45]

Please write your translation on alternate lines.

- (b) Write out and scan lines 3–4 from Passage 2. [5]

*πολλή μ' ἀνάγκη, σοῦ γ' ἀπεστερημένοις
 ᾧ τέκν', ὅτε ζῆν χρῆν μ', ἀπέρχομαι κάτω.*

Summary of updates

Date	Version	Details
September 2021	1.1	Updated copyright acknowledgements.

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From Euripides, *Alkestis* 376ff. From Euripides. *Euripides*, with an English translation by David Kovacs. Loeb Classical Library 12, Cambridge. Harvard University Press. 1994. Accessed via the Perseus Project, www.perseus.tufts.edu

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...day June 20XX – Morning/Afternoon

A Level Classical Greek

H444/01 Unseen Translation

SAMPLE MARK SCHEME

Duration: 1 hour 45 minutes

MAXIMUM MARK 100

DRAFT

This document consists of 12 pages

Guidance on applying the marking grids for translating into English

The general principle in assessing each section should be the **proportion** (out of 5) of sense achieved.

One approach for each section is given. Acceptable alternatives will be illustrated during Standardisation, but examiners should assess on its own merits any approach that satisfactorily conveys the meaning of the Greek – the crucial consideration being the extent to which every Greek word is satisfactorily rendered in some way in the English.

The determination of what a “slight” error is only necessary when it is the only error in a section; this distinction will then determine whether a mark of 5 or 4 is appropriate. Where marks of 4, 3, 2, 1 and 0 are applicable, the overall proportion of meaning conveyed in the section is the only consideration. The term “major” error has been used here to determine an error which is more serious than a “slight” error.

The classification below should be seen only as a general guide, the intention of which is to maintain standards year-on-year. Lead markers should consider each instance on its own merits in the context of the passage and the section.

It is likely that some of the errors below may be regarded as “major” if they appear in a relatively short and straightforward section, whereas in longer or more complex sections they are more likely to be a “slight” error.

The sort of errors that we would generally expect to be considered as “slight” errors would be:

- a single mistake in the translation of a verb, for example incorrect person or tense
- vocabulary errors that do not substantially alter the meaning
- omission of particles that does not substantially alter the meaning (although in certain cases the omission of a particle may not count as an error at all, most especially with $\mu\epsilon\nu\dots\delta\epsilon$)

The sort of errors that we would generally expect to be considered as “major” errors would be:

- more than one slight error in any one verb
- vocabulary errors that substantially alter the meaning
- omission of a word or words, including alteration of active to passive if the agent is not expressed
- missed constructions
- alteration in word order that affects the sense

The final decisions on what constitutes a ‘slight’ and ‘major’ errors will be made and communicated to assessors via the standardisation process (after full consideration of candidates’ responses) and these decisions will be captured in the final mark scheme for examiners and centres.

Marks	Description
5	Accurate translation with one slight error allowed
4	Mostly correct
3	More than half right
2	Less than half right
1	Little recognisable relation or meaning to the Greek

0 = No response or no response worthy of credit.

Section A: Unseen Prose

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance	
1	The passage has been divided into 10 sections, each worth 5 marks. Award up to 5 marks per translated section according to the 5-mark marking grid found above.		The below are intended as examples of “slight” and more serious “major” errors, others may be identified at standardisation.	
	(i)	οἱ δὲ Ἀθηναῖοι τὸ μὲν πρὸς Αἰγίνη στρατεύμα οὐκ ἐκίνησαν, But the Athenians did not move their army that was at Aigina,	5	very short section: all errors will be major
	(ii)	τῶν δ' ἐκ τῆς πόλεως ὑπολοίπων οἱ τε πρεσβύτατοι καὶ οἱ νεώτατοι ἀφικνοῦνται εἰς τὰ Μέγαρα, Μυρωνίδου στρατηγούντος. but the oldest and the youngest of the remaining men from the city went to Megara under the generalship of Myronides.	5	slight errors: ‘old/young’, or ‘older/younger’ for ‘oldest/youngest’; ‘into’ for ‘to’ or ‘at’ (depending on translation of ἀφικνοῦνται) major errors: taking τῶν ὑπολοίπων as subject; failure to recognise genitive absolute
	(iii)	καὶ μάχης γενομένης ἰσορρόπου, ἐνόμισαν αὐτοὶ ἑκάτεροι οὐκ ἔλασσον ἔχειν ἐν τῷ ἔργῳ. When an indecisive battle had taken place, each side believed that they had had the better of the affair.	5	accept any reasonable translation for οὐκ ἔλασσον ἔχειν ἐν τῷ ἔργῳ major errors: failure to recognise genitive absolute; failure to take αὐτοὶ ἑκάτεροι together
	(iv)	καὶ οἱ μὲν Ἀθηναῖοι (ἐκράτησαν γὰρ ὅμως μᾶλλον), ἀπελθόντων τῶν Κορινθίων τροπαῖον ἔστησαν. And the Athenians (for they had in fact had the better of it), when the Corinthians went away, set up a trophy.	5	accept any reasonable translation for ἐκράτησαν γὰρ ὅμως μᾶλλον major errors: failure to recognise genitive absolute

