



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

**Tuesday 21 May 2024 – Morning**

**A Level Ancient History**

**H407/11 Sparta and the Greek World**

**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: Relations between Greek states and between Greek and non-Greek states, 492–404 BC**

Answer Question 1 **or** Question 2 **and** answer Question 3.

Answer **either** Question 1 **or** Question 2.

- 1\*** 'The emergence of Athens as a superior naval power significantly affected relations with other states in the period 478–446 BC.'

To what extent do the sources support this view?

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

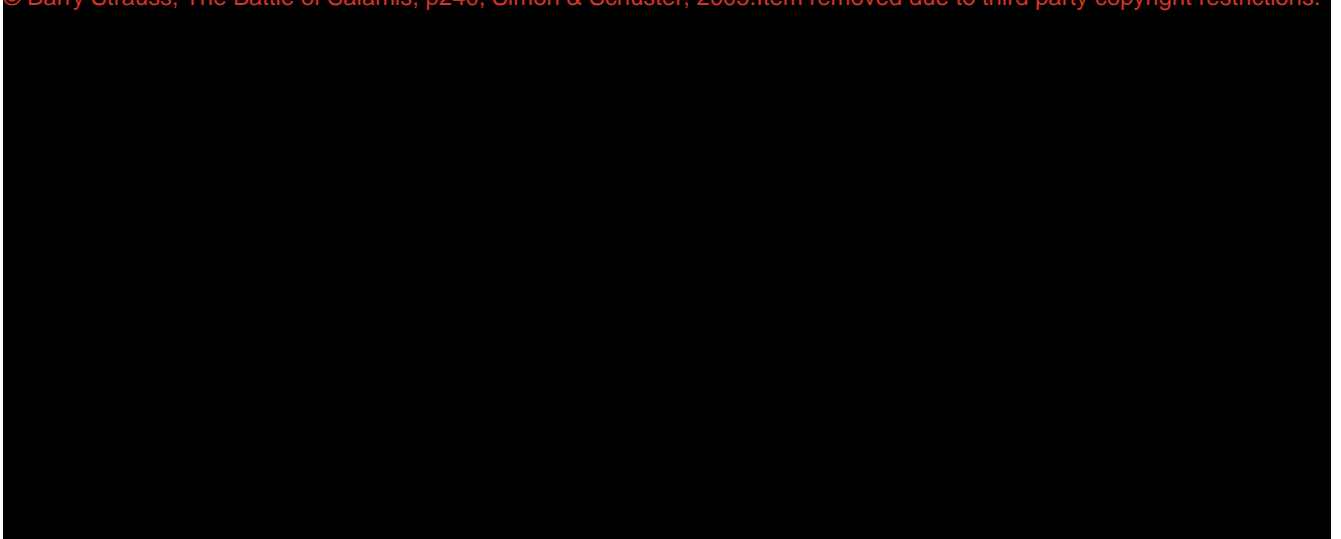
- 2\*** How important was the quality of the leadership of Athens and Sparta in the events of the period 446–404 BC?

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.

© Barry Strauss, *The Battle of Salamis*, p240, Simon & Schuster, 2005. Item removed due to third party copyright restrictions.



How convincing do you find B. Strauss' interpretation of the importance of the battles of Salamis and Plataea for the Greeks' final victory in the war against Xerxes?

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

## Section B: The Society and Politics of Sparta, 478–404 BC

Answer Question 4 **and** answer Question 5 **or** Question 6.

Answer Question 4.

4 Read the passages below.

I do know that in earlier times the Lakedaimonians chose to stay at home, living together as a community of modest means rather than ruling as governors in other Greek cities and being corrupted by the flattery of their subjects ... they were frightened to be caught in possession of gold; whereas nowadays some of them are even happy to make a display of their wealth. I know that for this very reason in the olden days they used to expel immigrants and made it illegal for their own citizens to live abroad, so as to discourage idleness through excessive exposure to foreign influences. Yet I am all too well aware that nowadays their so-called 'leading citizens' desire nothing more than to live out their days as the governors of foreign communities.

5

Xenophon, *Constitution of the Spartans*, 14

In addition, public finances are badly dealt with by the Spartiates. For there is no common state fund for the large-scale wars they are forced to fight. They are also bad at paying taxes, since most land is owned by the Spartiates and they do not scrutinise each other's tax payments. The result is the opposite of the benefits the lawgiver wanted. For he has created a city without money, but individuals with a love of money. So, concerning the constitution of the Lakedaimonians, enough should have been said, since these are the things that one might especially criticise.

5

Aristotle, *Politics* 1271b10–19

How useful are these passages for our understanding of how the Spartans viewed possessions and wealth? [12]

Answer **either** Question 5 **or** Question 6.

5\* 'Commanders, other than kings, were far more effective as military leaders of the Spartans than the kings themselves.'

To what extent do the sources agree with this statement?

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

6\* 'Sparta's relationship with the Peloponnese League was more of a hindrance to Sparta than a benefit.'

To what extent do you agree that this is an accurate assessment of the period 478–404 BC?

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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