



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

Monday 13 May 2019 – Morning

A Level Classical Civilisation

H408/11 The World of the Hero

Time allowed: 2 hours 20 minutes



You must have:

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

INSTRUCTIONS

- Use black ink.
- This Question Paper contains the following sections:
Section A: Homer
Section B: Virgil
Section C: Homer and Virgil
- For **Section A** answer either *Iliad* or *Odyssey* questions depending on which text you have studied. Answer **all** the questions for either the *Iliad* or the *Odyssey* in **Section A** and **all** the questions in **Section B**. In **Section C** answer question 7 and choose **one** question from **three** – 8, 9, 10.
- Read each question carefully. Make sure you know what you have to do before starting your answer.
- Write your answers in the Answer Booklet.
- Start your answer to each question on a new page.
- Write the number of each question answered clearly in the margin.
- Additional paper may be used if required, but you must clearly show your candidate number, centre number and question number(s).

INFORMATION

- The total number of marks for this paper is **100**.
- The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question.
- Quality of extended response will be assessed in questions marked with an asterisk (*).
- This document consists of **8** pages.
- Do not send this Question Paper for marking; it should be retained in the centre or recycled. Please contact OCR Copyright should you wish to reuse this.

Section A: Homer

Answer **all** the questions on the text you have studied.

Homer's *Iliad*

Choose **one** of the following translations of the *Iliad* and answer the questions which follow.

Passage A: Homer, *Iliad*, 23.91–109

'So let the one container, the golden two-handed vessel your lady mother gave you, hold our bones.'

Swift-footed Achilles replied to him and said:

'Dearest Patroclus, why did you come and make these requests of me? Of course I will see to everything and do exactly as you command. But come nearer to me now, so that we can hold each other in our arms, if only for a moment, and draw some comfort from our bitter tears.'

5

With these words he held out his arms, but embraced nothing. Like smoke the spirit vanished underground, gibbering. Achilles was amazed and sprang to his feet. He beat his hands together and in his desolation cried:

10

'So it is true! Something of us does survive in Hades' halls, some spirit and image of a man, but without real existence, since all night long the spirit of poor Patroclus has been standing at my side, weeping and wailing. It told me what to do and looked marvellously like him.'

So he spoke and stirred in them all the desire to weep; and rosy-fingered Dawn found them still in tears around the pitiable dead.

15

Trans: E. V. Rieu

'So let one urn enclose our ashes, the golden urn your royal mother gave you.'

Fleet-footed Achilles answered: 'Why, when you are here, dear heart, do you come only to ask such things? I will see to it all, just as you wish, but now come closer, so that, if only for a moment, we might clasp our arms round one another, and sate ourselves with sad lament.'

5

So saying, he stretched out his hands in vain. The spirit vanished like smoke beneath the earth, gibbering faintly. Achilles sprang up in turmoil, and beat his hands together, crying sadly: 'There now! Even in Hades' House something of us survives, spirit and semblance, but no power of response: for all night long poor Patroclus' shade, his very likeness, stood over me, weeping, lamenting, saying what I must do.'

10

Achilles' cry woke the Myrmidons to further lament, and rosy-fingered Dawn found them wailing round the pitiful dead.

Trans: A. S. Kline

- 1 Explain how sympathy is created for Achilles in this passage. Use references to **Passage A** to support your answer. [10]
- 2* Explain who, or what, is most important to Achilles in the *Iliad*. In your answer you should discuss **at least three** points. You may use **Passage A** as a starting point in your answer. [20]

Homer's *Odyssey*

Choose **one** of the following translations of the *Odyssey* and answer the questions which follow.

Passage B: Homer, *Odyssey*, 11.202–224

“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.”

‘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. 5

“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 reverend 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

Trans: E.V. Rieu

“No, what robbed me of my life and its honeyed sweetness was yearning for you, my glorious Odysseus, for your kindness and your counsels.”

So she spoke, and I wondered how I might embrace my dead mother’s ghost. Three times my will urged me to clasp her, and I started towards her, three times she escaped my arms like a shadow or a dream. And the pain seemed deeper in my heart. Then I spoke to her with winged words: “Mother, since I wish it why do you not let me embrace you, so that even in Hades’ House we might clasp our arms around each other and sate ourselves with chill lament? Are you a mere phantom royal Persephone has sent, to make me groan and grieve the more? 5

My revered mother replied quickly: “Oh, my child, most unfortunate of men, Persephone, Zeus’ daughter, does not deceive you: this is the way it is with mortals after death. The sinews no longer bind flesh and bone, the fierce heat of the blazing pyre consumes them, and the spirit flees from our white bones, a ghost that flutters and goes like a dream. Hasten to the light, with all speed: remember these things, to speak to your wife of them.” 10

Trans: A.S. Kline

- 3 Explain how sympathy is created for Odysseus in **Passage B**. Use references to the passage to support your answer. [10]
- 4* Explain who, or what, is most important to Odysseus on his travels in Books 5–12 of the *Odyssey*. In your answer you should discuss **at least three** points. You may use **Passage B** as a starting point in your answer. [20]

[Section A Total: 30]

Section B: Virgil

Answer *all* the questions from this section.

Choose **one** of the following translations of the *Aeneid* and answer the questions which follow.

Passage C: Virgil, *Aeneid*, 6.684–709

When he saw Aeneas coming towards him over the grass, he stretched out both hands in eager welcome, with the tears streaming down his cheeks, and these were the words that broke from his mouth: 'You have come at last,' he cried. 'I knew your devotion would prevail over all the rigour of the journey and bring you to your father. Am I to be allowed to look upon your face, my son, to hear the voice I know so well and answer it with my own? I never doubted it. I counted the hours, knowing you would come, and my love has not deceived me. I understand how many lands you have travelled and how many seas you have sailed to come to me here. I know the dangers that have beset you. I so feared the kingdom of Libya would do you harm.' 'It was my vision of you,' replied Aeneas, 'always before my eyes and always stricken with sorrow, that drove me to the threshold of this place. The fleet is moored in the Tyrrhenian sea on the shores of Italy. Give me your right hand, father. Give it me. Do not avoid my embrace.' As he spoke these words his cheeks were washed with tears and three times he tried to put his arms around his father's neck. Three times the phantom melted in his hands, as weightless as the wind, as light as the flight of sleep.

5

10

And now Aeneas saw in a side valley a secluded grove with copses of rustling trees where the river Lethe glided along past peaceful dwelling houses. Around it fluttered numberless races and tribes of men, like bees in a meadow on a clear summer day, settling on all the many-coloured flowers and crowding round the gleaming white lilies while the whole plain is loud with their buzzing.

15

Trans: D. West

Section C: Homer and Virgil

Answer **question 7** with reference to **Passages A, B and C**.

- 7 In which passage are the societies' beliefs and values put across more effectively? You should refer to the passage from the *Aeneid* **and** the passage from the work of Homer you have read. **[10]**

Answer **one** of the following questions.

Use classical sources, and secondary sources, scholars and/or academic works to support your argument. You should also consider possible interpretations of sources by different audiences.

Either

- 8* 'Women are at the heart of the epic.' Evaluate how far this is true of the way mortal women are depicted in the *Iliad*. **[30]**

Or

- 9* 'Athene's role in the *Odyssey* is essential for the success of the epic.' Assess how far you agree with this statement. **[30]**

Or

- 10* 'The portrayal of warfare and its effects are completely negative.' Discuss to what extent this is true of the portrayal of warfare in the *Aeneid*. **[30]**

[Section C Total: 40]

END OF QUESTION PAPER

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