



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

**Tuesday 18 June 2019 – Morning**

**A Level Ancient History**

**H407/22 The Eleven Caesars**

**Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes**



**You must have:**

- the OCR 12-page Answer Booklet  
(OCR12 sent with general stationery)

**Other materials required:**

- None

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- Use black ink.
- There are **two** sections in this paper: Section A and Section B. In Section A, answer Question 1 or 2 and Question 3. In Section B, answer Question 4 and Question 5 or 6.
- Write your answers in the Answer Booklet. The question number(s) must be clearly shown.

**INFORMATION**

- The total mark for this paper is **98**.
- The marks for each question are shown in brackets [ ].
- Quality of extended response will be assessed in questions marked with an asterisk (\*).
- This document consists of **4** pages.

**SECTION A: The Julio-Claudian Emperors, 31 BC–AD 68**

Answer **either** question 1 **or** question 2 **and** then question 3.

Answer **either** question 1 **or** question 2.

- 1\* To what extent and for what reasons did the emperors attempt to improve the lives of the inhabitants of the city of Rome?

You must use and analyse the ancient sources you have studied as well as your own knowledge to support your answer. **[30]**

- 2\* How useful is Suetonius for our understanding of the reigns of the emperors of this period? You must consider the accounts of at least **two** emperors in your answer.

You must use and analyse the ancient sources you have studied as well as your own knowledge to support your answer. **[30]**

Answer question 3.

- 3 Read the interpretation below.

Whether people liked (Augustus) or loathed him, he was in many ways a puzzling and contradictory revolutionary. He was one of the most radical innovators Rome ever saw. ...

Yet Augustus appears to have abolished nothing. The governing class remained the same (this was no revolution in the strict sense of the word), the privileges of the senate were in many ways enhanced, not removed, and the old offices of state, consulships and praetorships and so on, continued to be coveted and filled. Much of the legislation that is usually ascribed to Augustus was formally introduced, or at least fronted, by those regular officials. ...Most of his formal powers were officially voted to him by the senate and cast almost entirely in traditional Republican format, his continued use of the title 'son of a god' being the only important exception. And he lived in no grand palace but in the sort of house on the Palatine Hill where you would expect to find a senator, and where his wife Livia could occasionally be spotted working her wool. The word that Romans most often used to describe his position was *princeps*, meaning 'first citizen' rather than 'emperor' as we choose to call him, and one of his most famous watchwords was *civilitas* – 'we're all citizens together'. **5**  
**10**  
**15**

M. Beard, *SPQR A History of Ancient Rome* (adapted)

How convincing do you find Beard's interpretation that 'Augustus appears to have abolished nothing'?

You must use your knowledge of the historical period and the ancient sources you have studied to analyse and evaluate Beard's interpretation. **[20]**

**SECTION B: The Flavians, AD 68–96**

Answer question 4 **and** then **either** question 5 **or** question 6.

Answer question 4.

4 Read the passage below.

I return now to the main narrative. Before Domitian and Mucianus approached the Alps, they received the good news of the victory over the Treviri. ...

Mucianus now made a suggestion which he had long contemplated in secret, although he pretended that it had just occurred to him. He said that since, by the kindness of the gods, the main forces of the enemy had been crushed, it was unseemly for Domitian to stand in the way of other generals who deserved their glory now that the war was virtually finished.

...However, the Canninefates and Batavians should be delegated to minor commanders, while Domitian himself should stay at Lyons and display the power and success of the dynasty from close at hand. By steering clear of petty hazards, he would be available to face greater threats.

Domitian saw through this sophistry; but Mucianus' posture of deference meant that he could not be caught out. So they reached Lyons. From there it is believed that Domitian sent secret messengers to test the loyalty of Cerialis and see if he would hand over the army and supreme command to himself when they met. Whether he was toying with the idea of fighting his father or trying to gain support and strength against his brother was uncertain. For Cerialis showed judicious restraint and returned an evasive answer to what he took to be a boy's idle fancy. Domitian realised that his elders despised his youth, and gave up even the trivial official duties which he had previously undertaken. Looking the picture of innocence and restraint, he shrouded himself in profound reserve and posed as an enthusiastic connoisseur of literature and poetry. The idea was to hide his real character and avoid competing with his brother, whose gentler nature, quite unlike his own, he totally misunderstood.

Tacitus, *Histories* 4.85–86

How useful is this passage for our understanding of reasons for Domitian's actions both before and after his accession to the principate? **[12]**

Answer **either** question 5 **or** question 6.

5\* To what extent did the role and power of the princeps become more monarchical under the Flavians?

You must use and analyse the ancient sources you have studied as well as your own knowledge to support your answer. **[36]**

6\* How effective was Vespasian in dealing with opposition during this period?

You must use and analyse the ancient sources you have studied as well as your own knowledge to support your answer. **[36]**

**END OF QUESTION PAPER**

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