

GCSE (9-1)

Examiners' report

CLASSICAL GREEK

J292

For first teaching in 2016

J292/01 Summer 2024 series

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Introduction

Our examiners' reports are produced to offer constructive feedback on candidates' performance in the examinations. They provide useful guidance for future candidates.

The reports will include a general commentary on candidates' performance, identify technical aspects examined in the questions and highlight good performance and where performance could be improved. A selection of candidate answers is also provided. The reports will also explain aspects which caused difficulty and why the difficulties arose, whether through a lack of knowledge, poor examination technique, or any other identifiable and explainable reason.

Where overall performance on a question/question part was considered good, with no particular areas to highlight, these questions have not been included in the report.

A full copy of the question paper and the mark scheme can be downloaded from OCR.

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Paper 1 series overview

J292/01 (Language) is the compulsory component of GCSE (9–1) Classical Greek. It is worth 100 marks, representing 50% of the total marks for the GCSE qualification. Classical Greek Language is an externally assessed written examination testing AO1. This component focuses on:

- translation
- comprehension questions
- *either* questions on syntax and accidence within the context of a narrative passage *or* translation of short English sentences into Classical Greek
- derivation of English words from Classical Greek.

Examiners considered this paper to be of a fair and appropriate standard, resulting in a good spread of marks. The standard of candidates' performance was generally very high, and there were a handful of completely accurate scripts.

There was no evidence that any candidate struggled to finish the examination within the allotted time. Of the two options offered to candidates, the vast majority of candidates had been prepared to answer the grammar questions rather than the English to Classical Greek sentences, although some candidates did attempt both.

Some very good translations and good comprehension of the different stories were seen. Candidates should be reminded to read the introduction to the passages as well as the other details provided on the examination paper. Unnecessary errors were made when candidates did not use the vocabulary provided. Some candidates did not read the comprehension questions carefully enough, resulting in incorrect answers and/or omissions. Candidates should be reminded not to give alternative answers as these can lead to harmful additions, which are penalised.

Candidates who did well on this paper generally:	Candidates who did less well on this paper generally:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • had a strong understanding of participles • had a strong knowledge of the defined vocabulary list • understood the importance of prepositions and the cases which follow them • had a strong understanding of pronouns • made use of the information provided by the glossaries (e.g. gender of words and principal parts) • scored 4 or 5 marks in most sections of the translation question • recognised and accurately translated compound verbs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • gave incorrect alternatives to an otherwise correct response • provided incorrect derivatives in Question 9 (e.g. 'morose' for μώρως) • were confused by words which look a little similar • did not read the introduction to the passages and so missed the overview which might have kept them on track • omitted words in the translation question • scored 1 mark (isolated knowledge of vocabulary only) or 2 marks (part correct, but overall sense lacking/unclear) in the translation question • translated singular nouns as plural and vice versa.

Section A overview

Comprehension questions (Questions 1–9) were fully accessible to all candidates. Candidates should look at the number of marks available and at the lines referenced in the lemma and provide sufficient details from the relevant Greek sentence(s). This section contains the derivation question, which centres had prepared candidates well for.

There is an option between some grammar questions (Question 10) and English to Greek sentences (Question 11) in Section A. The vast majority of candidates attempted the grammar questions and very few attempted only the English to Greek sentences. Some candidates did both; this is accepted and the higher mark of the two options is awarded.

Question 1

The hunter Actaeon unwittingly encounters the goddess Artemis as she is bathing. After being transformed into a stag he is torn apart by his own hunting dogs.

ἡ Ἀρτεμις ἐλούετο μετὰ τῶν φίλῶν ἐν ποταμῷ. ὁ δὲ Ἀκταίων, ὃς ἐθήρρευε διὰ τῆς ὕλης, τοὺς ἄλλους νεανίας λιπῶν, οὐχ οἷός τ' ἦν αὐθις εὐρεῖν τὴν ὁδόν. δι' ὀλίγου οὖν ἀφίκετο πρὸς τὸν ποταμὸν καὶ εἶδεν τὴν Ἀρτέμιδα γυμνῇ. εὐθὺς δὲ ἡ θεὰ ἐβόησεν 'κελεύω σε μηδέποτε λέγειν περὶ τούτων. ἐὰν γὰρ χρήσῃ τῇ σῇ φωνῇ, κολάσω σε.'

