



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

**Tuesday 14 May 2024 – Afternoon**

**AS Level Classical Civilisation**

**H008/11 The World of the Hero**

**Time allowed: 1 hour 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.
- This question paper has **two** options:  
Option 1: The *Iliad*  
Option 2: The *Odyssey*
- Choose **one** option: answer **all** the questions in Section A and **one** question in Section B for that option.

**INFORMATION**

- The total mark for this paper is **65**.
- 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 **12** pages.

**ADVICE**

- Read each question carefully before you start your answer.

Option 1: The *Iliad*

Answer **all** the questions in Section A and **one** question in Section B.

## Section A

Choose **one** translation of the *Iliad* and answer the questions.

## Passage A

Homer, *Iliad*, 10.349–368

With these words they turned off and lay down among the dead beside the path. Dolon in complete ignorance passed by them at a run. When he was as far ahead as the width of a day's ploughing by mules (and they are better than oxen at dragging a jointed plough through the deep soil), the two men gave chase. Dolon stopped when he heard the footsteps behind him, imagining they were friends coming from the Trojans to turn him back because Hector had changed his orders. But when they were less than a spear's throw away, he saw they were the enemy and sprinted off in flight.

5

They were after him in a flash. As a couple of experienced, sharp-toothed hunting dogs relentlessly pursue a fawn or hare flying before them through wooded country and screaming as it goes, so Diomedes and Odysseus sacker of cities relentlessly chased down their man, heading him off from his own side. In fact, escaping as he was towards the Greek ships, Dolon was just about to run into the sentries when Athene gave Diomedes an extra turn of speed so that no Greek could boast he had hit Dolon before Diomedes could get him.

10

Translation: E.V. Rieu

OR

With this, they lay down, off the path, among the corpses, while Dolon unknowingly ran past them. When he was as far as the width of land a mule-team plough in a day, mules being better at ploughing deep fallow than oxen, the pair gave chase. Hearing the sound behind him he thought they were friends from the Trojan ranks coming to call him back, and that Hector had changed his mind. But when they were no more than a spear-cast distant, he knew they were enemies and took to his heels, while they tore after him. Like two sharp-fanged hunting dogs pursuing a doe or a screaming hare through the woods, so Diomedes and Odysseus, sacker of cities, relentlessly chased him down, cutting him off from his camp. As he ran towards the ships, about to reach the outposts, Athene spurred Diomedes on, so that no bronze-clad Achaean could boast of striking Dolon before him.

5

10

Translation: A.S. Kline

- 1 Who proposed the mission which Dolon is on in **Passage A**? [1]
- 2 What was the purpose of this mission? [1]
- 3 Why do you think Dolon accepted this mission? [1]
- 4 What happens to Dolon after he is captured? [1]
- 5 Explain why **Passage A** is an effective piece of story-telling.  
Make **four** points and support each point with reference to **Passage A**. [8]

Choose **one** translation of the *Iliad* and answer the questions.

**Passage B**

**Homer, *Iliad*, 17.198–215, 223–235**

When from afar Zeus who marshals the clouds saw Hector equipping himself in the arms of godlike Achilles, he shook his head and said to himself:

‘Unhappy man! Little knowing how close you are to death, you are putting on the imperishable armour of a mighty man of war, before whom all others tremble. And it was you that killed his comrade, brave and gentle Patroclus, and improperly stripped the armour from his head and shoulders. Well, for the moment at any rate I grant you supremacy. But you must pay for it. There will be no homecoming for you from the battle, and your wife Andromache will never take the famous armour of Achilles from your hands.’

5

The son of Cronus spoke and nodded his sable brows in confirmation.

The armour fitted Hector’s body well, the savage spirit of the terrible War-god now entered him and power and fresh vigour filled his limbs. Uttering his piercing war-cry, he went in search of his renowned allies and presented himself before all of them, resplendent in the armour of great-hearted Achilles. To rouse their spirits he went up and spoke to each of them in turn...

10

‘...What I wanted was men who would be fully committed to fighting the war-loving Greeks in defence of the women and little children of Troy. That is why I impoverish my own people by demanding they supply you with gifts and provisions and so keep your courage high.

15

‘Turn, then, and straight at the enemy, every one of you, to live or die! That is the intimacy of battle. To the man who forces Ajax back and brings Patroclus, dead though he is, into the Trojan lines, I will give half the spoils, keeping the other half myself, so that he will share the glory equally with me.’

20

So he spoke, and they lifted their spears and charged at the Greeks with full force, filled with high hopes of retrieving the body from Ajax son of Telamon.

**Translation: E.V. Rieu**

OR

When Zeus the Cloud-Gatherer, from afar, saw Hector donning godlike Achilles' armour, he shook his head and murmured: 'Unhappy man, cladding your body with the imperishable battle-gear of a mighty warrior before whom all others quail: blind you are to the death that inexorably nears you. You it is that killed his great and generous companion, and irreverently stripped him of that prize. Yes, I will grant you power enough for now, but you must pay, there will be no homecoming for you, nor will Andromache receive Achilles' glorious armour from your hands.'

