



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

Tuesday 20 May 2025 – Afternoon

GCSE (9–1) Classical Civilisation

J199/11 Myth and Religion

Insert

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes



INSTRUCTIONS

- Do **not** send this Insert for marking. Keep it in the centre or recycle it.

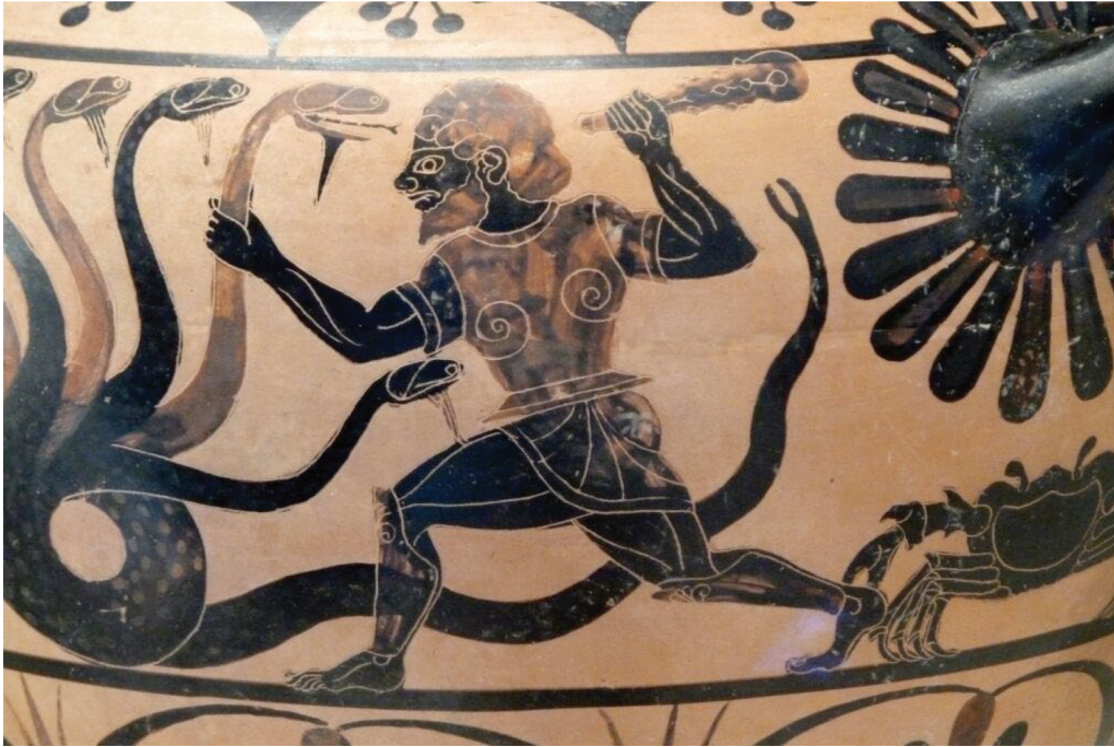
INFORMATION

- This document has **8** pages.

ADVICE

- Read this Insert carefully **before** you start your answers.

Source A: A pot showing Heracles attacking the Hydra.



Source B: Persephone describes a trick played on her in the Underworld.

Then, most beautiful Persephone spoke in reply: 'When luck-bringing Hermes, the swift messenger from his father the son of Cronos and the others in Heaven, came to me bidding me to come back from **Erebus**, so that you would see me with your eyes, and stop your **dreaded rage and anger** against the immortals, immediately I leaped up joyfully: but he secretly fed me the seed of a pomegranate, a honey-sweet food, and forced me to eat, though I was unwilling.'

3
4
5

Homeric Hymn to Demeter, 405–413

Source C: A scene from an Athenian festival in honour of Dionysus.



Source D: A scene from the Temple of Apollo at Bassae showing the Amazonomachy and a scene from the Parthenon at Athens showing the Centauromachy.



Source E: The Temple of Portunus (Fortuna Virilis).



Source F: Orpheus begs for his wife to be returned to earth.

Through the weightless throng, and the ghosts that had received proper burial, he came to Persephone, and the lord of the shadows, he who rules the joyless kingdom. Then striking the lyre-strings to accompany his words, he sang: 'O gods of this world, placed below the earth, to which all, who are created mortal, descend; if you allow me, and it is lawful, to set aside the fictions of idle tongues and speak the truth, I have not come here to see dark Tartarus, nor to bind Cerberus, Medusa's child, with his three necks, and snaky hair. My wife is the cause of my journey...'

5

Ovid, *Metamorphoses* 10.14–23

Source G: An extract from Ovid's Fasti describing an important Roman festival of the dead.

After cleansing his hands in spring water,
 He turns and first taking some black beans,
 Throws them with averted face: saying, while throwing:
 'With these beans I throw I redeem me and mine.'
 He says this nine times without looking back.

5

Ovid, Fasti 5.435–439

Source H: A Roman poet describes the beginnings of the Lupercalia.

Why, you ask, do the Luperci run, and since it's their custom,
 This running, why do they strip their bodies naked?
 The god himself loves to run swiftly on the heights,
 And he himself suddenly takes to flight.
 The god himself is naked, and orders his servants naked,
 Since anyway clothes were not suited to that course.
 They say the Arcadians had their land before the birth
 Of Jove, and their race is older than the moon...
 People lived in the open and went about nude,
 Hardened to heavy downpours from rain-filled winds.
 To this day the naked priests recall the memory
 Of old customs and testify to those ancient ways.

5

10

Ovid, Fasti 2.283–290, 299–302

Source I: Tiresias, a seer (mantis), describes terrible omens.

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Source J: A Roman altar showing the Emperor Augustus as an augur accompanied by a priest and priestess.

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