ὁ δὲ Ἀκταίων μάλιστα φοβούμενος ἔφυγε καὶ μῶρως ἐκάλεσε τοὺς φίλους. ἐξαίφνης δὲ κατέπεσεν εἰς τὴν γῆν καὶ ἥσθετο τὰς χεῖρας γιγνομένας ὅπλᾱς. ἔπειτα δὲ οἱ κύνες αὐτοῦ προσδραμόντες πρὸς τὰς βόας εἶδον οὐ τὸν Ἀκταίονα, ἀλλὰ ἔλαφον. καὶ οὐκ εἰδότες τὴν ἀλήθειαν μεγίστη βία ἀπέκτειναν τὸν Ἀκταίονα.

5

Names

Ἀρτεμις, Ἀρτέμιδος, ἡ
Ἀκταίων, Ἀκταίονος, ὁ

Artemis (a goddess)
Actaeon (a hunter)

Words

λούομαι
θηρεύω
γυμνός, γυμνή, γυμνόν
ἐξαίφνης
ὅπλῃ, ὅπλῃς, ἡ
κύων, κυνός, ὁ
ἐλαφος, ἐλάφου, ὁ
ἀλήθεια, ἀληθείας, ἡ

I bathe, wash myself
I hunt
naked
suddenly
hoof
dog
stag
truth

1 ἡ Ἀρτεμις ἐλούετο μετὰ τῶν φίλῶν ἐν ποταμῷ (line 1): where was Artemis bathing?

..... [1]

This question proved a positive start for almost all candidates. Centres should, however, remind candidates that where there is no definite article (as in ἐν ποταμῷ) they should not include 'the' in the translation.

Question 2 (a)

- 2 ὁ δὲ Ἀκταίων, ὃς ἐθήρευνε διὰ τῆς ὕλης, τοὺς ἄλλους νεανίας λιπών, οὐχ οἷός τ' ἦν αὖθις εὐρεῖν τὴν ὁδόν (lines 1–2):

- (a) whom did Actaeon leave behind while hunting through the forest?

..... [1]

Most candidates answered this question correctly although some missed out ἄλλους or translated τοὺς...νεανίας in the singular.

Question 2 (b)

- (b) what was Actaeon not able to do?

.....
..... [2]

Many candidates lost at least 1 mark here with the most common error being an omission of αὖθις. A range of alternatives were accepted for ὁδόν.

Question 3

- 3 δι' ὀλίγου οὖν ἀφίκετο πρὸς τὸν ποταμὸν καὶ εἶδεν τὴν Ἀρτέμιδα γυμνὴν (lines 2–3): what happened when Actaeon reached the river?

..... [1]

This question was answered almost entirely correctly by candidates. Candidates should be reminded to make use of glossed words as some omitted the key word γυμνὴν.

Question 4 (a)

- 4 κελεύω σε μηδέποτε λέγειν περὶ τούτων. ἐὰν γὰρ χρήσῃ τῇ σῇ φωνῇ, κολάσω σε (lines 3–4):

- (a) what order did Artemis give to Actaeon?

.....
..... [2]

Almost all candidates managed this question well. Some mistranslated μηδέποτε as 'no-one' or similar.

Question 4 (b)

(b) what did she say she would do if he used his voice?

..... [1]

Most candidates answered this question correctly. A few mistranslated *κολάσω* as 'kill' or 'destroy'.

Question 5 (a)

5 ὁ δὲ Ἀκταίων μάλιστα φοβούμενος ἔφυγε καὶ μώρως ἐκάλεσε τοὺς φίλους (line 5):

(a) how did Actaeon feel when he fled?

..... [1]

This question was answered correctly by almost all candidates. An occasional answer erroneously focused on *μώρως*, translating it as an adjective. This word needed to be translated for Question 5 (b) and so candidates should be advised to look ahead.

Question 5 (b)

(b) what did Actaeon foolishly do?

