



ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY GCE
CLASSICS: CLASSICAL CIVILISATION
Homer's Odyssey and Society

F382

Candidates answer on the Answer Booklet

OCR Supplied Materials:

- 8 page Answer Booklet

Other Materials Required:

None

Friday 22 May 2009
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. Pencil may be used for graphs and diagrams only.
- 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.

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.

With this, Noemon went back to his father's house, leaving the two proud lords appalled and furious. They made the rest leave their games and sit down together, while Antinous, Eupheithes' son, held forth and gave vent to his fury. His heart was seething with black passion, and his eyes were like points of flame.

'Damnation take it!' he cried out. 'What a coup Telemachus has had the audacity to bring off – this expedition that we swore would come to nothing. With all of us against him, the young puppy calmly sets out, after picking the best men in the place and getting them to launch a ship for him! He is going to give us still more trouble. I hope Zeus clips his wings before he reaches manhood! However, give me a fast ship and a crew of twenty, and I'll lie up for him in the straits between Ithaca and the bluffs of Samos, and catch him on his way. And a grim ending there'll be to this sea-trip of his in search of his father!' The others welcomed the scheme and told him to carry it out. They then got up and moved off to the palace. 5

Before long Penelope heard about the plot that her Suitors were hatching. ... She said: 'Oh how I hate their pursuit of me and the way they swarm around! They'd never feast here again, if I could stop them. Yes, the whole gang of you that come here day by day, fleecing us of our livelihood, my prudent son's inheritance.' 10

Homer, *The Odyssey*, Book 4, lines 657-676 and 684-687
[trans. E. V. Rieu; Penguin]

(a) What did Telemachus learn about Odysseus at Menelaus' palace? [10]

(b) What impression of Antinous and the other suitors does Homer give in this passage? How vivid do you feel this impression is? In your answer you should include discussion of what they say and how they are described. [20]

You are reminded that marks are awarded for the quality of written communication of your answer.

(c) 'The suitors deserved their punishment.' Using this passage as a starting point, explain how far you agree with this statement. In your answer you should consider both this passage and the rest of the poem. [25]

You are reminded that marks are awarded for the quality of written communication of your answer.

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

2 Read the passage and answer the questions.

“It was not that the keen-eyed Archeress sought me out in our home and killed me with her gentle darts. Nor was I attacked by any of the malignant diseases that so often make the body waste away and die. No, it was my heartache for you, my glorious Odysseus, and for your wise and gentle ways, that brought my life with all its sweetness to an end.”

5

These were my mother’s words. Without knowing whether I could, I yearned to embrace her spirit, dead though she was. Three times, in my eagerness to clasp her to me, I started forward. Three times, like a shadow or a dream, she slipped through my hands and left me pierced by an even sharper pain.

“Mother!” I cried with words that winged their way to her. “Why do you not wait for me? I long to reach you, so that even in Hell we may throw our loving arms round each other and draw cold comfort from our tears. Or is this a mere phantom that august Persephone has sent me to increase my grief?”

10

“Alas, my child,” came my revered mother’s reply, “ill-fated above all men! This is no trick played on you by Persephone, Daughter of Zeus. It is the law of our mortal nature, when we come to die. We no longer have sinews keeping the bones and flesh together; once life has departed from our white bones, all is consumed by the fierce heat of the blazing fire, and the soul slips away like a dream and goes fluttering on its ways. But now quickly make for the light! And bear in mind all you have learnt here, so that one day you can tell your wife.”

15

20

Homer, *The Odyssey*, Book 11, lines 198-223

[trans. E. V. Rieu; Penguin]

- (a) Briefly describe what Odysseus had to do in order to speak to the spirits of the dead, and summarise what Teiresias has told him about his future. [10]
- (b) How does this passage arouse sympathy for Odysseus and his mother? In your answer you should include discussion of what happens and the language used to describe it. [20]

You are reminded that marks are awarded for the quality of written communication of your answer.

- (c) Using this passage as a starting point, discuss how important his family is to Odysseus. In your answer you should consider both this passage and the rest of the poem. [25]

You are reminded that marks are awarded for the quality of written communication of your answer.

[Section A Total: 55]

Section B: Essays

Answer **one** question.

Start your answer on a new page.

You are reminded that marks are awarded for the quality of written communication of your answer.

3 How important is Odysseus' disguise as a beggar to the success of the *Odyssey*?

In your answer you should:

- consider what happens as a result of this disguise and the revealing of the disguise;
- include an analysis of the importance of this disguise to the success of the poem;
- support your answer with evidence from the second half of the *Odyssey*.

[45]

4 'Like father, like son'. How far do you feel that Telemachus was a worthy son of Odysseus?

In your answer you should:

- consider what Telemachus says and does;
- include an analysis of the way a hero should behave;
- support your answer with evidence from the *Odyssey*.

[45]

5 'The *Odyssey* portrays a society in which slaves were valued and loyal.' How far do you agree with this statement?

In your answer you should:

- consider what happens to maidservants and servants and what they do and say;
- include an analysis of their relationships with other members of the household;
- support your answer with evidence from the *Odyssey*.

[45]

[Section B Total: 45]

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