

Cambridge OCR Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9–1) in Classical Greek J292

Working closely with the Classical Association, we have made some changes to the requirements for the GCSE Classical Greek J292/01 Language paper. These changes are for first teaching in September 2026, with first assessment in Summer 2028.

The changes are based on teacher feedback. A Classical Association survey in 2024 showed that there was considerable support for reducing the syntax and accidence requirements in GCSE Classical Greek. Further consultation with teachers took place during the development and refinement of these changes.

What has changed?

We have:

- reduced the syntax and accidence that needs to be covered for the J292/01 Language paper, to make the qualification more manageable.
- updated the Defined Vocabulary List (DVL) and Restricted Vocabulary List (RVL) to reflect the changes to the syntax and accidence, whilst ensuring that the number of words in the DVL is still compliant with the [Department for Education subject content](#) requirement that it contains 'at least 400 words'.
- updated the J292/01 sample assessment materials to reflect the revised syntax and accidence requirements and the changes that have been made to the Defined and Restricted Vocabulary Lists. There are, however, **no changes** to the structure of the J292/01 Language paper. The duration of the exam **remains** at 1 hour 30 minutes.

Changes to the syntax and accidence requirements

We have made the following changes to the syntax and accidence requirements for the J292/01 Language paper.

We have removed:	Why we are making this change
the optative	To reduce the learning load
the subjunctive	To reduce the learning load
φημί	The more frequently assessed forms ἔφη/ἔφασαν have been retained
εἶμι (<i>ibo</i>)	To reduce the learning load; easily confused with εἰμί (<i>sum</i>) at this level
βραδύς-type adjectives	To reduce the learning load
the οἶδα perfect forms εἰδώς/-υῖα/-ός and εἰδέναι (leaving just the present indicative)	To reduce the learning load of perfect participle forms and to remove confusion with the aorist of ὁράω
purpose clauses with ἵνα	No longer tested now that the subjunctive and optative have been removed; purpose can still be expressed by ὥς + future participle

Changes to the Defined and Restricted Vocabulary Lists

We have removed the following words from the Defined Vocabulary List (DVL). No words have been removed from the Restricted Vocabulary List (RVL).

We have removed:	Why we are making this change
ἄν	No longer needed as remote conditionals have been removed
φημί (but keep ἔφη/ἔφασαν as separate items, as now)	The more frequently assessed forms ἔφη/ἔφασαν have been retained
εἶμι (<i>ibo</i>), ἰέναι, ἰών/ἰούσα/ἰόν	To reduce the learning load
εἰδώς/-υῖα/-ός and εἰδέναι	To reduce the learning load of perfect participle forms
βραδύς, εὐρύς, ἡδύς, ταχύς	To reduce the learning load
κτάομαι, χράομαι, πειράομαι	To reduce the learning load (but active verbs in -αω have been retained)
ἐάν	No longer needed as the subjunctive has been removed
ἵνα	No longer needed as the subjunctive and optative have been removed

We have added the following words to the **Restricted** and **Defined** Vocabulary List.

We have added:	
ἀδελφή	sister
ἀδελφός	brother

We have also added the following words to the **Defined** Vocabulary List.

We have added:	
ἄσεβής	impious
ἐγγύς + gen (or as adverb)	near, nearby
ἐορτή	festival
ἐπανερχομαι	I return
εὐσεβής	pious
θεράπεινα, θεράπων	attendant, domestic slave
οὐδέ, μηδέ	and not, nor, not even
οὐκέτι, μηκέτι	no longer
στρατόπεδον	camp
τάχιστος	very quick, quickest
χωρέω	I go

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