..... [1]

This question was mostly well-answered, although some candidates did not know the vocabulary for *ἐκάλεσε* and a number thought that *τοὺς φίλους* was singular.

Question 6

- 6 ἔξαίφνης δὲ κατέπεσεν εἰς τὴν γῆν καὶ ἤσθετο τὰς χεῖρας γιγνομένας όπλας (line 5–6): what happened to Actaeon next?

.....

.....

..... [4]

Only the most precise candidates were able to achieve all 4 marks on this question. Candidates dealt very well with the compound verb κατέπεσεν and the phrase εἰς τὴν γῆν. Many candidates, however, omitted or mistranslated ἤσθετο and a number translated γιγνομένας as an aorist participle, missing the sense of the present participle. Some candidates did not know the vocabulary for τὰς χεῖρας and many thought that όπλας, despite it being glossed, had something to do with weapons.

Exemplar 1

He suddenly fell down into the earth and noticed that his hands had become hooves.

This exemplar highlights a response which has scored 3 out of 4 marks for correctly answering 'fell down', 'into the earth' and 'noticed'. It did not score 4 marks as the candidate translated γιγνομένας as an aorist participle ('had become').

Question 7

- 7 ἔπειτα δὲ οἱ κύνες αὐτοῦ προσδραμόντες πρὸς τὰς βόας εἶδον οὐ τὸν Ἀκταίωνα, ἀλλὰ ἔλαφον (lines 6–7): what did Actaeon's dogs run towards?

..... [1]

The majority of candidates answered this question correctly. Those who didn't focused on the last part of the lemma, missing that the preposition πρὸς ('towards', which was part of the question) is in front of τὰς βόας. Some also did not notice the plural in τὰς βόας.

Question 8

- 8 καὶ οὐκ εἰδότες τὴν ἀλήθειαν μεγίστη βία ἀπέκτειναν τὸν Ἀκταίωνα (lines 7–8): why did Actaeon's dogs kill him?

..... [1]

This question split candidates down the middle between those who knew the meaning of εἰδότες and those who mistranslated it as 'see' or 'seeing'.

Question 9

- 9 For each of the Greek words below, give **one** English word which has been derived from the Greek word and give the meaning of the **English** word.

One has been done for you.

Greek Word: γυμνήν

English Word: gymnasium

Meaning of English Word: place where Greeks exercised naked

Greek Word: φωνῇ

English Word:

Meaning of English Word: [2]

Greek Word: μῶρως

English Word:

Meaning of English Word: [2]

A range of derivations were offered this year.

For φωνῇ, (tele)phone was the most common response and probably the easiest derivation, though a good range of others was given too – particularly enjoyable were 'homophone', 'euphonium' and 'xylophone'. The common 'phonetics' and 'phonics' were unfortunately often not that well defined, meaning candidates did not always achieve the second mark.

μῶρως was answered very well with most candidates achieving both marks. Almost all gave a response like 'moron' or 'moronic'. Where candidates erred it was because they thought of other English words beginning with 'mor-', such as 'morose'.

Question 10 (a)

10 Answer the following questions based on part of the story you have already read.

ἡ Ἀρτεμις ἐλούετο μετὰ τῶν φίλων ἐν ποταμῷ. ὁ δὲ Ἀκταίων, ὃς ἐθήρευε διὰ τῆς ὕλης, τοὺς ἄλλους νεανίας λιπῶν, οὐχ οἷός τ' ἦν αὐθις εὐρεῖν τὴν ὁδόν. δι' ὀλίγου οὖν ἀφίκετο πρὸς τὸν ποταμὸν καὶ εἶδεν τὴν Ἀρτέμιδα γυμνήν. εὐθὺς δὲ ἡ θεὰ ἐβόησεν 'κελεύω σε μηδέποτε λέγειν περὶ τούτων. ἐὰν γὰρ χρήσῃ τῇ σῇ φωνῇ, κολάσω σε.'

