



**General Certificate of Education
June 2012**

Classical Civilisation 2020

CIV1E: Menander and Plautus

Report on the Examination

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CIV1E Menander and Plautus

Section One

Option A

Questions 01 and 02 were well answered, except where there was confusion between Getas and Gorgias in the former.

The best answers to Question 03 were well informed and thoroughly analytical in their assessments of the role of women in advancing the plot and contributing to the humour of *Old Cantankerous*. Weaker answers did not fully develop the argument and reach an overall judgement.

In Question 04, all students attempted some evaluation of the role of Knemon and usually covered most of the suggestions in the bullet points. However, they did not always respond to the full implications of the question and tended not to focus sufficiently on the key phrase 'sustained and total'.

Option B

The details required for Question 05 were generally well known, but in Question 06 there was a tendency to omit any of Gripus' ambitions beyond gaining his freedom.

In response to Question 07, some students produced a balanced argument that used details from the passage to explain judgements, but others tended either to make comments without supporting them with sufficient relevant details or to list details without reaching an overall view.

Most answers to Question 08 attempted some degree of evaluation. However, there was sometimes a lack of thoroughness leading to significant omission or imprecision, or a lack of focus on the exact question set, so that a range of scenes was described without full comparative analysis of their contribution to the play.

Section Two

Option C

Some essays in response to Question 09 made a serious attempt to develop an appropriate evaluative argument that used accurate knowledge of the openings of the four plays to support sensible judgements. Indeed, all showed some understanding of the issue, but several lacked adequate development and left generalisations unexplained and unsupported by apposite details.

Option D

Answers to Question 10 tended to be disappointing. There was often a lack of focus on the question, which did not seem to have been well understood, as well as a lack of knowledge of the plays, especially of *Amphitryo* in which Jupiter and Mercury have such important roles throughout.

Mark Ranges and Award of Grades

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