

Modified Enlarged 24pt
OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS

Tuesday 3 June 2025 – Afternoon

GCSE (9–1) Ancient History

J198/02 Rome and its neighbours

Time allowed: 2 hours
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 ALL the questions in EITHER Section B OR Section C OR Section D.

INFORMATION

The total mark for this paper is 105.

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

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

Spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPaG) and the use of specialist terminology will be assessed in questions marked with a pencil (.

ADVICE

Read each question carefully before you start your answer.

SECTION A

The foundations of Rome: From kingship to republic, 753–440 BC

1

- (a) State ONE building Tarquinius Superbus was said to have built. [1]**
- (b) Identify ONE of the features from the myth of Romulus' childhood. [1]**
- (c) Identify TWO rights that were said to have been granted by the Twelve Tables. [2]**

2 Outline how the Etruscan kings improved Rome. [6]

PASSAGE A

The siege continued. Grain was running out and prices rising. Porsena's hope of capturing the city was undone by a noble youth... Gaius Mucius reached the heart of Porsena's camp, he found a large crowd of soldiers receiving their pay from the king. Not knowing who the king was, he stepped forward and killed the wrong man... As the king's bodyguard seized him, he said, 'I am Gaius Mucius, a citizen of Rome. I came here to kill you, and I am ready to die... because I am not the only one to feel this way. Behind me stands many more who seek to kill you.'

The king reacted in both anger and fear and ordered Mucius to be thrown into the flames. ‘Look at me,’ Mucius replied, ‘and realise what you face from those who will kill you.’ He thrust his hand into the fire and kept it there and gave no sign of pain... (Fearing for his life) Porsena offered Rome peace.

Livy, ‘The History of Rome’ 2.12

- 3 Using details from PASSAGE A and your own knowledge, what can we learn about how Rome overcame Lars Porsena? [10]**

- 4 Using details from PASSAGE A and your own knowledge, explain the importance of individuals during the foundation of the Roman Republic. [15]**
- 5 ‘Ancient historians only tell us about Roman successes and achievements in the period 753–440 BC.’**

To what extent do you agree with this view? [20]

() Spelling, punctuation and grammar and the use of specialist terminology [5]

SECTION B

Hannibal and the Second Punic War, 218–201 BC

6

- (a) Name the mountain range Hannibal crossed with his army in 218 BC. [1]**
- (b) Name a Roman consul who led the Roman army at Cannae. [1]**
- (c) Identify THREE reasons why Hannibal withdrew from Italy in 203 BC. [3]**

PASSAGE B

© Polybius, Trans W. R. Paton, Polybius: The Histories, Volume II, Books 3-4, Loeb, 1989. From first line "Hannibal said that at the time when his father was intending to make an expedition to Spain with his forces," to last line "For he [Hannibal] would do everything he could to harm the Romans." Item removed.

- 7 What can we learn from PASSAGE B about Hannibal's reasons for attacking Rome? [5]**
- 8 Using details from PASSAGE B, how accurate do you think Polybius' account of Hannibal's reason for attacking Rome is? [5]**
- 9 Explain the importance of Spain to the outcome of the Second Punic War. [10]**
- 10* 'Cannae was the most important battle in the Second Punic War'**

To what extent do you agree with this view?

You must use and analyse the ancient sources you have studied as well as supporting your answer with your own knowledge. [20]

SECTION C

Cleopatra: Rome and Egypt, 69–30 BC

11

- (a) Name the man who ordered the execution of Cleopatra's sister (Arsinoe). [1]**
- (b) State TWO features of Cleopatra's likely education and upbringing. [2]**
- (c) Identify TWO events from the civil war between Cleopatra and Ptolemy XIII in 48–47 BC. [2]**

PASSAGE C

So Cleopatra pretended to love Antony with passion, and with little food, she allowed her body to waste away; when Antony was nearby, she would let her eyes fill with desire for him; when he went away,

she would look faint and ill. She would find ways often to be seen crying, and then would quickly wipe away the tears and hide them, as if she wanted him not to notice them... Her flatterers worked hard on Antony for her; they used to complain that Antony was harsh and cruel and determined to destroy a mistress who was devoted to one man, him alone. They would tell Antony that Octavia had married him for politics and for her brother, and took pleasure in having the name of wife. Cleopatra on the other hand, queen of so many men, was called Antony's lover; she did not avoid this name nor think it unworthy of her, as long as it was possible

for her to see him and be with him. If he drove her away, she could not bear to live.

Plutarch, 'Life of Mark Antony' 53

12 What can we learn from PASSAGE C about Cleopatra's relationship with Mark Antony? [5]

13 Using details from PASSAGE C, how accurate is Plutarch's description of Cleopatra's relationship with Mark Antony? [5]

14 Explain the significance of the birth of Caesarion. [10]

15* 'The Battle of Actium destroyed everything Cleopatra achieved.'

How far do you agree with this statement?

You must use and analyse the ancient sources you have studied as well as supporting your answer with your own knowledge. [20]

SECTION D

**Britannia: from conquest to province,
AD 43–c.84**

16

- (a) Name the Emperor who invaded Britain in AD 43. [1]**
- (b) State TWO examples of Caratacus' resistance to Rome. [2]**
- (c) Identify TWO tactics used by Agricola. [2]**

PASSAGE D

© Suetonius, Caligula, Penguin Classics, 2015. From first line "Finally, as if he were about to undertake a war," to last line "He said "Go away happy: Go away rich." Item removed due to third party copyright restrictions.

17 What can we learn from PASSAGE D about Caligula's preparations for an invasion of Britain? [5]

18 Using details from PASSAGE D, how accurate do you think Suetonius' account of the preparations for an invasion of Britain is? [5]

19 Explain what caused the Brigantes to rebel in AD 69. [10]

20* 'The development of towns and buildings was the most significant impact of Roman rule on Britain.'

How far do you agree with this view?

You must use and analyse the ancient sources you have studied as well as supporting your answer with your own knowledge. [20]

END OF QUESTION PAPER

BLANK PAGE

BLANK PAGE



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

Copyright Information

OCR is committed to seeking permission to reproduce all third-party content that it uses in its assessment materials. OCR has attempted to identify and contact all copyright holders whose work is used in this paper. To avoid the issue of disclosure of answer-related information to candidates, all copyright acknowledgements are reproduced in the OCR Copyright Acknowledgements Booklet. This is produced for each series of examinations and is freely available to download from our public website (www.ocr.org.uk) after the live examination series.

If OCR has unwittingly failed to correctly acknowledge or clear any third-party content in this assessment material, OCR will be happy to correct its mistake at the earliest possible opportunity.

For queries or further information please contact The OCR Copyright Team, The Triangle Building, Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8EA.

OCR is part of Cambridge University Press & Assessment, which is itself a department of the University of Cambridge.