



ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY GCE
CLASSICS: CLASSICAL CIVILISATION

Greek Tragedy in its context

F384

Candidates answer on the Answer Booklet

OCR Supplied Materials:

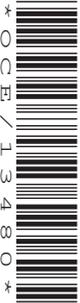
- 16 page Answer Booklet

Other Materials Required:

None

Wednesday 19 May 2010
Afternoon

Duration: 1 hour 30 minutes



INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Write your name clearly in capital letters, your Centre Number and Candidate Number in the spaces provided on the Answer Booklet.
- Use black ink.
- Read each question carefully and make sure that you know what you have to do before starting your answer.
- Answer **one** question from Section A and **one** question from Section B.
- 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.

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

2 Read the passage and answer the questions.

- CADMUS: My boy, it is good advice that Teiresias has given you: live with us and not beyond the bounds of convention. For you are up in the air at the moment; you have your senses but you are senseless. Even if, as you say, this god does not exist, say that he does. To declare that he is Semele's child is a lie that does us credit: people will think she gave birth to a god and the honour will reflect on us, on the whole family. You recall the pitiful end of Actaeon, torn apart by the ravenous hounds he had reared, because he boasted that he was a greater hunter in the mountain glades than Artemis. 5
- Do not let this fate overtake you! Come here, let me put this crown of ivy on your head; join us in giving honour to the god! 10
- PENTHEUS: Hands off! Go and play your Bacchic games, but don't smear me with your stupidity! This man, though, your instructor in folly, will answer to me! Quick, one of you, go to this fellow's seat where he watches birds, heave it up with crowbars, and turn it upside down! Throw everything there into confusion, fling his holy ribbons to the winds and breezes! This way I will cause him greater torment than anything. And you others, go through the town and track down the womanish stranger, who infects our women with his new-fangled disease and pollutes their beds. Once he is caught, bind him and bring him here to face the penalty of being stoned to death, after seeing a painful end to his revelling in Thebes. 15
- 20

Euripides, *Bacchae* 329–357

- (a) Describe briefly the events leading up to this point in the play. [10]
- (b) What is Pentheus' opinion of Cadmus and Teiresias in this passage? How justified do you feel he is in his opinion? [20]
- (c) Using this passage as a starting point, explain how important you feel the role of Cadmus is in the play. [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** How far would you agree that Sophocles' *Oedipus the King* is nothing more than a detective story?

In your answer, you should:

- consider the events in the play;
- include an analysis of the themes explored in the play;
- support your answer with evidence from Sophocles' *Oedipus the King*. [45]

- 4** 'More a victim than a villain.' Do you feel that this is a more accurate description of Jason or of Medea?

In your answer, you should:

- consider the actions of each character;
- include an analysis of how much each character suffers;
- support your answer with evidence from Euripides' *Medea*. [45]

- 5** 'The fact that the audience knew the plot of a tragedy was more of a help than a problem to Greek tragedians.' How far do you agree with this statement?

In your answer, you should:

- consider the plots of the plays;
- include an analysis of how playwrights made use of the audience's knowledge;
- support your answer with evidence from at **least two** of the following plays:
Aeschylus' Agamemnon, Sophocles' Oedipus the King, Euripides' Medea and Bacchae. [45]

[Section B Total: 45]

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