



**General Certificate of Education  
June 2011**

**Classical Civilisation**

**CIV3D**

**Unit3D**

**Augustus and the Foundation of the Principate**

**Exemplar Script 2  
Grade A\* 59/75**

**SECTION 1****Option B****06 What is happening on the frieze, and who are involved? Make five points***(5 marks)*

A state ceremony [1], not defined as a particular occasion [1], involving Augustus [1], Agrippa [1] senators [1], lictors [1], the imperial family [1] and priests [1].

**Response**

On the frieze there is a procession which stops and centres around Augustus. In this procession are members of the imperial family, including Gaius Lucius (Valia and Agrippa's sons) and Germanicus. Antonia minor is also believed to be one of the women on the frieze. The procession also includes members of different religious cults / heads of religious cults which appear before the imperial family.

**Comment**

This identifies a procession, Augustus, and individual members of the imperial family. It does not pick up on the other official presences or Agrippa.

**3 marks****07 What was the significance of the Ara Pacis Augustae?***(10 marks)***Level 4** Demonstrates

- accurate and relevant knowledge covering central aspects of the question
- clear understanding of central aspects of the question
- ability to put forward an argument which for the most part has an analytical and/or evaluative focus appropriate to the question and uses knowledge to support opinion
- ability generally to use specialist vocabulary when appropriate.

**8-10****Level 3** Demonstrates

- a range of accurate and relevant knowledge
- some understanding of some aspects of the question
- some evidence of analysis and/or evaluation appropriate to the question
- some ability to use specialist vocabulary when appropriate.

**5-7****Level 2** Demonstrates**either**

- a range of accurate and relevant knowledge

**or**

- some relevant opinions with inadequate accurate knowledge to support them.

**3-4**

- Level 1** Demonstrates  
**either**
- some patchy, accurate and relevant knowledge
- or**
- an occasional attempt to make a relevant comment with no accurate knowledge to support it
- 1-2**

**Response**

The significance of the Ara Pacis is threefold. One reason is to celebrate the peace that Augustus had secured for the empire in both ending civil wars (such as Actium) and foreign wars in provinces. The peace Augustus brought (Pax Communa) had been signified in the closing of the temple gates of Janus, but the accomplishment was so great that the senate (who commissioned the Ara Pacis in 13BC) decided another monument should signify it.

Another reason of significance to the Ara Pacis is to signify Roman state Religion. Although not directly linked to Augustus social and religious reforms, the Ara Pacis itself is promoting religion which had declined as a result of the civil wars. Peace has almost been defied like 'fortune' was under Augustus.

Finally the Ara Pacis is significant as an image of propaganda relating to the imperial family. Augustus tried to show that Rome was a republic, however, statements such as these with a procession of his family are also showing an anarchy aspect to Augustus political career. This is perhaps a way of Augustus ensuring succession would be accepted as he's perhaps saying none of the peace Rome is enjoying would be possible without him and his family.

**Comment**

This identifies and enlarges on the significance or purpose of the Ara Pacis as celebration of peace, as a signifier of state religion, and as a propaganda instrument for the imperial family. It does note that it was a senatorial commission, but does not comment on its substitution for a triumph on Augustus' return from Gaul, or its careful siting in the Campus Martius.

**Level 3****5 marks**

- 08 To what extent does the Ara Pacis Augustae convey similar messages to those of the Prima Porta statue of Augustus and to what extent do they differ? (20 Marks)**

- Level 5** Demonstrates
- well chosen, accurate and relevant knowledge covering most of the central aspects of the question
  - coherent understanding of the central aspects of the question
  - ability to sustain an argument which
  - has an almost wholly analytical and/or evaluative focus,
  - responds to the precise terms of the question,
  - effectively links comment to detail,
  - has a clear structure
  - reaches a reasoned conclusion
- 19-20**

- is clear and coherent, using appropriate, accurate language and
- makes use of specialist vocabulary when appropriate.

<b>Level 4</b>	<p>Demonstrates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• generally adequate, accurate and relevant knowledge covering many of the central aspects of the question</li> <li>• understanding of many of the central aspects of the question</li> <li>• ability to develop an argument which has a generally analytical and/or evaluative focus,</li> </ul>	<b>14-18</b>
<b>Level 3</b>	<p>Demonstrates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a range of accurate and relevant knowledge</li> <li>• some understanding of some aspects of the question</li> <li>• some evidence of analysis and/or evaluation appropriate to the question</li> <li>• some ability to structure a response using appropriate language, although with some faults of spelling, punctuation and grammar</li> <li>• some ability to use specialist vocabulary when appropriate.</li> </ul>	<b>9-13</b>
<b>Level 2</b>	<p>Demonstrates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>either</b> a range of accurate and relevant knowledge</li> <li>• <b>or</b> some relevant opinions with inadequate accurate knowledge to support them</li> <li>• <b>and</b> sufficient clarity, although there may be more widespread faults of spelling, punctuation and grammar.</li> </ul>	<b>5-8</b>
<b>Level 1</b>	<p>Demonstrates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>either</b> some patchy, accurate and relevant knowledge</li> <li>• <b>or</b> an occasional attempt to make a relevant comment with no accurate knowledge to support it</li> <li>• <b>and</b> little clarity; there may be widespread faults of spelling, punctuation and grammar.</li> </ul>	<b>1-4</b>

**Response**

A similarity between the Ara Pacis Augustae and the Prima Porta are the aspects of religion which are highlighted in both. For example, in the Ara Pacis, the structure itself is a religious altar, on the Prima Porta statue, Augustus is bare-footed, which is symbolic of taking off your shoes before entering a temple. Both the Ara Pacis and the Prima Porta are highlighting the importance of religion.