5

Names

Ἀρτεμις, Ἀρτέμιδος, ἡ	Artemis (a goddess)
Ἀκταίων, Ἀκταίονος, ὁ	Actaeon (a hunter)

Words

λούομαι	I bathe, wash myself
θηρεύω	I hunt
γυμνός, γυμνή, γυμνόν	naked

(a) Identify the **case** of ποταμῷ (line 1) **and** explain why this case is used here.

.....
 [2]

This question was well answered with most candidates who recognised ποταμῷ as dative understanding the role of ἐν in their explanation. Some candidates incorrectly answered 'accusative' or 'genitive' for the first mark.

Question 10 (b)

(b) Identify the **case** and **number** of νεανίας (line 2).

..... [2]

Most candidates answered this question correctly.

Question 10 (c)

(c) Identify the **tense** of ἦν (line 2).

..... [1]

Most candidates answered this question correctly although a number answered 'aorist' or 'past'.

Assessment for learning



Candidates need to read questions properly. In a question about a verb a question may ask about tense as in this question or also ask about number such as in Question 10 (g).

Candidates should not give superfluous information as if it is incorrect it may lead to a harmful addition.

Also, the answer 'past' for a question about tense will always be marked incorrect as candidates need to specify *which* past tense has been used (e.g. aorist or imperfect).

Question 10 (d)

(d) Pick out a **preposition** in line 3.

..... [1]

Most candidates answered this question correctly.

Question 10 (e)

(e) Pick out an **adverb** in line 3.

..... [1]

The majority of candidates answered this question correctly. A small number erroneously answered δι' ὀλίγου (which isn't in line 3) or γυμνήν which was glossed and clearly an adjective.

Question 10 (f)

(f) Identify the **tense** and **person** of κελεύω (line 4).

..... [2]

Many candidates answered this question correctly.

Question 10 (g)

(g) Identify the **form** of the verb λέγειν (line 4).

..... [1]

Most candidates answered this question correctly.

Question 11 (a)

11 Translate the following English sentences into Greek.

(a) We admired the wise generals.

.....
 [3]

Of the candidates who attempted this question, many lost a mark for the incorrect spelling of ἐθαυμάσαμεν or στρατηγούς.

Question 11 (b)

(b) I fell into the stranger's house.

.....
 [4]

Many candidates showed a good knowledge of the aorist of πίπτω. The most frequent errors occurred due to incorrect cases of οἰκία and ξένος.

Question 11 (c)

(c) The goddess is strong.

.....
 [3]

Most candidates answered this question correctly. A few candidates confused the Latin *dea* with θεά and some were unsure of the correct vocabulary for 'strong'.

Section B overview

Section B is a more challenging section with 20 marks available for more difficult comprehension questions and 50 marks available for a continuous translation question.

Question 12

Agesilaus, King of Sparta, makes a campaign into Asia. After some success he meets with the Persian governor, Pharnabazus.

οἱ μὲν Πέρσαι ἦρχον τῶν Ἑλλήνων τῶν ἐν τῇ Ἀσίᾳ οἰκούντων, ὁ δὲ Ἀγεσίλαος ἐβούλετο λύειν αὐτούς. ἄγων οὖν στρατιώτας τε καὶ ἰππέας εἰσέβαλεν εἰς τὴν Ἀσίαν. καὶ τοσαύτας νίκας ἐνίκησεν ὥστε ὁ τῶν Περσῶν ἄρχων, Φαρνάβαζος ὀνόματι, ἤτησε σύνοδον.

ὁ Ἀγεσίλαος ἀφικόμενος ἔκαθισε μόνος πρὸ δένδρου ἵνα πῖνοι ὕδωρ. ὁ μέντοι Φαρνάβαζος ἦλθεν φέρων ἡδὺν οἶνον καὶ πλείστα δῶρα. ἀλλὰ ἰδὼν τὸν βασιλέα σώφρονα ὄντα τοὺς τε φύλακας καὶ τὰ καλὰ ἀπέπεμψε καὶ ἔκαθισεν αὐτός.