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
(v)	<p><i>οἱ δὲ Κορίνθιοι κακιζόμενοι ὑπὸ τῶν ἐν τῇ πόλει πρεσβυτέρων, καὶ παρασκευασάμενοι,</i></p> <p>The Corinthians being insulted by the older men in the city, and having made preparations,</p>	5	<p>slight errors: 'old/oldest' for 'older'</p> <p>major errors: voice of participles</p>
(vi)	<p><i>ἡμέραις ὕστερον δώδεκα ἐλθόντες ἀντίστασαν τροπαῖον καὶ αὐτοὶ ὡς νικήσαντες.</i></p> <p>went out twelve days later and Meusetres set up a trophy in reply, as if they had won.</p>	5	<p>slight errors: 'on the twelfth day after' for 'twelve days later'</p> <p>major errors: mistranslation of ὡς plus participle</p>
(vii)	<p><i>καὶ οἱ Ἀθηναῖοι ἐκβοηθήσαντες ἐκ τῶν Μεγάρων τοὺς τε τὸ τροπαῖον ἰσάντας διαφθείρουσι καὶ τοῖς ἄλλοις ξυμβαλόντες ἐκράτησαν.</i></p> <p>And the Athenians came out from Megara to help, killed the men setting up the trophy, engaged the others, and defeated them.</p>	5	<p>major errors: failure to take τοὺς ... ἰσάντας together; failure to recognise τοῖς ἄλλοις as the object of ξυμβαλόντες</p>
(viii)	<p><i>οἱ δὲ νικώμενοι ὑπεχώρουν, καὶ τι αὐτῶν μέρος οὐκ ὀλίγον, προσβιασθὲν καὶ διαμαρτὸν τῆς ὁδοῦ,</i></p> <p>The defeated (Corinthians) retreated and so not a small part of the men, being put under pressure and losing their way,</p>	5	<p>accept 'and they, having been defeated', or 'and they were defeated and...' or any other reasonable translation</p> <p>slight errors: 'not a few' for 'not a small (part)'</p> <p>major errors: failure to recognise προσβιασθὲν and διαμαρτὸν as neuter participles agreeing with μέρος.</p>

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
	<p>(ix) <i>εἰσέπεσεν εἰς χωρίον ᾧ ἔτυχεν ὄρυγμα μέγα περιεῖργον καὶ οὐκ ἦν ἕξοδος.</i></p> <p>fell into a place which happened to be surrounded by a deep ditch and from which there was no way out.</p>	5	<p>accept 'which a deep ditch happened to surround'</p> <p>slight error: 'with' or 'to' which for the relative pronoun</p>
	<p>(x) <i>οἱ δὲ Ἀθηναῖοι, περιστήσαντες κύκλῳ τοὺς ψιλούς, κατέλευσαν πάντας τοὺς εἰσελθόντας, καὶ πάθος μέγα τοῦτο Κορινθίοις ἐγένετο.</i></p> <p>The Athenians stationed their light-armed troops around them in a circle and stoned to death all those who had gone in, and this was a source of great distress to the Corinthians.</p>	5	<p>accept eg 'this caused great suffering to the Corinthians'</p> <p>major errors: failure to recognise that <i>περιστήσαντες</i> is transitive; failure to take <i>πάντας τοὺς εἰσελθόντας</i> together</p>

