

Modified Enlarged 24pt
OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS

Monday 3 June 2024 – Morning

A Level Classical Civilisation

H408/34 Democracy and the Athenians

Time allowed: 1 hour 45 minutes
plus your additional time allowance

YOU MUST HAVE:
the OCR 12-page Answer Booklet

READ INSTRUCTIONS OVERLEAF



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 ALL the questions in Section A and ONE question in Section B.

INFORMATION

The total mark for this paper is 75.

The marks for each question are shown in brackets [].

Quality of extended response will be assessed in questions marked with an asterisk (*).

ADVICE

Read each question carefully before you start your answer.

SECTION A

Start your answer to each 10, 20 AND 30 MARK QUESTION on a NEW PAGE.

SOURCE A

Thucydides: ‘History of the Peloponnesian War’ 2.65.5–9

During peacetime, he had ruled moderately and steadfastly. Athens had been safe under his leadership, and had indeed reached the very height of her greatness. When the war began, he also demonstrated that he had made an accurate estimate of Athens’ power under these circumstances. He outlived the outbreak of war by two years and six months, and after his death, his foresight was appreciated even more than when he was alive. He had told the Athenians to be patient and take care of their navy, not to attempt to enlarge their empire during the war, and not to put the city in danger; if they did all of this, they would be victorious. In fact, they did everything

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10
15

he told them not to do, adopting policies with disastrous effects for themselves and their allies in matters seemingly unrelated to the war, motivated by personal ambition and self-interest. 20

Had this been successful, it would have brought honour and profit only to individuals, and if unsuccessful, it would have sabotaged the city's war effort. 25

The reason for this was not difficult to find. Pericles derived his authority from his high reputation and intelligence, while he was also clearly incorruptible. Therefore he was able to control the people freely: to lead, rather than be led by them. Since he did not seek power by dishonest means, he did not need to flatter them; because of the strength of his own worthy character, he could go so far as to oppose and even to anger the people. When he saw them unsuitably over-confident and arrogant, his words would strike fear into them; when they were needlessly fearful, he would build up their confidence again. 30 35 40 45

Thus Athens, although a democracy in name, was in fact ruled by its first citizen.

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1

- (a) 'He had ruled' (line 1). 'He' refers to Pericles. What official post did Pericles hold in Athens for most of the 10 years before his death? [1]**
- (b) State ONE way in which this post was different from the other posts which Athenian citizens could hold. [1]**

2 'After his death' (line 11). What caused Pericles' death? [1]

3 Explain what impression Thucydides creates of Pericles' character and his influence in Athens in the late 5th century BC in SOURCE A. [10]

SOURCE B

After the tyrant Hippias was expelled in 510 BC, there was civil conflict between two main factions in Athens until Cleisthenes gained power in 508 BC. During 508 BC and 507 BC, Cleisthenes made several important reforms to the Athenian constitution.

- 4 To which influential Athenian family did Cleisthenes belong? [1]**
- 5 State the name of the Athenian who led the main faction opposed to Cleisthenes after Hippias was expelled. [1]**
- 6 Explain how Cleisthenes' reforms might have helped to reassure Athenian citizens that civil conflicts were less likely to occur in the future. [10]**

7* 'Thanks to Cleisthenes, the 'Boule' (Council of 500) became the most important element of the Athenian democracy.'

Assess how far you agree with this statement. [20]

[SECTION A TOTAL: 45]

SECTION B

Answer ONE question from this section.

Use classical sources, and secondary sources, scholars and/or academic works to support your argument. You should also consider possible interpretations of sources by different audiences.

EITHER

8* ‘Drama was the most effective way to get the citizens of Athens to think critically about the Athenian system of government.’

Assess how far you agree with this statement. Justify your answer with reference to the works of AT LEAST TWO of the authors you have studied.

[30]

OR

9* 'The strengths of the Athenian legal system made up for its weaknesses.'

Assess how far you agree with this statement in relation to the legal system and law courts in 5th century Athens. Justify your answer with reference to the works of AT LEAST TWO of the authors you have studied. [30]

[SECTION B TOTAL: 30]

END OF QUESTION PAPER

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