



General Certificate of Education
Advanced Subsidiary Examination
June 2013

Classical Civilisation

CIV2B

Unit 2B Homer *Odyssey*

Wednesday 22 May 2013 9.00 am to 10.30 am

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 12-page answer book.

Time allowed

- 1 hour 30 minutes

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Paper Reference** is CIV2B.
- Answer questions from **two** options.
Choose **one** option from Section 1 and **one** option from Section 2.
Answer **all** questions from the options you have chosen.
- Do all rough work in your answer book. Cross through any work that you do not want to be marked.
Do **not** tear out any part of the book. All work must be handed in.
- If you use more than one book, check that you have written the information required on each book.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 65.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Section 1

Choose **either** Option A **or** Option B.

Answer **all** questions from the option you have chosen.

EITHER

Option A

Read the passage below and answer Questions 01 to 04 which follow. Odysseus and his men blind the Cyclops Polyphemus.

‘When the fierce glow from the olive stake warned me that it was about to catch alight in the flames, green as it was, I withdrew it from the fire and my men gathered round. A god now inspired them with tremendous courage. Seizing the olive pole, they drove its sharpened end into the Cyclops’ eye, while I used my weight from above to twist it home, like a man boring a ship’s timber with a drill which his mates below him twirl with a strap they hold at either end, so that it spins continuously. In much the same way we handled our pole with its red-hot point and twisted it in his eye till the blood boiled up round the burning wood. The scorching heat singed his lids and brow all round, while his eyeball blazed and the very roots crackled in the flame. The Cyclops’ eye hissed round the olive stake in the same way that an axe or adze hisses when a smith plunges it into cold water to quench and strengthen the iron. He gave a dreadful shriek, which echoed round the rocky walls, and we backed away from him in terror, while he pulled the stake from his eye, streaming with blood.’

Odyssey, Book 9, lines 378–398

- 0 1** How had the Cyclops trapped Odysseus and his men? Make **two** points. (2 marks)
- 0 2** How did Odysseus and his men later escape from the cave? Give **three** details. (3 marks)
- 0 3** How vividly in this passage does Homer describe the blinding of the Cyclops? (10 marks)
- 0 4** How important to the rest of their homeward journey is the Cyclops’ desire for revenge on Odysseus and his crew? Give reasons for your answer and refer to the books of the *Odyssey* you have read.

You might include discussion of:

- why Poseidon is involved and what he does
- the part played by Zeus
- help Odysseus receives
- what Odysseus does without outside help
- the actions of Odysseus’ crew.

(20 marks)

OR

Option B

Read the passage below and answer Questions 05 to 08 which follow. Eurycleia recognises Odysseus in the palace.

Delight and anguish swept through her heart together; her eyes were filled with tears; her voice stuck in her throat. She lifted her hand to Odysseus' chin and said, 'Of course! You are Odysseus, my dear child. And I never knew till my hands passed all over my master!'

With this she turned her eyes in Penelope's direction, wishing to let her know that her own husband was in the room. But Penelope was not able to meet her glance or pay any attention because Athene had distracted her. In the meantime Odysseus' right hand sought and gripped the old woman's throat, while with the other he pulled her closer to him. 5

'Nurse,' he said, 'do you want to ruin me, you who suckled me at your own breast? I am indeed home after twenty years of grief and trouble. But, since a god has revealed it to you, keep your mouth shut and let not a soul in the house learn the truth. Otherwise I tell you plainly – and you know I make no idle threats – that if the gods deliver these fine Suitors into my hands I won't spare you, though you're my own nurse, on the day when I put the rest of the maids in my palace to death.' 10 15

Odyssey, Book 19, lines 470–490

0 5 How has Eurycleia recognised Odysseus? Give **two** details. (2 marks)

0 6 How are the guilty maids punished later? Give **three** details. (3 marks)

0 7 How effectively in this passage does Homer emphasise differences in the emotions felt by Odysseus and Eurycleia? (10 marks)

0 8 In the rest of the *Odyssey*, to what extent does Odysseus trust, or distrust, those below him in status? Give reasons for your answer and refer to the books of the *Odyssey* you have read.

You might include discussion of:

- Eurycleia elsewhere in the story
- other female servants such as Melanthe and the maids
- male servants such as Eumaeus and Melanthius
- Eurylochus and the rest of Odysseus' crew.

(20 marks)

Turn over ►

Section 2

Choose **either** Option C **or** Option D and answer the question below.

EITHER**Option C**

0	9
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How important are immortal females to Odysseus' return home **and** success in regaining his kingdom? Give reasons for your answer and refer to the books of the *Odyssey* you have read.

You might include discussion of:

- Athene
- Calypso and Circe
- minor immortals such as Ino
- what Odysseus does for himself.

(30 marks)

OR**Option D**

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'Good *xenia* is always rewarded; bad *xenia* is always punished.'

How true is this of Homer's portrayal of *xenia* (guest friendship) in the books of the *Odyssey* you have read? Give reasons for your answer.

You might include discussion of:

- Odysseus, Penelope, Telemachus and the Suitors
- Calypso
- the Phaeacians
- the characters Odysseus meets on his travels in Books 9–12
- Eumaeus.

(30 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS

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