



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

Monday 19 May 2025 – Afternoon

AS Level Classical Civilisation

H008/21 Greek Theatre

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

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 **4** pages.

ADVICE

- Read each question carefully before you start your answer.

Section A

Source A
Bell krater by McDaniel Painter



Figure 1

- 1 What kind of mythological creature is **Figure 1**? [1]
 - 2 State the name of **Figure 1**. [1]
 - 3 What is the technical name given to the building shown in **Source A**? [1]
 - 4 Analyse how useful **Source A** is in telling us how a comedy by Aristophanes might originally have been staged. [8]
- Make **four** points and support each point with reference to **Source A**. [8]

Source B
Aristophanes' *Frogs* 33–56

XANTHIAS	Ah woe is me, poor wretch! Why didn't I fight in that <u>sea-battle</u> ! Then I could tell you to bugged off.	
DIONYSUS	Get down, you idiot. My journey's taken me right up to this door here, my first destination.	
	Slave, I say, slave, slave!	5
HERACLES	Who's that battering the door, flinging himself at it like a centaur? Who the...say, what is all this?	
DIONYSUS	Slave.	
XANTHIAS	What is it?	
DIONYSUS	Did you notice that?	10
XANTHIAS	Notice what exactly?	
DIONYSUS	How scared he was of me.	
XANTHIAS	Oh, yes, by Zeus – scared that you're a maniac.	
HERACLES	By Demeter, I just can't stop laughing. I'm biting my lip, but I just can't help myself.	15
DIONYSUS	My good chap, step forward. I have a favour to ask of you.	
HERACLES	I can't stop laughing – look at that lionskin on top of your little yellow number. What's the idea? Why these boots and club? Where on earth were you heading?	
DIONYSUS	I was sailing with <u>Cleisthenes</u> .	20
HERACLES	You fought at sea?	
XANTHIAS	Yes, and sank – oh, must have been twelve or thirteen enemy ships.	
HERACLES	The two of you?	
DIONYSUS	Yes, by Apollo.	
XANTHIAS	In your dreams...	25
DIONYSUS	And while I was on board, reading <i>Andromeda</i> to myself, a <u>sudden desire</u> filled my heart – you wouldn't believe how strong it was.	
HERACLES	Desire? What kind of desire?	
DIONYSUS	Just a little one – the size of Molon.	

- 5 Which sea-battle is Xanthias referring to in line 1? [1]
- 6 Why do you think that Xanthias refers to this battle? Make **two** points. [2]
- 7 Who was Cleisthenes (line 20)? [1]
- 8 What was the sudden desire (line 26) felt by Dionysus? [1]
- 9 Explain how Aristophanes makes the scene in **Source B** a successful piece of comic drama. Make **four** points and support each point with reference to **Source B**. [8]
- 10* 'When the play was first produced, the audience found Aristophanes' *Frogs* to be entertaining because of what they heard, rather than what they saw.'
 Explain how far you agree with this statement.
- You may use **Source(s) A and/or B** as a starting point in your answer. [16]

[Section A Total: 40]

Section B

Answer **one** question from this section.

Either

11* 'Sophocles' *Oedipus the King* is Greek tragedy at its best.'

Assess how far you agree with this statement.

In your answer, you should consider what elements make a great tragedy and how far *Oedipus the King* has these elements. **[25]**

Or

12* 'It is impossible for the audience to feel any pity for Pentheus in Euripides' *Bacchae*.'

Assess how far you agree with this statement.

In your answer, you should consider how Pentheus acts and how he is treated by Dionysus. **[25]**

[Section B Total: 25]

END OF QUESTION PAPER

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