5

And the son of Cronos nodded his head, with its dark eyebrows, while subtly moulding the armour to Hector's body. Now the spirit of Ares the war-god, dread Enyalios, entered him, filling him with courage and strengthening his limbs, and Hector, uttering his loud war-cry, re-joined the ranks of his glorious allies, and showed himself to all in the glittering armour of brave Peleus' son. He spoke to each general, inspiring him to battle...

10

'...you were keen to defend the women and children of Troy from the fierce Achaeans, and to that purpose I spend my people's wealth in gifts for you, and provisions, to maintain your strength and courage. So let every man attack the enemy, to live or die, that is the task of war. I will share half the spoils with whichever of you drives Ajax off, and drags Patroclus' corpse into the ranks of us horse-taming Trojans, and I'll share the glory with him too.'

15

At this, with spears extended, they charged full tilt at the Danaans, with high hopes, in their folly, of dragging the corpse away from Telamonian Ajax!

**Translation: A.S. Kline**

- 6 Why was Patroclus wearing the armour of Achilles? [1]
- 7 Why do you think Hector took the armour? [1]
- 8 Give **two** details about the death of Hector. [2]
- 9 Explain how Hector is shown in a heroic way in **Passage B**.  
Make **four** points and support each point with reference to **Passage B**. [8]
- 10\* Discuss what you have learned about fate from your study of the *Iliad*. Explain what the existence of fate adds to the epic.

You may use **Passage B** as a starting point, and your knowledge of the *Iliad* in your answer.

[16]

[Section A Total: 40]

**Section B**

Answer **one** question from this section.

**Either**

- 11\*** 'Fighting is always portrayed in a glorious way.' Evaluate how far this is true of the *Iliad*. Justify your answer. **[25]**

**Or**

- 12\*** 'The study of the *Iliad* is a complete waste of time.' Evaluate how enjoyable and informative you found reading the epic. Justify your answer. **[25]**

**[Section B Total: 25]**

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## Option 2: The *Odyssey*

Answer **all** the questions in Section A and **one** question in Section B.

### Section A

Choose **one** translation of the *Odyssey* and answer the questions.

#### Passage A

#### Homer, *Odyssey*, 21.42–65

<p>The great lady reached the store-room and set foot on the oaken threshold – the work of some carpenter of bygone days, who had smoothed it well and trued it to the line, fixed the door-posts in their sockets and hung the polished doors on them. She quickly undid the thong attached to the hook, passed the key through the hole, and with an accurate thrust shot back the bolt. With a groan like the roar of a bull at grass in a meadow, the doors flew open before her, and she stepped on to the raised floor-boards. Here stood the chests where clothing was laid in scented herbs. Reaching up, Penelope lifted the bow in the shining case off its peg. And there she sat down with the case on her knees and burst into tears and wept aloud as she drew out her husband's bow. But when the torrent of tears had brought its own relief, she set out for the hall to face the proud Suitors, carrying the supple bow and the quiver with its deadly load of arrows in her hands, and her women followed with a box full of the iron and bronze axes that their master had won as prizes. When she drew near to the Suitors the great lady drew a fold of her shining veil across her cheeks and took her stand by a pillar of the massive roof, with a faithful maid on either side. Then she <u>issued her challenge</u> to the Suitors.</p>	<p>5</p> <p>10</p> <p>15</p>
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Translation: E.V. Rieu

OR

<p>Now Penelope, that lovely woman, reached the storeroom and set foot on the oaken sill, once skilfully planed and trued to the line by some carpenter of old, who also set the doorposts in it, and hung the gleaming doors. Quickly she unhooked the thong, slid in the key and with a sure touch shot back the bolt. With a groan like a bull bellowing in a grassy meadow, the polished doors flew open at the touch of the key. Then she mounted to the high platform loaded with chests of fragrant clothes. Here, reaching up, she lifted the bow, in the gleaming case, from its peg. Then she sat down with the case on her knees, and weeping aloud drew out her husband's bow. Yet once her tears and sighs were done, she went to the hall and the crowd of noble Suitors, carrying the curved bow and the quiver full of fatal arrows. And the maids followed with a chest full of bronze and iron won by her man. When the lovely woman reached the Suitors, she stood by a pillar of the great hall, with a shining veil in front of her face, and a loyal maid stood on either side. Then she <u>issued her challenge</u>.</p>	<p>5</p> <p>10</p>
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Translation: A.S. Kline



- 13 Who gave Penelope the idea of fetching the bow from the store-room? [1]
- 14 Why do you think Penelope cries when she sees the bow? [1]
- 15 What was Penelope's challenge to the Suitors, 'issued her challenge' (lines 14–15 Rieu / lines 12–13 Kline)? Make **two** points. [2]
- 16 Explain why **Passage A** is an effective piece of story-telling.  
Make **four** points and support each point with reference to **Passage A**. [8]

Choose **one** translation of the *Odyssey* and answer the questions.

