

# OCR

Oxford Cambridge and RSA

## Monday 18 June 2018 – Afternoon

### GCSE ANCIENT HISTORY

**A033/01** Women in ancient politics

Candidates answer on the Answer Booklet.

**OCR supplied materials:**

- The OCR 12 page Answer Booklet (OCR12) (OCR12 sent with general stationery)

**Other materials required:**

None

**Duration:** 1 hour 15 minutes



#### INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Complete the boxes on the Answer Booklet with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- Use black ink.
- This paper has **two** options:  
Option 1: Cleopatra and her impact on Roman politics, 69–30 BC.  
Option 2: Agrippina the Younger and her influence on Roman politics, AD 41–59.
- Choose **one** option only. Answer **all** the questions in Section A and **one** question from Section B.
- Write the number of each question answered in the margin.
- Read each question carefully. Make sure you know what you have to do before starting your answer.
- Do **not** write in the barcodes.

#### 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 **86**.
- You will be assessed on the quality of written communication in your answer to the following questions: 4 or 5 (Option 1), or, 9 or 10 (Option 2). Questions marked with a pencil (✎) will carry 6 additional marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar.
- This document consists of **8** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

#### INSTRUCTION TO EXAMS OFFICER/INVIGILATOR

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Answer questions from **either** Option 1 **or** Option 2.

**Option 1: Cleopatra and her impact on Roman politics, 69–30 BC**

**SECTION A**

Answer **all** the questions in this section.

- 1 Briefly outline **two** details of how Cleopatra became ruler of Egypt. [5]
  
- 2 Read Passage 1A from Suetonius, and answer the questions which follow.

**Passage 1A**

But he especially loved Cleopatra. He often kept feasts with her going until dawn and he sailed with her in the state yacht through Egypt almost as far as Ethiopia – or at least would have, if his army had not refused to follow him there. He finally summoned her to the city of Rome and sent her back only when she had received the greatest honours and rewards. He allowed her to call her son by him by his own name. Certain Greek writers have reported that he was similar to Caesar in appearance and in his way of walking. Indeed M. Antonius confirmed to the senate that he had been acknowledged by him and that C. Matius and C. Oppius knew this along with the rest of Caesar's friends.

Suetonius, *Julius Caesar* 52

- (a) Using Passage 1A, describe the relationship between Julius Caesar and Cleopatra. [4]
  
- (b) Explain why it was important that Caesar allowed Cleopatra 'to call her son by him by his own name' (line 5). [4]
  
- (c) With reference to details from Passage 1A, how accurate do you think Suetonius' account of Julius Caesar's and Cleopatra's relationship is? [5]

**Option 1: Cleopatra and her impact on Roman politics, 69–30 BC**

- 3 Read Passage 1B from Plutarch, and answer the questions which follow.

**Passage 1B**

There he discovered that Cleopatra was about to attempt something daring but dangerous. There is the isthmus, a narrow strip of land, which separates the Red Sea from the Mediterranean Sea off Egypt and is considered to separate Asia and Libya, and is, at its shortest, no more than about 40 miles wide. Here Cleopatra was going to lift her fleet out of the water and drag the ships across the isthmus; she would then re-launch them in the Arabian Gulf with a lot of money and enough force to settle in parts outside of Egypt. In this way she hoped to escape war and slavery. But when the Arabians from Petra burned the first ships to be dragged up, and while Antony still thought that his army at Actium remained together, she stopped what she was doing, and placed guards on the approaches to her kingdom.

Plutarch, *Life of Mark Antony* 69

- (a) In what ways does Passage 1B help us to understand Cleopatra's situation after the battle of Actium?

You must use and evaluate details from Passage 1B.

[14]

- (b) How reliable are the sources in helping us to understand Cleopatra's actions and decisions during **and** after the battle of Actium?

You must use and evaluate details from **both** Passage 1B **and** other ancient sources which you have studied.

[18]

**Option 1: Cleopatra and her impact on Roman politics, 69–30 BC****SECTION B**

Answer **either** Question 4 **or** Question 5.


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

- 4 'Octavian feared Cleopatra's relationship with Mark Antony and its effect on Rome.' How far do you agree with this statement?

In your answer you should:

- give a brief account of the relationship between Cleopatra and Mark Antony;
- explain how far you think Octavian feared how this affected Rome and her empire;
- show knowledge of the relevant sections of the ancient sources;
- consider how reliable you think these sources are.