Another similarity is that both the Prima Porta and the Ara Pacis are prompting a message of the relations between the gods and Augustus and his family. Augustus often promoted his divine ancestry – by whole heartedly accepting his adoption from Julius Caesar who was related to Iulus, son of Aeneas who was the son of Venus. On the Prima Porta, the structural support is made into Cupid riding a dolphin. Dolphins were associated with Venus, so Augustus is showing his relationship to the gods and his dependence on them (as the structure itself requires support- so did he). On the Ara Pacis, on the east façade, there is a relief where mother earth has Gaius and Lucius (then Augustus heirs) on her lap. This again subtly highlights the divinity associated with the family and that they are favoured by the gods. This would gain Augustus great support.

A difference between the Prima Porta and the Ara Pacis is that the Prima Porta is showing ongoing military action with Augustus dressed as a soldier in the role of imperator, whereas the Ara Pacis signifies more the end of wars. Augustus is wearing military clothes armour and would have been holding a spear. This stance also implies he is addressing his troops as he has his hand out to gather their attention.

Moreover, on the breastplate of the Prima Porta, King Phrates of Parthia is returning that battle standards that Crassus lost in Carrhae in 53BC. This highlights Augustus role as a diplomat – restoring the glory that had been lost, however this is still a political message which emphasises Augustus foreign policy more so than peace.

Another similarity of the Prima Porta and the Ara Pacis is that they both demonstrate Augustus worldly intelligence as they are both similar to Greek pieces. The Prima Porta is modeled on “Doryphoros” by Polykleitos and to some extent the Ara Pacis reflects the Parthenon. This promotes the message that Augustus is well-rounded in his appreciation of other cultures.

**Comment**

08 Here the answer clearly recognises that the imagery of the Ara Pacis focusses on peace, prosperity, tradition and myth; the Prima Porta statue prioritises military success as a precondition of peace with some of the same imagery as its tools. It is noted that statue's bare feet may have a religious significance as well as the more usually cited reference to Greek antecedents; the essay's conclusion reinforces Augustus' references to Greek culture as part of his message. As a whole the answer demonstrates knowledge and credible interpretation of the two works, and deserves its level 5 mark.

**Level 5****19 marks**

**Option D**

- 10 How important a part did Augustus' building programme play in his principate? Explain your views with reference to both the *Res Gestae* and Suetonius' *Augustus*. (40 marks)**

- Level 5** Demonstrates
- well chosen accurate, and relevant knowledge from different sources which thoroughly covers the central aspects of the question
  - coherent and perceptive understanding of the links between the central aspects of the question and the values of the classical world
  - ability to sustain an argument which
    - is explicitly comparative,
    - has an almost wholly analytical and/or evaluative focus,
    - responds to the precise terms of the question,
    - fluently links comment to detail,
    - has a clear and logical structure
    - reaches a reasoned conclusion
    - is clear and coherent, using appropriate, accurate language and
    - makes use of specialist vocabulary when appropriate.
- 37-40**
- Level 4** Demonstrates
- generally adequate, accurate and relevant knowledge from different sources which covers many of the central aspects of the question
  - sound understanding of many of the central aspects of the question, including the values implicit in the material under discussion
  - ability to develop an argument which
    - makes connections and comparisons,
    - has a generally analytical and/or evaluative focus,
    - is broadly appropriate to the question,
    - mainly supports comment with detail and
    - has a discernible structure
    - is generally clear and coherent, using appropriate, generally accurate language and
    - generally makes use of specialist vocabulary when appropriate.
- 27-36**

- Level 3** Demonstrates
- a range of accurate and relevant knowledge from different sources
  - some understanding of some aspects of the question, including some awareness of classical values
  - some evidence of analysis and/or evaluation appropriate to the question
  - some ability to structure a response using appropriate language, although with some faults of spelling, punctuation and grammar
  - some ability to use specialist vocabulary when appropriate.
- 17-26**
- Level 2** Demonstrates
- **either** a range of accurate and relevant knowledge
  - **or** some relevant opinions with inadequate accurate knowledge to support them
  - **and** sufficient clarity, although there may be more widespread faults of spelling, punctuation and grammar.
- 8-16**
- Level 1** Demonstrates
- **either** some patchy, accurate and relevant knowledge
  - **or** an occasional attempt to make a relevant comment with no accurate knowledge to support it
  - **and** little clarity; there may be widespread faults of spelling, punctuation and grammar.
- 1-7**

**Response**

Perhaps one of the greatest quotes in relation to Augustus was that of Suetonius where Augustus claimed he 'found Rome brick and left it clothed in marble'. It is undeniable that Augustus' building programme played a role in his principate, however what also must be examined are other aspects which were perhaps more important in the principate. Suetonius describes that Augustus felt the city of Rome was not fit to be a capital, which is what inspired his extensive building programme. Augustus building programme tackled both the practical aspects of restoration (such as repairing the Via Flaminia) and decorative aspects such as the creation of the Ara Pacis. Both the practical aspects of his programme and the decorative aspects would increase his popularity with the people, this effectively ensuring they would be accepting of his new government, the principate.