**Passage B**

**Homer, *Odyssey* 9.500–535**

‘But my temper was up; their words did not dissuade me, and in my rage I shouted back at him once more: “Cyclops, if anyone ever asks you how you came by your blindness, tell him your eye was put out by Odysseus, sacker of cities, the son of Laertes, who lives in Ithaca.”

‘The Cyclops gave a groan. “Alas!” he cried. “Those ancient prophecies have come back to me now! We had a prophet living with us once, a great and mighty man, Eurymus’ son Telemus, the best of soothsayers, who grew old as a seer among us Cyclopes. All that has now happened he foretold, when he warned me that a man called Odysseus would rob me of my sight. But I always expected some big handsome man of tremendous strength to come along. And now, a puny, feeble good-for-nothing fuddles me with wine and then puts out my eye! But come here, Odysseus, so that I can give you some friendly gifts and prevail on the great Earthshaker, Poseidon, to see you safely home. For I am his son, and he is proud to call himself my father. He is the one who will heal me if he’s willing – a thing no other blessed god nor any man on earth could do.”

‘To which I shouted in reply: “I only wish I could make as sure of robbing you of life and breath and sending you to Hell, as I am certain that not even the Earthshaker will ever heal your eye.”

‘At this the Cyclops lifted up his hands to the starry heavens and prayed to the Lord Poseidon: “Hear me, Poseidon, Sustainer of the Earth, god of the sable locks. If I am yours indeed and you claim me as your son, grant that Odysseus, sacker of cities and son of Laertes, may never reach his home in Ithaca. But if he is destined to see his friends again, to come once more to his own house and reach his native land, let him come late, in wretched plight, having lost all his comrades, in a foreign ship, and let him find trouble in his home.”

**Translation: E.V. Rieu**

OR

So they argued, but could not daunt my ardent spirit, and I shouted to him again in anger: "Cyclops, if any man asks how you came by your blindness, say that Odysseus, sacker of cities, Laertes' son, a native of Ithaca, maimed you."

At this he groaned, and said in answer: "Alas! The truth of that prophecy spoken long ago is fulfilled! Telemus, the seer, son of Eurymus, a tall fine man, lived here once, the greatest of prophets, and grew old here as soothsayer among the Cyclopes. He told me that all of this would come to pass one day, and I would lose my sight at Odysseus' hands. But I always expected some tall fine man, one of great strength, and now a puny good-for-nothing weakling blinds my eye, after plying me with wine. Come here, Odysseus, nevertheless, so that I might grant you guest gifts, and urge the great Earth-Shaker to see you home, since I am his son, and he says he is my father, and he, of his will, can heal me, where no other of the blessed gods or men can."

I replied, saying: "I wish I could rob you of life and spirit, and send you to the House of Hades, as surely as the Earth-Shaker will fail to heal your eye."

'At my words, he stretched out his hands to the starry heavens, and prayed to the Lord Poseidon: 'Hear me, Poseidon, dark-tressed Earth-Bearer, if I am your son, if you say you are my father, let Odysseus, sacker of cities and son of Laertes, never reach his home on Ithaca: yet if he is destined to see his friends and his fine house in his own country, may he come there late and in sore distress, in another's ship, losing all comrades, and let him find great trouble in his house."

**Translation: A.S. Kline**

- 17 What had Odysseus' crew just said, 'their words' / 'they argued' (line 1 Rieu/Kline)? [1]
- 18 Why do you think Odysseus revealed his identity to the Cyclops? [1]
- 19 Whose ship helps Odysseus to get home, 'foreign ship' / 'another's ship' (line 23 Rieu/line 19 Kline)? [1]
- 20 What was the situation in the palace when Odysseus returned to Ithaca, 'trouble in his home' / 'trouble in his house' (line 23 Rieu/line 20 Kline)? [1]
- 21 Explain how Odysseus is shown in a heroic way in **Passage B**.  
Make **four** points and support each point with reference to **Passage B**. [8]
- 22\* Discuss what you have learned about fate from your study of the *Odyssey*. Explain what the existence of fate adds to the epic.

You may use **Passage B** as a starting point, and your knowledge of the *Odyssey* in your answer. [16]

**[Section A Total: 40]**

**Section B**

Answer **one** question from this section.

**Either**

- 23\*** 'Family matters to Odysseus'. Evaluate how far Odysseus values the importance of family in the *Odyssey*. Justify your answer. [25]

**Or**

- 24\*** 'The study of the *Odyssey* is a complete waste of time.' Evaluate how enjoyable and informative you found reading the epic. Justify your answer. [25]

**[Section B Total: 25]**

**END OF QUESTION PAPER**

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