Section B: Unseen Verse

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
2(a)	The passage has been divided into 9 sections, each worth 5 marks. Award up to 5 marks per translated section according to the 5-mark marking grid found above.		The below are intended as examples of “slight” and more serious “major” errors, others may be identified at standardisation.
	(i) <i>δέχομαι, φίλον γε δῶρον ἐκ φίλης χειρός. σύ νυν γενοῦ τοῖσδ’ ἀντ’ ἐμοῦ μήτηρ τέκνοις.</i> AD: I receive them: a dear gift indeed from a dear hand. AL: You then must be a mother to these children instead of me.	5	slight errors: not translating γε major errors: not recognising that γενοῦ is imperative/a verb; ‘my mother’ or similar for ἐμοῦ μήτηρ
	(ii) <i>πολλή μ’ ἀνάγκη, σοῦ γ’ ἀπεστερημένοις. ὦ τέκν’, ὅτε ζῆν χρῆν μ’, ἀπέρχομαι κάτω.</i> AD: It is very necessary that I do, as they will be bereft of you. AL: O my children, when I should be living. I am going down below.	5	slight errors: ‘child’ for ‘children’ major errors: taking σοῦ with ἀπεστερημένοις / mistranslating σοῦ
	(iii) <i>οἶμοι, τί δράσω δῆτα σοῦ μονούμενος; χρόνος μαλάξει σ’· οὐδέν ἐστ’ ὁ κατθανών.</i> AD: Alas, whatever am I to do, left alone by you? AL: Time will heal you; one who has died is of no account	5	major errors: taking σοῦ with μονούμενος; failure to capture effectively the sense of ‘the one who has died/a dead person is nothing/of no account’ (eg translating as ‘nothing is the dead one’)

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
(iv)	<p><i>ἄγου με σὺν σοί, πρὸς θεῶν, ἄγου κάτω. καὶ μὴν σκοτεινὸν ὄμμα μου βαρύνεται.</i></p> <p>AD: Take me with you, for the gods' sake, take me down with you. AL: Ah! Now my eye grows dark and heavy.</p>	5	<p>allow 'my dark eye grows heavy'</p> <p>slight errors: not recognizing idiom of πρὸς θεῶν (eg translating as 'take me with you to the gods')</p> <p>major errors: not recognizing ἄγου as imperative</p>
(v)	<p><i>ἀπωλόμην ἄρ', εἴ με δὴ λείψεις, γύναι. ὡς οὐκέτ' οὐσαν οὐδὲν ἂν λέγοις ἐμέ.</i></p> <p>AD: I am destroyed then, if you are really going to leave me, my wife. AL: You may speak to me now as one who is nothing any more.</p>	5	<p>slight error: taking οὐδὲν in the wrong place in the sentence ('say nothing')</p>
(vi)	<p><i>ὄρθου πρόσωπον, μὴ λίπης παιῶν σέθεν. οὐ δῆθ' ἐκοῦσά γ'.</i></p> <p>AD: Lift your head, do not leave your children. AL: I do not do this willingly, for sure: so farewell my children.</p>	5	<p>slight error: mistranslation of σέθεν.</p> <p>major error: not recognising ὄρθου as imperative; taking ἐκοῦσά as part of ἔχω</p>

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
(vii)	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>ἀλλὰ χαίρετ', ὦ τέκνα.</i></p> <p><i>βλέψον πρὸς αὐτούς, βλέψον.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>οὐδέν εἰμ' ἔτι.</i></p> <p>AD: Look at them, look AL: I am no more.</p>	5	major error: not recognising βλέψον as imperative
(viii)	<p><i>τί δρῶς; προλείπεις;</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>χαῖρ'.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>ἀπωλόμην τάλας.</i></p> <p>AD: What are you doing? Are you leaving me? AL: Farewell. AD: Alas, I am destroyed.</p>	5	there are very few words in this section so any error will count as major
(ix)	<p><i>βέβηκεν, οὐκέτ' ἔστιν Ἀδμήτου γυνή.</i></p> <p>Cito: She has departed: the wife of Admetos is no more.</p>	5	there are very few words in this section so any error will count as major

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance													
			Content	Levels of Response												
2(b)	<p><i>πολλή μ' ἀνάγκη, σοῦ γ' ἀπεστερημένοις.</i></p> <p>– – v – – – v – v – v –</p> <p><i>ὦ τέκν', ὅτε ζῆν χρῆν μ', ἀπέρχομαι κάτω.</i></p> <p>– – v – – – v – v – v –</p>	5	<p>Two lines give 6 feet; each correct foot should be ticked and the number of ticks converted to a mark out of 5, as to the right.</p> <p>Foot divisions should be ignored. This means that credit should be given for two or three adjacent syllables correctly marked, if they make up a correct foot, even if the candidate has split them into separate feet.</p>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>6 feet correct</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>5 feet correct</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>4 feet correct</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>3 feet correct</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>1 or 2 foot correct</td> </tr> <tr> <td>0</td> <td>None correct</td> </tr> </table>	5	6 feet correct	4	5 feet correct	3	4 feet correct	2	3 feet correct	1	1 or 2 foot correct	0	None correct
5	6 feet correct															
4	5 feet correct															
3	4 feet correct															
2	3 feet correct															
1	1 or 2 foot correct															
0	None correct															

APPENDIX 1: ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVE GRID

Question	Distribution of marks for each Assessment Objective		
	AO1	AO2	AO3
1	50	–	–
2	45	–	–
3	5	–	–
Total	100	–	–

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