



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

Wednesday 14 October 2020 – Morning

A Level Classical Civilisation

H408/34 Democracy and the Athenians

Time allowed: 1 hour 45 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 **all** the questions in Section A and **one** question in Section B.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is **75**.
- 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

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

Source A: Plato *Republic* 6.488b–488d

So, imagine this happening, on one ship, or maybe a fleet of ships. You have a ship's owner who is bigger and stronger than everyone else, but a bit hard of hearing and short sighted, and his knowledge of navigation is about the same. The crew are completely at odds with each other about how to steer the ship, and each one thinks he should be captain, despite never having been taught how, let alone being able to say who taught him and when. What's more, they say the skill can't be taught anyway, and threaten to knife anyone who says it can be. They are always crowding around the ship's owner, begging and doing everything they can to get him to give them control of the rudder. But if they don't manage to persuade him whilst others are making a better attempt, they either kill the others or throw them overboard, and, after binding and subduing their noble leader by drugging him or getting him drunk or something else, they take charge of the ship. As they sail, they drink the ship dry and gorge themselves on all the provisions, just as you would expect of men like these. Not only that, they also praise to the skies the men who contribute towards subduing or persuading the helmsmen to give over his power, and describe him as a seaman, a captain and a naval expert whilst they write off the ones who can't help as useless.

5

10

15

- 1 Who is speaking in the passage in **Source A**? [1]
- 2 What real group of people is being referred to in lines 1–3, 'a ship's owner...a bit hard of hearing and short sighted'? [1]
- 3 What term does Plato use for the sort of leader whom he regards as best for an ideal society? [1]
- 4 Explain what impression Plato creates of the Athenian democratic system in **Source A**. [10]

By creating the new system of property classes, Solon's main aim was to break the overwhelming power of the noble families.

- 5 Name **two** of the property classes created by Solon. [2]
- 6 Explain how well you think Solon's reforms to the class system linked wealth to the rights and obligations of Athenian citizens. [10]
- 7* Explain how far you agree that Plato would have approved of the appointment of Solon, and his reforms.

You may use **Source A** as a starting point.

[20]

[Section A Total: 45]

Section B

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*** 'The Athenian dramatists present very effective arguments in support of Athenian democracy.' Explain how far you agree with this statement. You should use the prescribed extracts from the works of Aeschylus, Euripides and **at least two** plays by Aristophanes in your answer. **[30]**

Or

- 9*** 'Athenian citizens give equal care to the affairs of the state and...have a fair understanding of politics.' (Thucydides). Explain to what extent you think Cleisthenes was entirely responsible for enabling all Athenian citizens to develop this 'fair understanding of politics.' Justify your response. **[30]**

[Section B Total: 30]

END OF QUESTION PAPER

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