



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

**Tuesday 24 May 2022 – Afternoon**

**A Level Ancient History**

**H407/11 Sparta and the Greek World**

**Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes**



**You must have:**

- the OCR 12-page Answer Booklet

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- Use black ink.
- Write your answer to each question in the Answer Booklet. The question numbers must be clearly shown.
- Fill in the boxes on the front of the Answer Booklet.
- Answer **four** questions in total:  
Section A: Answer Question 1 **or** Question 2 **and** answer Question 3.  
Section B: Answer Question 4 **and** answer Question 5 **or** Question 6.

**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 has **4** pages.

**ADVICE**

- Read each question carefully before you start your answer.

**Section A: Relations between Greek states and between Greek and non-Greek states, 492–404 BC**

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

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

- 1\* To what extent do you think fear of Persia dominated the relationships between Greek states during the period 478 to 446 BC?

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

- 2\* 'Thucydides was essentially correct that it was the growth of Athenian power which led to the outbreak of the Peloponnesian War in 431 BC.' To what extent do you agree with this view?

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.

There was nothing inevitable about the Spartans' ultimate victory in the war. Darius died in 404. Had the Athenians not been so careless at Aegospotami... the withdrawal of Persian support that would probably have attended on the king's death would seriously have compromised the Spartans' chances of winning. On the other hand, the long war taught Sparta a vital lesson about the centrality of naval power. When Sparta became a naval power, the Athenians lost an important advantage, lost the war, and lost their empire. **5**

S.B. Pomeroy, S.M. Burstein, W. Donlan & J.T. Roberts, *A Brief History of Ancient Greece*

How convincing do you find the authors' interpretation of the reasons why Sparta won the Peloponnesian War?

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

### Section B: The Society and Politics of Sparta, 478–404 BC

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

Answer question 4.

4 Read the passages below.

Lykourgos was responsible for many innovations, but of these the most important was the establishment of the *gerousia*. This Plato describes as a source of safety and moderation for the state, because its equal vote on issues of major importance was blended with the less considered judgement of their kings. Hitherto the constitution had been somewhat unstable, sometimes tending towards the tyrannical rule of kings, at others more inclined towards the democratic tendencies of the common people.

5

Plutarch, *Life of Lykourgos*, 5.6

But in time the people managed to distort and mangle his intentions by passing amendments or deletions. So Polydoros and Theopompos, the kings, added the following rider to the *rhetra*:

But if the people shall adopt a crooked proposal, the elders and founder-leaders shall have the power of dissolution.

5

This means that they should not ratify the proposal but should withdraw it totally and dissolve the assembly, on the grounds that it was attempting to pervert and distort what was in the state's best interests. They even managed to persuade the city that this was the god's addition to the *rhetra*, and there is a reminder of this in the poems of Tyrtaios.

Plutarch, *Life of Lykourgos*, 6.4–5

How useful are these passages for our understanding of the importance of the *gerousia*? [12]

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

5\* How far do the sources support the view that Sparta was a success on land but a failure at sea?

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

6\* 'Growing up in Sparta was brutal and unrewarding for Spartan males.' To what extent do you agree with this statement?

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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