



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

Tuesday 23 May 2023 – Morning

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 Question 1 **or** Question 2 **and** answer Question 3.

Answer **either** Question 1 **or** Question 2.

- 1* To what extent do the sources support the view that the Spartans always acted only in their own interests in the period 425–404 BC?

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

- 2* 'It was the unity which the Greeks showed against the Persians between 492 and 479 BC which was the key factor in their victory.'

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.

In so far as anyone can be held *immediately* responsible for the outbreak of the war which did so much to eat away the great achievements of fifth-century Greece, I think it is the Spartans (and their allies, in particular the Corinthians) who must bear the blame. We know from Thucydides (7.18.2–3) that the Spartans themselves later realised they had been at fault in 432–1. It may well be that the Spartans and most of their allies conceived themselves as fighting to stop Athens from further increasing her power or wealth, which might take place at their expense; but this, of course, does not excuse them from breaking the Thirty Years Peace and resorting to war. 5

G.E.M. de Ste. Croix, *The Origins of the Peloponnesian War* (adapted)

How convincing do you find G.E.M. de Ste. Croix's interpretation of who was responsible for the outbreak of war in 431 BC?

You must use your knowledge of the historical period and the ancient sources you have studied to analyse and evaluate G.E.M. de Ste. Croix's interpretation. **[20]**

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

Answer Question 4 **and** answer Question 5 **or** Question 6.

Answer Question 4.

4 Read the passage below.

‘But at the present time, as we have just pointed out to you, your whole way of life is out of date... Your inactivity has done harm enough. Now let there be an end of it. Give your allies, and especially Potidaea, the help you promised, and invade Attica at once. Do not let your friends and kinsmen fall into the hands of the bitter enemies. Do not force the rest of us [the Corinthians] in despair to join a different alliance. If we did so, no one could rightly blame us – neither the gods who witnessed our oaths nor any man capable of appreciating our situation. The people who break a treaty of alliance are the ones who fail to give the help they swore to give, not those who have to look elsewhere because they have been left in the lurch. But if you will only make up your minds to act, we will stand by you. It would be an unnatural thing for us to make a change, nor could we find other allies with whom we have such close bonds. You have heard what we have to say. Think carefully over your decision. From your fathers was handed down to you the leadership of the Peloponnese. Maintain its greatness.’

5

10

Thucydides, *The History of the Peloponnesian War*, 1.71

How useful is this passage for our understanding of the relationship between Sparta and Corinth?

[12]

Answer **either** Question 5 **or** Question 6.

5* ‘The helot population restricted the Spartans both at home and abroad.’

How far do the sources support this view?

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

6* To what extent do you agree with Xenophon that the Spartans failed to live up to the values set by Lycurgus?

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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