5

ὁ μὲν οὖν Ἀγεσίλαος πρῶτον εἶπε τάδε· ‘ἐγὼ ἐνθάδε εἰμὶ οὐχ ὥς μισῶν σε. μόνον γὰρ πειρῶμαι ποιεῖν ἄξια ἀνδρείου ἀνθρώπου.’ ὁ δὲ Φαρνάβαζος ἀπεκρίνατο ὅτι οὐκ ἔξεστιν ἑαυτῷ, καίπερ μάλιστα τιμῶντι τὸν Ἀγεσίλαον, παύεσθαι μαχομένῳ.

10

Names

Πέρσαι, Περσῶν, οἱ

Ἀσία, Ἀσίας, ἡ

Ἀγεσίλαος, Ἀγεσιλάου, ὁ

Φαρνάβαζος, Φαρναβάζου, ὁ

the Persians

Asia

Agesilaus (the king of Sparta)

Pharnabazus (a Persian governor)

Words

σύνοδος, συνόδου, ἡ

σώφρων, σώφρονος

meeting

self-restrained, disciplined

12 οἱ μὲν Πέρσαι ἦρχον τῶν Ἑλλήνων τῶν ἐν τῇ Ἀσίᾳ οἰκούντων, ὁ δὲ Ἀγεσίλαος ἐβούλετο λύειν αὐτούς (lines 1–2): why did Agesilaus want to free the Greeks living in Asia?

..... [1]

This question was generally answered well although some candidates didn't know ἦρχον, confusing it with ἔρχομαι or ἔχω.

Question 13

- 13 ἄγων οὖν στρατιώτας τε καὶ ἵππείας εἰσέβαλεν εἰς τὴν Ἀσίαν (line 2): what did Agesilaus take with him when he invaded Asia?

.....
 [2]

Many candidates were able to answer this question correctly. Common errors included translating στρατιώτας as 'army' or 'generals' and ἵππείας as 'horses' or even 'hippos'.

Question 14

- 14 καὶ τοσαύτας νίκας ἐνίκησεν ὥστε ὁ τῶν Περσῶν ἄρχων, Φαρνάβαζος ὀνόματι, ἤτησε σύνοδον (lines 3–4): why did Pharnabazus ask for a meeting with Agesilaus?

.....
 [2]

This question caused problems for many candidates, either due to an incorrect translation of τοσαύτας or for rendering νίκας as singular. A common mistake on ἐνίκησεν was translating it as a plural.

Question 15 (a)

- 15 ὁ Ἀγесίλαος ἀφικόμενος ἔκαθισε μόνος πρὸ δένδρου ἵνα πίνῃ ὕδωρ (line 5):

(a) write down **and** translate the two-word **Greek** phrase which explains **where** Agesilaus sat.

Greek phrase	English translation

[2]

Almost all candidates identified πρὸ δένδρου correctly. However, many candidates gave an incorrect translation of πρὸ, whilst others rendered δένδρου as plural. Also, some candidates erroneously added a 'the' into their translation. A few candidates selected a longer phrase despite the question clearly asking for two words.

Question 15 (b)

(b) why did Agesilaus sit down?

..... [2]

Most candidates answered this question correctly, dealing with the purpose clause well.

Question 16

16 ὁ μέντοι Φαρνάβαζος ἦλθεν φέρων ἡδὺν οἶνον καὶ πλείστα δῶρα (lines 5–6): what did Pharnabazus have with him when he came to the meeting place?

..... [4]

Many candidates answered this question correctly. Unfortunately, a large number of candidates did not provide the required four elements to their answer, offering for example the nouns οἶνον and δῶρα but not their adjectives ἡδὺν and πλείστα (this latter also caused issues because of its superlative form).

Exemplar 2

He came carrying sweet wine and many gifts [4]

This exemplar shows a mistranslation of πλείστα as 'many' and so was awarded 3 marks for 'sweet', 'wine' and 'gifts'.

Question 17

17 ἀλλὰ ἰδὼν τὸν βασιλέα σώφρονα ὄντα τοὺς τε φύλακας καὶ τὰ καλὰ ἀπέπεμψε καὶ ἔκαθισεν αὐτός (lines 6–7): after seeing the king's self-restraint, what did Pharnabazus do before he sat down himself?

