



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

**Tuesday 20 October 2020 – Afternoon**

**A Level Ancient History**

**H407/22 The Eleven Caesars**

**Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes**



**You must have:**

- the OCR 12-page Answer Booklet

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- Use black ink.
- Write your answer to each question in the Answer Booklet. The question numbers must be clearly shown.
- Fill in the boxes on the front of the Answer Booklet.
- Answer **four** questions in total:  
Section A: Answer Question 1 **or** Question 2 **and** answer Question 3.  
Section B: Answer Question 4 **and** answer Question 5 **or** Question 6.

**INFORMATION**

- The total mark for this paper is **98**.
- The marks for each question are shown in brackets [ ].
- Quality of extended response will be assessed in questions marked with an asterisk (\*).
- This document has **4** pages.

**ADVICE**

- Read each question carefully before you start your answer.

**SECTION A: The Julio-Claudian Emperors, 31 BC–AD 68**

Answer **either** question 1 **or** question 2 **and** then question 3.

Answer **either** question 1 **or** question 2.

- 1\* 'The sources consistently underestimate the significance of the contribution of other individuals to the reigns of the Julio-Claudian emperors.' How far do you agree with this view?

You must use and analyse the ancient sources you have studied as well as your own knowledge to support your answer. **[30]**

- 2\* How effectively did the Julio-Claudian emperors deal with challenges to their rule?

You must use and analyse the ancient sources you have studied as well as your own knowledge to support your answer. **[30]**

Answer question 3.

- 3 Read the interpretation below.

The Roman people, ecstatic that their favourite had at last come into his own, gave themselves over to wild celebration. ...

Not that Caligula (Gaius) was naïve enough to take this mood of optimism for granted. ... His presence at Tiberius' side had given him an instinctive and pitiless understanding of the workings of power. Unlike his grimly austere predecessor, who scorned to lavish bribes on the people, Caligula was more than happy to buy popularity. ... Donatives were splashed out on the citizens of the capital, on the legions and – most generously of all – on the Praetorians. Nor was the Senate neglected. Caligula showed himself alert to its sensitivities. The serving consuls were permitted to serve out their term of office; and when the Princeps did finally lay claim to the consulship ... his choice of colleague signalled a pointed rejection of his predecessor. Claudius ... was elevated simultaneously into the Senate and to the consulship. ... Caligula explicitly repudiated all the most detested features of Tiberius' reign: the informers, the treason trials, the executions. To the listening Senate, it sounded almost too good to be true. **5**

Which perhaps it was. ... There was no one in the Senate ... who could believe any longer in the silken hypocrisies that had once served to veil what Rome had become. ... Few senators had been put at ease by the new master's smooth assurances. ... No matter how convincing his performance, everyone suspected that it was just that: a performance. **10**

T. Holland, *Dynasty: The Rise and Fall of the House of Caesar* (adapted) **15**

How convincing do you find Holland's interpretation of Gaius' (Caligula's) actions and behaviour?

You must use your knowledge of the historical period and the ancient sources you have studied to analyse and evaluate Holland's interpretation. **[20]**

**SECTION B: The Flavians, AD 68–96**

Answer question 4 **and** then **either** question 5 **or** question 6.

Answer question 4.

4 Read the passages below:

Titus also assumed command of the praetorians ... in which he behaved somewhat violently and high-handedly. If anyone aroused his suspicion, detachments of praetorians would be sent into theatre or camp to demand the man's punishment in the name of every loyal citizen present, and he would then be executed on the spot. ... Actions of this sort, although an insurance against the future, made Titus so deeply disliked at the time that perhaps no more unwelcome claimant to the supreme power has ever won it. 5

Suetonius, *Titus* 6

It was even prophesied quite openly that he would prove to be a second Nero. However, this pessimistic view stood him in good stead: as soon as everyone realised that here was no monster of vice but an exceptionally noble character, public opinion flew to the opposite extreme. 10

Suetonius, *Titus* 7

Titus died at the age of forty-two ... When the news spread, the common people went into mourning as though they had suffered a personal loss. Senators hurried to the Senate House without waiting for an official summons, and even before the doors had been opened began speaking of him with greater thankfulness and praise than they had ever used while he was alive and still among them. 15

Suetonius, *Titus* 11

How useful are these passages for our understanding of Titus' relations with the different classes of citizens in Rome? [12]

Answer **either** question 5 **or** question 6.

5\* To what extent did the Flavian emperors rely upon the Senate and individual senators for the administration and government of Rome and the Empire?

You must use and analyse the ancient sources you have studied as well as your own knowledge to support your answer. [36]

6\* How far do the sources support the view that art and architecture during this period was designed to benefit the interests of the emperors rather than those of their subjects?

You must use and analyse the ancient sources you have studied as well as your own knowledge to support your answer. [36]

**END OF QUESTION PAPER**

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