



General Certificate of Education  
Advanced Subsidiary Examination  
June 2009

## Archaeology

## ARCH2

### Unit 2 Archaeological Skills and Methods

**Specimen paper for examinations in June 2010 onwards**

**This question paper uses the new numbering system and new AQA answer book**

**For this paper you must have:**

- an AQA 12-page answer book
- a Sources Booklet (enclosed).

**Time allowed**

- 1 hour 45 minutes

**Instructions**

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Examining Body** for this paper is AQA. The **Paper Reference** is ARCH2.
- Answer **nine** questions.  
Answer **all** of the questions in Section A and **one** question from Section B.
- Do all rough work in your answer book. Cross through any work that you do not want to be marked.

**Information**

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 90.
- Sources for use in answering the questions in Section A are printed in a separate Sources Booklet.
- Quality of Written Communication will be assessed in Section B of this paper.
- In answering the questions in Section A, you must clearly demonstrate that you have used or drawn upon all the sources to which you are specifically directed. You must also use your own knowledge and understanding as appropriate to each question.
- You may use a magnifying glass to assist interpretation of figures.

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**Section A**

Read the Introduction and study the figures in the Sources Booklet.

Answer **all** questions in this section.

You are advised to spend about 75 minutes on this section.

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**Question 1**

**0 1** Study **Figure 1** and use your own knowledge.

Outline the advantages and disadvantages of the excavation strategy illustrated. *(12 marks)*

**Question 2**

**0 2** Study **Figure 1** and use your own knowledge.

Describe and explain the surveying and recording techniques illustrated. *(6 marks)*

**Question 3**

**0 3** Study **Figure 2** and use your own knowledge.

Explain how archaeologists recover environmental evidence such as these fish bones. *(6 marks)*

**Question 4**

**0 4** Study **Figure 3** and **Figure 4** and use your own knowledge.

Why do archaeologists produce both drawings and photographs of artefacts such as these? *(6 marks)*

**Question 5**

**0 5** Study **Figure 3** and **Figure 4** and use your own knowledge.

Outline the techniques that archaeologists can use to understand how these artefacts were made and used. *(10 marks)*

**Question 6**

**0 6** Study **Figure 5** and use your own knowledge.

Explain what archaeologists mean by Layer, NISP and MNI. *(6 marks)*

**Question 7**

**0 7** Look again at the **Introduction, Figures 1 to 5** and use your own knowledge.

Given that the evidence at Boxgrove is 500 000 years old, describe the methods that are applicable for dating the site and the associated finds. *(6 marks)*

**Question 8**

**0 8** Only one hominid tooth and one hominid shin bone were recovered from Boxgrove.

What might archaeologists learn from studying these remains? *(8 marks)*

**Turn over for Section B**

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**Section B**

Answer **one** question from this section.

You are advised to spend about 30 minutes on this question.

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**Question 9**

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Boxgrove is a research project. Using examples, explain the similarities and differences between rescue and research projects. *(30 marks)*

**Question 10**

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Explain how an understanding of site formation processes can enhance knowledge of sites such as Boxgrove. *(30 marks)*

**Question 11**

1	1
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How useful are desk-top research and pre-excavation techniques when preparing to excavate a site such as Boxgrove that until recently was deeply buried? *(30 marks)*

**END OF QUESTIONS**