..... [2]

Most candidates were able to answer this question correctly, although τὰ καλὰ caused issues for less well prepared candidates, with many translations ignoring the neuter definite article and translating as 'the fine/beautiful women'. The compound verb ἀπέπεμψε was handled well.

Question 18

18 ἐγὼ ἐνθάδε εἰμὶ οὐχ ὥς μισῶν σε (line 8): what did Agesilaus say?

.....
 [2]

This was a trickier question, which tested candidates well. A number thought this was ὥς + future participle expressing purpose, inaccurately answering 'in order to hate you.'

Question 19

19 μόνον γὰρ πειρῶμαι ποιεῖν ἄξια ἀνδρείου ἀνθρώπου (lines 8–9): what did Agesilaus say he was trying to do?

.....
 [2]

This question proved challenging for a number of candidates who did not comprehend the neuter plural in ἄξια or that ἄξιος is followed by a genitive. Answers such as 'to make a brave man' were not uncommon but scored zero marks.

Question 20

20 ὁ δὲ Φαρνάβαζος ἀπεκρίνατο ὅτι οὐκ ἔξεστιν ἑαυτῷ, καίπερ μάλιστα τιμῶντι τὸν Ἀγесίλαον, παύεσθαι μαχομένῳ (lines 9–10): what did Pharnabazus say that he was unable to do?

..... [1]

Very many candidates answered this question correctly although there were some misunderstandings with μαχομένῳ being translated as 'battle' rather than 'fighting'.

Question 21

Despite plans to conquer the whole of Persia, Agesilaus is forced back to Greece to fight the Athenians. He laments the inability of the Greeks to work together, but manages to defeat the Athenians in battle.

ἔπειτα δὲ τῷ Ἀγεσιλάῳ ἔδοξε πορευθῆναι εἰς τὴν τῶν πολεμίων χώραν. ἀλλὰ ὁ Φαρνάβαζος λάθρα ἔδωκε πολλὰ χρήματα τοῖς Ἀθηναίοις ἵνα προσβάλωσι τοῖς Λακεδαιμονίοις τοῖς ἔτι ἐν τῇ Ἑλλάδι οὖσιν. καὶ οὕτως ἰσχυρὰν στρατιὰν οἱ Ἀθηναῖοι συνέλεξαν ὥστε ὁ Ἀγεσίλαος ἠναγκάσθη ἀπελθεῖν ὡς βοηθήσων τοῖς ἑαυτοῦ πολίταις ὡς τάχιστα.

5

ἀφικόμενος δὲ εἰς τὴν Ἑλλάδα, ὁ Ἀγεσίλαος 'ὦ Ἑλλάς,' ἔφη, 'πόσους ἀγαθοὺς ἄνδρας διαφθείρεις; εἰ μὴ τοσοῦτοι ἀπέθανον ἀλλήλοις μαχόμενοι, οἳ τ' ἡμεῖς ἂν λαβεῖν πᾶσαν τὴν τῶν Περσῶν ἀρχήν.'

ὕστερον δὲ ἐν μάχῃ ἐνίκησε τοὺς Ἀθηναίους, καίπερ αὐτὸς παθὼν δεινὰ τραύματα. ἐκέλευσεν δὲ τοὺς στρατηγούς φέρειν ἑαυτὸν περὶ τοὺς νέκρους, ἵνα ἴδῃ εἰ Λακεδαιμόνιοί τινες ἐκεῖ ἄθαπτοι μετὰ τῶν ὀπλῶν ἐλείφθησαν.

10

Names

Ἀγεσίλαος, Ἀγεσιλάου, ὁ
Φαρνάβαζος, Φαρναβάζου, ὁ
Πέρσαι, Περσῶν, οἱ

Agesilaus (the king of Sparta)
Pharnabazus (a Persian governor)
the Persians

Words

ἀλλήλους (dative ἀλλήλοις)
τραῦμα, τραύματος, τό
ἄθαπτος, ἄθαπτον

each other
wound
unburied

21 Translate the rest of the story into good English.

[50]

21i This was a challenging start to the passage, with many candidates unsure of the construction τῷ Ἀγεσιλάῳ ἔδοξε or not recognising πορευθῆναι as an infinitive. Many also struggled with the meaning of τῶν πολεμίων, translating it as 'of the war'.

