



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

Tuesday 4 June 2024 – Morning

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

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

- 1* 'The Julio-Claudian emperors' reigns always started well, became worse and then finished badly.'

How far do you agree with this view?

You must consider the reigns of at least **two** emperors in your answer.

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

- 2* In what ways and for what reasons did the Julio-Claudians try to maintain good relations with the ordinary people of Rome?

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.

Augustus represented his pre-eminence as the means by which Rome could rediscover her traditions and disciplines and face the challenges that lay before her. Although clearly his position in the state was abnormal, his exceptional position was justified by the guarantee of social and political order that he brought.

... That bargain entailed a take-over of the Roman state... in which the old Roman Republic ... was absorbed and managed by the emperor. Augustus established a form of dependency in which the atypical position of the emperor was necessary to protect and preserve the political values of Rome, values which were traditionally incompatible with the elevation of an individual to such a position. This is the paradox of the imperial settlement. ... Behind the emperor lay his wealth and his legions. Power and political ideology were mutually supportive and those who did not accept the ideology were bound to reflect on the power of the regime. To a considerable extent, that power had been displayed in its absence from late 22–19 BC: only Augustus could bring peace to Rome. **5** **10**

R. Alston, *Aspects of Roman History 31 BC–AD 117* (adapted)

How convincing do you find Alston's view that there was a 'take-over of the Roman state in which the old Roman Republic was absorbed and managed by the emperor'?

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

Section B: The Flavians, AD 68–96

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

Answer Question 4.

4 Read the passages below.

These were the arguments of the soldiers in their various companies. After this, they joined together into one body, and, encouraging each other, they declared Vespasian the emperor, and urged him to save the empire, which was now in danger.

Josephus, *Jewish War* 4. 601

© Tacitus, *The Histories*, p.104, Penguin Books Ltd, 2009. From first line "Vespasian was pondering war, weapons and the forces available to him far and near" to last line "It was hoped that the other legions from Illyricum would follow any lead it gave, as the whole army was."

© Suetonius, *The Twelve Caesars*, p.303–4, Penguin Books Ltd, 2007. From first line "His new building programme and expensive entertainments," to last line "He resorted to every form of extortion." Item removed due to third party copyright restrictions.

How useful are these passages for our understanding of the importance of the army for the Flavian emperors?

[12]

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

5* To what extent was there discontent with the rule of the Flavians in 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 useful are the sources for our understanding of the personalities of the Flavian emperors?

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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