**[30]**

 Spelling, punctuation and grammar **[6]**


**OR**

- 5 How useful is Augustan poetry in helping us to understand the character of Cleopatra?

In your answer you should:

- give a brief account of Cleopatra's character as presented in the sources;
- explain how you think Virgil, Horace and Propertius present Cleopatra's character;
- show knowledge of the relevant sections of the ancient sources;
- consider how useful you think these sources are.

**[30]**

 Spelling, punctuation and grammar **[6]**

**Option 2: Agrippina the Younger and her influence on Roman politics, AD 41–59**

Do not answer questions from this option if you have already answered Option 1.

**SECTION A**

Answer **all** the questions in this section.

- 6 Outline **two** ways in which Agrippina the Younger's family was important to her political position. [5]
- 7 Read Passage 2A from Tacitus, and answer the questions which follow.

**Passage 2A**

Gradually his mother's control over him was weakening. Nero fell in love with a freedwoman, named Acte, and told two young men, M. Otho and Claudius Senecio, about it. Otho's family had members who had been consuls; Senecio was the son of one of the imperial freedmen. At first Agrippina was unaware of this; then despite her opposition, they had gained Nero's favour through sharing vices and secrets; even Nero's older friends did not oppose him, because this girl fulfilled his desires with no harm to anyone; for Nero disliked his wife Octavia, whose nobility and good character were well-known. This was either through some act of fate or because something forbidden is always more attractive. It was feared also that he would start to seduce noble women, if he was prevented from passion for Acte.

Tacitus, *Annals* 13.12

- (a) Using details from Passage 2A, describe the change in the relationship between Agrippina and Nero. [4]
- (b) Explain why Agrippina opposed the relationship between Nero and Acte. [4]
- (c) With reference to details in Passage 2A, how accurate do you think Tacitus' description of the relationship between Agrippina and Nero is? [5]

**Option 2: Agrippina the Younger and her influence on Roman politics, AD 41–59**

- 8 Read Passage 2B from Tacitus, and answer the questions which follow.

**Passage 2B**

Caratacus said ‘If my self-control in success had been as great as the nobility of my family and status, I would have come to Rome as your friend and ally rather than as your prisoner; and you would not have refused to welcome a king from a line of famous ancestors and you would have made a peace treaty with a king who ruled over many peoples. ... If you punish me, it will all be forgotten; if you save me and keep me alive, I shall be a lasting example of your mercy.’

In reply to this, Claudius pardoned him, his brothers and his wife. Freed from their chains, they honoured Agrippina, [she was easy to see sitting on a platform nearby] with the same praise and thanks which they had given the Emperor. This indeed was an innovation, totally against Roman usual practice – that a woman should preside before the Roman standards. But Agrippina was displaying her position as an equal partner in the power gained by her ancestors.

Tacitus, *Annals* 12.37

- (a) In what ways does Passage 2B help us to understand Agrippina’s position and status in Claudius’ imperial court?

You must use and evaluate details from Passage 2B.

[14]

- (b) How reliable are the sources in helping us to understand Agrippina’s involvement in Roman politics while Claudius was emperor?

You must use and evaluate details from **both** Passage 2B **and** other ancient sources which you have studied.

[18]

**Option 2: Agrippina the Younger and her influence on Roman politics, AD 41–59****SECTION B**


Answer **either** Question 9 **or** Question 10.

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

**9** To what extent was Agrippina successful in controlling Nero in the first five years of his reign?

In your answer you should:

- give a brief account of the first five years of Nero's reign;
- explain how far you think Agrippina was able to make Nero do as she wanted in the first five years of his reign;
- show knowledge of the relevant sections of the ancient sources;
- consider how reliable you think these sources are. **[30]**


 Spelling, punctuation and grammar **[6]**

**OR**

**10** 'Tacitus and Suetonius make it difficult to understand Agrippina the Younger's actions and character.' How far do you agree with this view?

In your answer you should:

- give a brief summary of Tacitus' and Suetonius' accounts of Agrippina the Younger's actions during the reigns of Claudius and Nero;
- explain whether you think Tacitus and Suetonius are fair to Agrippina the Younger in their descriptions of her actions and character;
- show knowledge of relevant ancient sources;
- consider how reliable you think these sources are. **[30]**

 Spelling, punctuation and grammar **[6]**

**END OF QUESTION PAPER**

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