

OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS

Monday 2 June 2025 – Afternoon

GCSE (9–1) Classical Greek

J292/05 Verse Literature B

**Time allowed: 1 hour
plus your additional time allowance**

**DO NOT USE:
a dictionary**

Please write clearly in black ink.

Centre number

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Candidate number

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First name(s) _____

Last name _____

READ INSTRUCTIONS OVERLEAF



INSTRUCTIONS

Use black ink.

Write your answer to each question in the space provided. If you need extra space use the lined pages at the end of this booklet. The question numbers must be clearly shown.

Answer ALL the questions.

INFORMATION

The total mark for this paper is 50.

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.

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1 Read the passage and answer the questions.

© Judith Affleck; Clive Letchford, OCR Anthology for Classical Greek GCSE 2025-2026, Bloomsbury Academic, 2023. From first line "πάντων δ' ὅσ' ἐστὶ ἔμψυχα καὶ γνῶμην ἔχει" to last line "ἢ κακὸν λαβεῖν ἢ χρηστόν." Item removed due to third party copyright restrictions.

(a) ἀθλιώτατον φυτόν (line 2):

(i) how does Medea describe women here?

_____ [1]

(ii) what has Jason done to make Medea feel this way?

_____ [1]

(b) ἄς ... λαβεῖν (lines 3–5): what impression does Medea give of Greek marriage here? Explain your answer.

_____ [2]

(c) *κάν ... χρηστόν* (lines 6–7): what does Medea say is the greatest challenge?

[1]

2 Read the passage and answer the question.

© Judith Affleck; Clive Letchford, OCR Anthology for Classical Greek GCSE 2025-2026, Bloomsbury Academic, 2023. From first line "λέγουσι δ' ἡμῶς ὡς ἀκνέδουνον βίον" to last line "στῆναι θέλωμ' ἂν μάλλον ἢ τεκνὶν ἄποδξ." Item removed due to third party copyright restrictions.

How does Medea emphasise her disagreement with the view that women's lives are easy?

You should make TWO points, each supported by close reference to the Greek. [4]

1

2

3 Read the passage and answer the questions.

© Judith Affleck; Clive Letchford, OCR Anthology for Classical Greek GCSE 2025-2026, Bloomsbury Academic, 2023. From first line "τοσοῦτον οὖν σουτυχάνεν βουλήσσαι," to last line "οὐκ ἔστιν ἄλλη φρὴν μίαιφονωτέρα." Item removed due to third party copyright restrictions.

(a) τοσοῦτον ... σιγᾶν (lines 1–5):

(i) how does Medea ask the Chorus to help her?

[3]

(ii) why is Medea angry with Creon as well as with Jason?

[1]

(b) γυνή ... μαιφονωτέρα (lines 5–8): what contrast does Medea make in these lines about the character of women?

[4]

4 Read the passage and answer the question.

© Judith Affleck; Clive Letchford, OCR Anthology for Classical Greek GCSE 2025-2026, Bloomsbury Academic, 2023. From first line "αἰαί· πανώλης ἢ τάλαν' ἀπόλλυμαι·" to last line "κοῦκ ἔστιν ἄτης εὐπρόσσιτος ἐκβασίς." Item removed due to third party copyright restrictions.

How does Medea attempt to gain sympathy in these lines?

You should make TWO points, each supported by close reference to the Greek.

1 _____

2 _____

5 Read the passage and answer the question.

© Judith Affleck; Clive Letchford, OCR Anthology for Classical Greek GCSE 2025-2026, Bloomsbury Academic, 2023. From first line "φεῦ φεῦ, μέλα τῶν σῶν ἀγέων, δύστηνε γόναι," to last line "Μήδεia, κακῶν ἐπτόρευσεν." Item removed due to third party copyright restrictions.

Translate this passage into English.

[5]

6* Read the passage and answer the question.

© Judith Affleck; Clive Letchford, OCR Anthology for Classical Greek GCSE 2025-2026, Bloomsbury Academic, 2023. From first line "πολλὰς δ' ἔχουσα θανάσιμους αὐτοῖς ὁδοὺς," to last line "σοφοὶ μάλιστα, φαρμάκοις αὐτοῦς ἐλάν. εἴεν." Item removed due to third party copyright restrictions.

How does Medea show that she is thinking very carefully about her plans?

In your answer you may wish to consider:

**the methods she considers
her reasoning for rejecting or accepting these
methods**

You must refer to the GREEK and discuss Euripides' use of language. [8]

[illegible]

[illegible]

7 Read the passage and answer the questions.

© Judith Affleck, Clive Letchford, OCR Anthology for Classical Greek GCSE 2025-2026, Bloomsbury Academic, 2023. From first line "ἔρπ' ἐς τὸ δεινόν· νῦν ἄγων εὐψυχίας" to last line "γεγῶσαν ἐσθλοῦ πατρὸς Ἥλιου τ' ἄπο." Item removed due to third

- (a) ἔρπ' ἐς τὸ δεινόν· νῦν ἄγων εὐψυχίας (line 1): pick out and translate the **GREEK WORD** which Medea uses to describe what she plans to do. [2]

Greek word: _____

English translation: _____

- (b) ὁρᾷς ... γάμοις (lines 2–3): what makes it important to Medea that she carries out her plan?

_____ [2]

- (c) γεγῶσαν ἐσθλοῦ πατρὸς Ἥλιου τ' ἄπο (line 4): why do you think Medea reminds herself about this?

_____ [2]

8* To what extent do you think Medea is justified in thinking and speaking as she does?

You should support your answer with a range of references to the text you have read, and you may include passages printed on the question paper. [10]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

END OF QUESTION PAPER

EXTRA ANSWER SPACE

If you need extra space use these lined pages. You must write the question numbers clearly in the margin.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]



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