



General Certificate of Education
Advanced Subsidiary Examination
January 2009

Classical Civilisation

CIV1D

Unit 1D Women in Athens and Rome

Thursday 8 January 2009 1.30 pm to 3.00 pm

For this paper you must have:

- a CMI+ answer book.

Time allowed

- 1 hour 30 minutes

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen. Do **not** use pencil or gel pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book.
- Answer **two** questions.
Answer **one** question from Section A and **one** question from Section B.
- Shade the boxes on pages 2 and 7 of your answer book to show which questions you have chosen.
- You must answer the questions in the spaces provided. Answers written in margins or on blank pages will not be marked.
- Do all rough work in your answer book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked. Do **not** tear out any part of the book. All work must be handed in.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 65.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

SECTION A

Answer **one** question.

EITHER

- 1 Read the passage below and answer the questions which follow. Mnesilochus is defending Euripides in *Women at the Thesmophoria*.

If he wants to rail about Phaedra, let him, I say. He's never said a word about the woman who spread her skirt out wide to show her husband how nice it looked in the sunlight, while smuggling her boyfriend out underneath it. I know another woman who claimed to be in labour for ten days because she couldn't get hold of a baby. Her husband went all round town buying medicines to speed things up. In the end the old midwife managed to find a baby and brought it home in a jar, with its mouth bunged up with beeswax to stop it yelling; and when the old woman gives her the nod, the wife calls out to her husband, 'Go away, go away, it's starting!' He trots off delighted; they pull out the baby, unbung its mouth and the baby cries. The sly old midwife runs off to the husband, beaming, and says, 'It's a boy, a real lion of a boy, the image of his father, even down to his little winkle – the same bend halfway along.' I ask you, ladies, do we do these things? Of course we do. Why be so angry with Euripides? We suffer nothing worse than we deserve.

Aristophanes, *Women at the Thesmophoria*, lines 499-519

- (a) (i) What type of plays did Euripides write? (1 mark)
- (ii) What accusation have the women made against Euripides? (1 mark)
- (iii) How do the women intend to punish Euripides? (1 mark)
- (iv) What happens to Mnesilochus after this speech? Make **two** points. (2 marks)
- (b) What techniques does Aristophanes use to make the passage funny? You should take into account the circumstances in which Mnesilochus is speaking as well as what he says. (10 marks)
- (c) How important for an Athenian husband was the birth of a child? Give the reasons for your views.

You might include discussion of

- the purposes of an Athenian marriage
- Euphiletus' defence speech
- the speech about Neaera and her alleged daughter Phano
- the speech about the marriage of Ciron's daughter
- Ischomachus' conversation with Socrates.

(20 marks)

OR

- 2 Read the passage below about Cornelia, mother of the Gracchi, and answer the questions which follow.

Cornelia took over the children and the household, and proved herself so sensible and motherly and generous that it seemed that Tiberius had made a good decision when he chose to die on behalf of such a woman.

Plutarch, *Life of Tiberius Gracchus*, 1.4, Lefkowitz and Fant 52

- (a) (i) Describe the circumstances in which Tiberius chose to die on behalf of Cornelia. Make **three** points. (3 marks)
- (ii) What political office did Cornelia's sons Tiberius and Gaius hold? (1 mark)
- (iii) What happened to both Tiberius and Gaius? (1 mark)
- (b) 'Cornelia was remembered for her qualities as a mother rather than for anything else.' How far do you agree with this statement? Give the reasons for your views. (10 marks)
- (c) In his *History*, to what extent does Livy portray women as individuals **and** to what extent does he treat them as examples of good or bad behaviour? Give the reasons for your views.

You might include discussion of

- the Sabine women
- Lucretia
- Cloelia
- the speeches of Cato and Valerius in the debate on the repeal of the Oppian Law. (20 marks)

Turn over for next question

Turn over ►

SECTION B

Answer **one** question.

EITHER

- 3 To what extent does the Roman poet Juvenal portray women in a similar way to the Athenian playwright Aristophanes **and** to what extent are there differences in their treatment of women? Give the reasons for your views.

You might include discussion of

- the purposes of Aristophanes and Juvenal in writing
- how far each relies on stereotypes
- how far each reflects men's prejudices and anxieties
- the techniques Aristophanes and Juvenal use.

(30 marks)

OR

- 4 Between the 1st century BC and the 2nd century AD, to what extent were Roman women praised, or criticised, for becoming involved in politics and the law courts? Give the reasons for your views.

You might include discussion of

- the different kinds of evidence we have
- Turia
- Pliny's description of Arria, her granddaughter Fannia and his own wife Calpurnia
- Sallust's opinion of Sempronia
- Cicero's portrayal of Clodia
- Juvenal's views.

Do **not** discuss the women Livy writes about.

(30 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS

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