

ADVANCED GCE
CLASSICS: CLASSICAL CIVILISATION

Virgil and the world of the hero

F390

Candidates answer on the Answer Booklet

OCR Supplied Materials:

- 16 page Answer Booklet

Other Materials Required:

None

Monday 14 June 2010
Afternoon

Duration: 2 hours



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 **8** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

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.

Wandering among them in that great wood was Phoenician Dido with her wound still fresh. When the Trojan hero stopped beside her, recognizing her dim form in the darkness, like a man who sees or thinks he has seen the new moon rising through the clouds at the beginning of the month, in that instant he wept and spoke sweet words of love to her: 'So the news they brought me was true, unhappy Dido? They told me you were dead and had ended your life with the sword. Alas! Alas! Was I the cause of your dying? I swear by the stars, by the gods above, by whatever there is to swear by in the depths of the earth, it was against my will, O queen, that I left your shore. It was the stern authority of the commands of the gods that drove me on, as it drives me now through the shades of this dark night in this foul and mouldering place. I could not have believed that my leaving would cause you such sorrow. Do not move away. Do not leave my sight. Who are you running from? Fate has decreed that I shall not speak to you again.' With these words Aeneas, shedding tears, tried to comfort that burning spirit, but grim-faced she kept her eyes upon the ground and did not look at him. Her features moved no more when he began to speak than if she had been a block of flint or Parian marble quarried on Mount Marpeesus. Then at last she rushed away, hating him, into the shadows of the wood where Sychaeus, who had been her husband, answered her grief with grief and her love with love. Aeneas was no less stricken by the injustice of her fate and long did he gaze after her with tears, pitying her as she went.

Virgil, *Aeneid*, Book 6, 450-477

- (a) How typical is the way Dido is portrayed in this passage of the way she is portrayed elsewhere in the *Aeneid*? [25]
- (b) Using this passage as a starting point, discuss whether Book 6 of the *Aeneid* is more optimistic than pessimistic. [25]

Do **not** answer this question if you have 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

And trembling took hold of Hektor when he saw him. Now he no longer had the courage to stand his ground where he was, but he left the gates behind him and ran in terror: and the son of Peleus leapt after him, confident in the speed of his legs. As a hawk in the mountains, quickest of all flying things, swoops after a trembling dove with ease: she flies in terror before him, but he keeps close behind her, screaming loud, and lunging for her time after time as his heart urges him to kill. 5

So Achilles flew straight for Hektor in full fury, and Hektor fled away from him under the walls of Troy, setting his legs running fast. They sped past the look-out place and the wind-tossed fig-tree, keeping all the time to the wagon-track a little way out from the wall, and came to the two well-heads of lovely water: here the twin springs of swirling Skamandros shoot up from the ground. One spring runs with warm water, and steam rises all round it as if a fire were burning there. But the other even in summer flows out cold as hail, or frozen snow, or water turned to ice. There close beside these springs are the fine broad washing-troughs made of stone, where the Trojans' wives and their lovely daughters used to wash their bright clothes, in earlier times, in peace, before the sons of the Achaians came. The two men ran past here, one in flight, the other chasing him. A brave man was running in front, but a far greater one was in pursuit, and they ran at speed, since it was no sacrificial beast or ox-hide shield they were competing for – such as are the usual prizes that men win in the foot-race – but they were running for the life of Hektor the tamer of horses. 10 15 20

Homer, *Iliad*, Book 22, 136-161

PASSAGE 2

At this Turnus fled in despair and tried to escape to another part of the plain, weaving his uncertain course now to this side now to that, for the Trojans formed a dense barrier round him, hemming him in between a huge marsh and the high walls.

Nor did Aeneas let up in his pursuit. Slowed down as he was by the arrow wound, his legs failing him sometimes and unable to run, he still was ablaze with fury and kept hard on the heels of the terrified Turnus, like a hunting dog that happens to trap a stag in the bend of a river or in a ring of red feathers used as a scare, pressing him hard with his running and barking; the stag is terrified by the ambush he is caught in or by the high river bank; he runs and runs back a thousand ways, but the untiring Umbrian hound stays with him with jaws gaping; now he has him; now he seems to have him and the jaws snap shut, but he is thwarted and bites the empty air; then as the shouting rises louder than ever, all the river banks and pools return the sound and the whole sky thunders with the din. As he ran Turnus kept shouting at the Rutulians, calling each of them by name and demanding the sword he knew so well. Aeneas on the other hand was threatening instant death and destruction to anyone who came near. Much as that alarmed them, he terrified them even more by threatening to raze their city to the ground, and though he was wounded he did not slacken in his pursuit. Five times round they ran in one direction, five times they rewound the circle. For this was no small prize they were trying to win at games. What they were competing for was the lifeblood of Turnus.

Virgil, *Aeneid*, Book 12, 742-766

- (a) How effectively does Virgil make Passage 2 a vivid piece of narrative? [25]
- (b) How similar are Turnus and Hektor? You should use these passages as a starting point and include discussion of **both** the *Aeneid* **and** the *Iliad*. [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 Do you think Aeneas is more of an Homeric than a Roman hero? **[50]**

4 'A great pounding he took by land and sea at the hands of the heavenly gods.'
Are the gods more of a hindrance than a help to Aeneas and the outcome of his mission? **[50]**

[Section B Total: 50]

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