The principate itself is the idea that behind a façade of republican constitution, Augustus led Rome and the Empire into what was effectively a one-man-rule. This is evident in Augustus claiming to have "restored" the republic in his Res Gestae, but Suetonius and other historians claiming it was a "pretence" (Dio Cassius) and a "usurpation" (Suetonius).

In his *Res Gestae*, Augustus remarks how he restored 82 temples from his own patrimony at great expense. Augustus also mentions how he implored others to restore or rebuild other temples too. What is noteworthy is that although Augustus mentions he enlisted help from others – only the temples he himself restored are named. This subtly implies that all the work that was done was due to him, whether he paid for it or not. This again, places importance on the fact it was under Augustus that the restorations were made. However, not only are the other names of those who helped him not mentioned, but the senate's role in any restoration (if they helped at all) is glossed over. In the scheme of things, it could be argued this did not help the principate as all the glory went to Augustus alone.

One building that stands out as having an active role in promoting the principate is the Pantheon. The Pantheon was built by Agrippa. And there is an inscription on the Pantheon that mentions Agrippa who had been consul “three times” was the one who built it. This is important because Augustus and Agrippa had both monopolised the consulship, and the fact it was made a statement rather than being hidden away shows the message that under Augustus there were exceptions made to normal Republican constitution, but it was acceptable. This demonstrates the changes and promotions made to the principate.

On the Ara Pacis, on the north wall, the Senate are depicted on the façade. Augustus does not deny that he made changes to the senate-purging it of its unworthy members three times. Suetonius adds that the final purge in 11BC was due to Augustus and Agrippa finally choosing who would leave. However, although Augustus made numerous changes to the Senate, the inclusion of them in one of the buildings portrays the message that the senate are still important. This maintains the façade of the republic, aiding the changes that were being made in what was effectively, the principate.

What must also be noted is that on the Ara Pacis, particularly on the north wall, the south wall and east façade, are depictions of Augustus' family namely his heirs at that time. Gaius and Lucius Caesar. It is believed that Augustus was greatly preoccupied with his succession and the continuance of his principate, but as the succession he planned was wrapped around the changing constitution, it is not mentioned in his *Res Gestae*. Even Suetonius does not ever refer to succession- just Augustus' adoptions. Therefore, the inclusion of his family in his building programme is a great source of propaganda in his hinting at wanting a continuance of his principate to be undertaken by one of his family.

Another important part of Augustus building programme was his forum which Livy regarded as one of the most beautiful buildings he had ever seen, one of the others being the Ara Pacis. Along one of the walls of the Forum were great leading figures from the legendary founders Aeneas and Romulus down to Julius Caesar. This political statement, that Augustus was a part of these legendary founders and people of great significance of Rome demonstrates his role in the new order. Moreover, the fact that it was built perpendicular to the Forum Julium is showing the link between Augustus and Julius Caesar.



In regards to the role this plays on the principate by positioning himself with other great people of Rome, Augustus is promoting the changes and positive impact he made – thus securing support for him and his government.

What could be argued is that it was not Augustus' building programme that strengthened the role of the principate, but the purges made to the senate itself which rid Augustus of any internal opposition in his new government. If the active body did not oppose Augustus, it would not attract too much attention of having been changed so drastically and this could be why the principate remained so strong, not because of its promotion through the building programme.

Overall, I believe that although Augustus' building programme did help promote his new government, the fact he removed all opposition from it to have a secure force behind him was perhaps more important in the people's acceptance of the new system.

I would say however, that the use of the building programme as propaganda in relation to succession, which neither Augustus nor Suetonius really emphasise in their respective accounts, did help in the smooth hand over to Tiberius upon Augustus' death.

#### **Comment**

This begins with a reference to Suetonius' 'bricks and marble' quotation, and explores its significance as a pointer to both his refurbishment of and additions to the official building stock, and to his activities in expanding and improving its infrastructure. It then moves on to enlarge on the official programme and some of its underlying intentions and meaning, with a significant argument about the Pantheon, and Augustus' relationship with and use of Agrippa. There is evidence of knowledge of the essential material on the Ara Pacis, and a suggestion of an interesting interface with Augustus' involvement in constitutional manipulation and succession planning; The essay then goes on briefly to deploy this as an alternative answer strategy, but too briefly to give it weight. Level 4 on the basis of evidence of knowledge and analysis.

**Level 4**

**32 marks**