Assessment for learning



Candidates need to be familiar with the use of impersonal verbs, of which there are a few on the defined vocabulary list.

21ii This section was translated very well. The most common error was a mistranslation or omission of ἀλλὰ. Most candidates dealt with the potentially tricky verb ἔδωκε well.

21iii Most candidates answered this section correctly and most candidates were able to translate the purpose clause correctly before moving on to the participle phrase. Some candidates struggled with the precise meaning of προσβάλωσι ('to invade' was quite common). The biggest difficulty surrounded the word ἔτι which was frequently omitted or mistranslated as something to do with 'years'.

Exemplar 3

in order to invade towards the Spartans
that were in Greece.

This exemplar highlights a mistranslation of προσβάλωσι as 'invade', which was classified as an inconsequential error. There is also an omission of ἔτι, which is classed as a more serious error. This means that the maximum this section can be awarded is 3 marks out of 5.

21iv This section proved challenging for many candidates. Particular issues focused around the words οὕτως and συνέλεξαν with candidates trying to make sense of the sentence and steering away from the grammar if they did not recognise them. Some ignored οὕτως altogether with incorrect translations such as 'a strong Athenian army went/marched' not uncommon.

Assessment for learning



Candidates need to be confident with result clauses and further practice at recognising 'trigger' words would be beneficial.

21v This section also proved to be challenging for many candidates and was a very good differentiator. Many, who had managed to navigate the aorist passive ἠναγκάσθη and the aorist infinitive of the compound verb ἀπελθεῖν, did not recognise the purpose clause construction in ὥς βοηθήσων. Another difficulty was the pronoun ἑαυτοῦ, frequently mistranslated as 'him' or even 'them'. Pleasingly, however, many candidates who had gone awry in 21iv managed to get back on track here.

21vi This section proved to be challenging for many candidates. Despite having translated Ἑλλάδα correctly, the majority of candidates mistranslated Ἑλλάς as 'Greeks'. The meaning of πόσους was very often not known, which caused problems at the end of this section – particularly for those who did not comprehend that a question was being asked. The person of διαφθείρεις was dealt with well although there were problems with finding the correct tense, with translations such as 'will you destroy/have you destroyed' quite common.

21vii Many candidates struggled with the conditional clause within this section: tense errors were common, as were verbs translated with the wrong person/number. Other errors were found in mistranslation of τοσοῦτοι as 'so much' or ἀρχήν as 'ruler(s)'. Many candidates translated οἰοί τ' ἤμεν (ἄν) correctly.

Assessment for learning



Candidates need to be aware of two types of conditionals required for GCSE Classical Greek: 'future open' and 'past closed'. Frequently when they are examined, many candidates are unable to translate them with confidence.

21viii Many candidates were able to translate this section correctly. Some candidates translated τοὺς Ἀθηναίους as the subject of the verb, δεινὰ τραύματα as singular or omitted αὐτὸς. The strong aorist participle παθὼν was recognised well.

Key point call out – glossed words

Candidates are encouraged to make full use of the glossary beneath each passage. Those who translated δεινὰ τραύματα as 'terrible wound' could have supported their translation by noticing that the gender of the word τραῦμα was provided in the definite article τό. Noticing this and the genitive stem τραύματος may have helped candidates to find the correct translation.

21ix This was one of the most accessible sections of the translation and many candidates gave a perfect translation; of the remainder, most candidates were able to translate this section at least well. Where errors occurred, they were due to ἐκέλευσεν being translated as 'they ordered', στρατηγούς as 'soldiers' or a misunderstanding of φέρειν ἑαυτὸν περὶ τοὺς νέκρους as 'to carry the corpse(s) around him/them'.

21x The final section of the translation was generally handled very well by most candidates. Where errors occurred, they included: ἵνα ἴδῃ as '(in order) to know', omission of ἐκεῖ, μετὰ being translated as 'after' and τῶν ὀπλῶν ἐλείφθησαν being taken as a genitive absolute.

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