

Advanced GCE

F387 QP

GCE CLASSICS

Unit CC7: Roman Britain – life in the outpost of
the empire

**Additional Specimen Commentary
Question**

Morning/Afternoon

Time: 2 hours

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet (8 pages)



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This document consists of 4 printed pages.

Section A: Commentary Question

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

1 Read the inscriptions below and answer the questions.

- (i) From the *civitas* of the Catuvellauni, Tossodio.

Building stone found in or before 1717, Howgill (Hadrian's Wall milecastle 55), commemorating work done repairing Hadrian's Wall; date unknown, but broadly 'late'.

- (ii) To the god Silvanus Callirius, Cintusmus the coppersmith willingly and deservedly fulfilled as a gift his vow.

Bronze plate, with letters made with a blunt punch, found in a temple precinct at Colchester; date unknown.

- (iii) To the goddess Nehalennia, on account of goods duly kept safe, Marcus Secund(inius?) Silvanus, trader in pottery with Britain, fulfilled his vow willingly and deservedly.

Altar found in 1647 at Domburg, Holland, near the mouth of the East Scheldt estuary; late 2nd – 3rd century AD.

[LACTOR 4, *Inscriptions of Roman Britain*, 145, 213, 216]

- (a) How useful are these inscriptions in illustrating the development of economic activity in Roman Britain? [25]
- (b) How far does other available evidence support the view that the economy of Roman Britain flourished during the Roman occupation? [25]

[Section A Total: 50]

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OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS

Advanced GCE

GCE CLASSICS

F387 MS

Unit CC7: Roman Britain – life in the outpost of the empire

Additional Specimen Mark Scheme

The maximum mark for this paper is **100**.

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Section A		
Question Number	Answer	Marks
	Answers must be marked using the level descriptors in the marking grids and a mark awarded for each Assessment Objective. The following points are indicative and offer question specific guidance. They do not provide an exhaustive list and any relevant points should be credited.	
1 1(a)	<p>Read the inscriptions and answer the questions.</p> <p>How useful are these inscriptions in illustrating the development of economic activity in Roman Britain?</p> <p>Reward detailed treatment of the following (NB the list is not exhaustive or prescriptive!)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> location and types of economic activity – the three sites are quite widespread and provide evidence for four locations – (i) Hadrian's Wall – which opens up the opportunity for much comment about economic activity (military presence and supply/ construction and repair/ stone-mason work, lime-burning, etc.) – and the <i>civitas</i> of the <i>Catuvellauni</i> (Verulamium / northern Home Counties area) who were evidently organized enough for them to pay for renovating a section of the Wall and to commemorate it – don't forget the stone-carver as an economic activity! (ii) from Colchester – reward any comment about the importance of this <i>colonia</i> and other discussion of metalwork (coppersmithing/ bronze work was not unknown to the Celts, so 'development' may be discussed – cf. examples such as the Birdlip mirror); (iii) has a continental location and discussed pottery - whether imported or exported – given the date. Reward discussion and illustration of Samian Ware and imports / BB and exports / pottery industry developing a great deal from this period onwards; and in addition trade generally – where was Silvanus' <i>British</i> port of call – discussion of imports and exports from Hengistbury Head/ Strabo onwards should be credited. Presumably he owned and operated a boat – lots of activity involved in keeping this going, from sailors to sail-makers! dating – (i) and (ii) are undated, though the inscription on Hadrian's Wall is 'broadly late' and the earliest (?) is 2nd-3rd century AD, so they represent a period when the province was well established. persons or organizations carrying out the inscriptions; (i) in the name of the <i>civitas</i>, (ii) and (iii) by individuals, for religious reasons; (ii) only has one name, but (iii) is set up by a Roman citizen (<i>tria nomina</i>) who holds a civilian post as 'councillor' (<i>aedilis</i>). the type of economic activity – largely discussed above, but building and construction in all its aspects/ military impact/ metalworking/ retail/ pottery/ merchant marine <i>How useful</i> may be addressed by citation of examples <i>not</i> shown here – agriculture being the obvious omission, though there are many other sectors which might be mentioned. <p>Reward all evaluated comment which is based on these inscriptions and related to the topic, and in addition any other material which may be cited in order to place these in a context; this other evidence may include geographical awareness and factual knowledge about the development of towns, using specific examples. Credit answers which also explore the <i>limitations</i> of epigraphic evidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> in terms of the amount which survives/ may survive, 	[25]

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the limited sections of society who made use of it – expensive inscriptions on stone are likely to be the result of only a small segment of society. <p>[AO1 10 marks + AO2 15 marks = 25 marks]</p>	
1(b)	<p>How far does other available evidence support the view that the economy of Roman Britain flourished during the Roman occupation?</p> <p>At the highest level there should be a range of accurate information to support an answer: refer closely to the grids. There may be a variety of approaches to tackling the evaluative aspect of the question, all of which are legitimate; accept answers which explore the actual levels of economic activity within towns or the countryside, including evidence from villas, or which look at the NW/SE highland/lowland divide, or which identify uneven development and signs of economic collapse at the end of the period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>agriculture</i> seems to have been better developed in the southern area where villas predominate, but was continued using more ‘traditional’ methods in the north – reward discussion of new crop types/ methods of farming/ field layouts/ storage not all parts of the ‘economy’ flourished equally – imported pottery predominates in urban and military contexts in the earlier period, while regional industries developed later on; mineral resources developed early, and may have been under imperial control (Mendip Lead Pig); Britain was already well-known as a major source of tin before the Romans came; silver and lead were extensively exploited, and gold at Dolaucothi; location of industries – connection/ demands made by the military – producing a different geographical pattern to that of towns or villas new trades and skills may be discussed – including glassmaking and schools of mosaics – suitably supported Reward supported explanations which discuss political, social or economic reasons for the differences between highland and lowland zones; effects of growth of towns, roads, trade routes by sea. <p>NB. ‘economic development’ needs to be defined rather than assumed (the specification speaks of ‘the economy’ and terms such as this and ‘administration’ seem to be difficult ones for many candidates to grasp).</p> <p>Reward accurate and detailed exposition of knowledge of specific locations based on archaeology or (less extensive) epigraphy in line with the AO1 grid, and supported discussion of ‘widespread’ in AO2.</p> <p>[AO1 10 marks + AO2 15 marks = 25 marks]</p>	[25]
Section A Total		[50]