

## AS CLASSICAL CIVILISATION

Paper 2B Homer 'Odyssey'

---

Monday 6 June 2016

Morning

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

### Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 12-page answer book.

### 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 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. Telemachus has just led Athene into the hall of Odysseus' palace.

The Suitors came swaggering in and sat down in rows on the seats and chairs. Their squires poured water on their hands and the maids put piles of bread in bowls beside them, while the pages filled the mixing-bowls to the brim with wine. They helped themselves to the good things spread before them; and when all had satisfied their hunger and thirst, the Suitors turned their thoughts to other activities, music and dancing, which add to the pleasures of a banquet. A herald brought a beautiful lyre and handed it to Phemius, the minstrel whom they had forced into their service. He had just struck the first notes for some delightful song, when Telemachus spoke to bright-eyed Athene, with his head close to hers so that the others could not hear: 5

'Friend, will you be angry if I say something? How easy it is for that gang over there to think of nothing but music and songs! They are living free off another man – a man whose white bones are rotting in the rain upon some distant land or rolling in the salt sea waves. One glimpse of him in Ithaca and they'd pray for a faster pair of legs rather than gold or rich clothes! But as it is, he has come to some dreadful end. No one on earth can bring us a spark of comfort by telling us that he'll come back. The day for that is gone for ever.' 10 15

'Odyssey' Book 1, lines 146–168

- 0 1** What reasons has Athene given to Zeus for her visit to Ithaca? Make **three** points. **[3 marks]**
- 0 2** Who is Odysseus with when this banquet is taking place **and** what is the name of the island he is on? **[2 marks]**
- 0 3** How effectively in the passage does Homer shape his audience's opinion of the Suitors? **[10 marks]**

---

**0 4** 'Athene is more helpful to Odysseus during his journey to Ithaca than after his arrival there.'

To what extent do you agree? Give reasons for your answer and refer to the books of the 'Odyssey' you have read.

You might include discussion of:

- Athene's actions in Books 1 and 5
- what Athene does, and does not do, on his homeward journey
- Athene's actions on Phaeacia
- Athene's intervention just after Odysseus reaches Ithaca
- Athene's interventions at the palace.

**[20 marks]**

**Turn over for Option B**

or

### Option B

Read the passage below and answer Questions **05** to **08** which follow. Odysseus and his remaining crew prepare to sail past Scylla and Charybdis.

‘My men turned pale with terror; and now, while all eyes were on Charybdis as the quarter from which we looked for disaster, Scylla snatched out of my ship the six strongest and ablest men. Glancing towards my ship, looking for my comrades, I saw their arms and legs dangling high in the air above my head. “Odysseus!” they called out to me in their anguish. But it was the last time they used my name. For like an angler on a jutting point, who casts his bait to lure the little fishes below, dangles his long rod with its line protected by an ox-horn pipe, gets a bite, and whips his struggling catch to land, Scylla had whisked my comrades, struggling, up to the rocks. There she devoured them at her own door, shrieking and stretching out their hands to me in their last desperate throes. In all I have gone through as I explored the pathways of the seas, I have never had to witness a more pitiable sight than that. 5

‘When we had left the Rocks, Scylla, and dread Charybdis behind, we soon reached the Sun-god’s lovely isle, where Hyperion kept his splendid broad-browed cattle and his flocks of sturdy sheep. From where I was on board, out at sea, I could hear the lowing of cows as they were stalled for the night, and the bleating of sheep.’ 10 15

‘Odyssey’ Book 12, lines 243–264

- 0 5** Name the **two** characters who had previously warned Odysseus about the dangers of Hyperion’s island. **[2 marks]**
- 0 6** What events on Hyperion’s island led to the deaths of Odysseus’ remaining crew? Make **three** points. **[3 marks]**
- 0 7** How effectively in the passage does Homer create a dramatic scene? **[10 marks]**

0	8
---	---

'Odysseus' story of his wanderings in Books 9–12 suggests that only mortals are required by Zeus to keep to the rules of xenia (guest friendship).'

To what extent do you agree? Give reasons for your answer and refer to the books of the 'Odyssey' you have read.

You might include discussion of:

- Polyphemus
- Aeolus and Hyperion
- the Laestrygonians
- Circe
- Odysseus and his crew.

**[20 marks]**

**Turn over for Section 2**

---

**Section 2**

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

---

**Either**

**Option C**

**0 9** 'Male gods give Odysseus more serious problems in the 'Odyssey' than male mortals do.'

To what extent do you agree? Give reasons for your answer and refer to the books of the 'Odyssey' you have read.

You might include discussion of:

- Zeus
- Poseidon
- other male gods
- Odysseus' crew
- the Suitors
- other male mortals.

**[30 marks]**

**or**

**Option D**

**1 0** 'Homer's storytelling techniques makes Odysseus' journey to Ithaca much more exciting than what happens after he returns there.'

To what extent do you agree? Give reasons for your answer and refer to the books of the 'Odyssey' you have read.

You might include discussion of:

- the changes of scene during the 'Odyssey'
- the two halves of the storyline including parallels between the two
- the characters who appear in each half
- the quality of Homer's language and imagery in each half
- how each half contributes to the themes of the poem.

**[30 marks]**

**END OF QUESTIONS**

**There are no questions printed on this page**

**There are no questions printed on this page**

**Copyright Information**

For confidentiality purposes, from the November 2015 examination series, acknowledgements of third party copyright material will be published in a separate booklet rather than including them on the examination paper or support materials. This booklet is published after each examination series and is available for free download from [www.aqa.org.uk](http://www.aqa.org.uk) after the live examination series.

Permission to reproduce all copyright material has been applied for. In some cases, efforts to contact copyright-holders may have been unsuccessful and AQA will be happy to rectify any omissions of acknowledgements. If you have any queries please contact the Copyright Team, AQA, Stag Hill House, Guildford, GU2 7XJ.

Copyright © 2016 AQA and its licensors. All rights reserved.