



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

**Monday 05 October 2020 – Morning**

**AS Level Classical Civilisation**

**H008/11 The World of the Hero**

**Time allowed: 1 hour 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.
- This question paper has **two** options:  
Option 1: *The Iliad*  
Option 2: *The Odyssey*
- Choose **one** option: answer **all** the questions in Section A and **one** question in Section B for that option.

**INFORMATION**

- The total mark for this paper is **65**.
- 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 **12** pages.

**ADVICE**

- Read each question carefully before you start your answer.

**Option 1: The *Iliad***

Answer **all** the questions in Section A and **one** question in Section B.

**Section A**

Answer **all** the questions in this section.

Choose one of the following translations of the *Iliad* and answer the questions which follow.

**Passage A: Homer, *Iliad*, 6.345–356**

'My brother-in-law, what a cold, evil-minded slut I am! How I wish that, on the very day when my mother bore me, the storm-fiend had swept me off into the mountains or into the waves of the sounding sea, to be overwhelmed before all this could happen. And next to that, since the gods have ordained things to this evil end, I wish I had found a better husband, one with some feelings for the anger and contempt that his fellow men had for him. But as it is, this husband of mine hasn't a brain in his head and never will; though one day he will pay for it, if I am not mistaken.

5

'But come in now, my dear brother-in-law, and sit down on this chair. No one in Troy bears a greater burden of responsibility for the fighting than you – and all because of me, slut that I am, and Paris' blind folly.'

10

*Trans: E.V. Rieu*

'Brother, I am indeed that wicked she-dog whom all abhor. I wish that on the day of my birth, some vile blast of wind had blown me to the mountains, or into the waves of the echoing sea, where the waters would have drowned me, and none of this would have come about. But since the gods ordained this fate, I wish that I had a better man for husband, who felt the reproaches and contempt of his fellow men. But this man of mine is fickle, and ever will be so, and will reap the harvest of it hereafter. But enter, now and be seated, my brother, since you are the most troubled in mind of all, through my shamelessness and Paris' folly.'

5

*Trans: A.S. Kline*

- 1 Who is Helen speaking to in line 1 (Rieu/Kline) 'brother-in-law/Brother'? [1]
- 2 (a) Who is Helen referring to in line 4 (Rieu/Kline) 'I wish I had found a better husband/I wish that I had a better man for husband'? [1]
  - (b) Why do you think this person has felt the 'anger and contempt/reproaches and contempt' (line 5 – Rieu/Kline) of his fellow men? [1]
- 3 What is Helen referring to in line 9 (Rieu) 'all because of me' or line 7 (Kline) 'through my shamelessness'? [1]
- 4 Explain how Helen is portrayed in **Passage A**.  
Make **four** points and support each point with reference to **Passage A**. [8]

Choose one of the following translations of the *Iliad* and answer the questions which follow.

**Passage B: Homer, *Iliad*, 16.818–845**

When Hector saw great-hearted Patroclus wounded and in retreat, he made his way towards him through the ranks and, coming up, stabbed him with his spear in the lower belly, driving the bronze clean through. Patroclus thudded to the ground, throwing the whole Greek army into consternation. As a lion's will to fight overpowers an indomitable wild boar when the fearless pair battle it out in the mountains over a little stream; both wish to drink there, but the lion's strength prevails and his panting enemy is overcome – so, after killing many men himself, Menoetius' strong son fell to a close-range thrust from Hector, who now spoke to him in triumph with winged words:	5
'Patroclus, you probably thought you'd sack our town, make Trojan women slaves and ship them off to the land of your fathers. You innocent! In their defence, Hector's swift horses were racing into battle – I, Hector, finest spearman of the war-loving Trojans, who stand between them and the day of slavery. As for you, vultures are going to eat you on this very spot. Miserable wretch! Even great Achilles did not save you. I can imagine all the instructions he gave you on your way out, while he stayed behind: "Charioteer Patroclus, don't come back to the hollow ships till you have ripped through the tunic on man-slaying Hector's chest and soaked it with his blood." That, I imagine, is what he must have said; and like an idiot you took him at his word.'	10
Fading fast you replied, charioteer Patroclus:	
'Hector, boast loud and long while you can. Zeus and Apollo handed you that victory. They conquered me.'	15
	20
<i>Trans: E. V. Rieu</i>	

But Hector, seeing brave Patroclus withdraw, struck by the blade, made his way to him through the ranks, and drove at him with his spear, piercing the lower belly and ramming the point home. Patroclus fell with a thud, to the grievous sorrow of the Achaean army. As a lion in the high mountains may fight with a tireless wild boar over a trickling stream from which both seek to drink, and conquers his panting enemy by strength alone, so Hector, Priam's son, overcame the valiant son of Menoetius, who himself had killed so many men, and striking him close at hand with his spear robbed him of his life. Then straddling him, he shouted in victory: 'I think you boasted you'd sack our city, Patroclus, take our women captive, sail with them to your native land. How foolish! Hector and his swift horses are here to fight for them, Hector the finest spearman among the warlike Trojans, I who shield them from the day of doom, while as for you, the vultures shall have you. Even Achilles, with all his valour, could not save you, wretched man, though I don't doubt he told you as you left, for he chose to stay: "Patroclus, master horseman, don't return to the hollow ships till you've pierced the tunic at man-killing Hector's chest and drenched it in his blood." No doubt that's what he said, and you in your madness thought it would be so.'	5
But though your strength was ebbing fast, horse-taming Patroclus, yet you answered: 'Boast, while you can, Hector, for Zeus and Apollo it was who gave you victory. They conquered me: they stripped the armour from my shoulders.'	10
	15
<i>Trans: A. S. Kline</i>	

- 5 Whose armour was Patroclus wearing in **Passage B**? [1]
- 6 Which famous Trojan had Patroclus already killed? [1]

- 7 Which god removed the armour Patroclus was wearing? [1]
- 8 Why do you think Patroclus' death is important in the Trojan war? [1]
- 9 Explain how **Passage B** is a memorable piece of writing.  
Make **four** points and support each point with reference to **Passage B**. [8]
- 10\* Explain who you think was the most responsible for the death of Patroclus. In your answer you should include at least **three** points. You may use **Passage B** as a starting point, and your own knowledge in your answer. [16]

[Section A Total: 40]

**Section B**

Answer **one** question from this section.

**Either**

**11\*** 'The gods and goddesses in the *Iliad* are portrayed in a human way.' Explain how far you agree with this statement. Justify your response. **[25]**

**Or**

**12\*** Explain how the plot of the *Iliad* adds to the success of the epic. Justify your answer. **[25]**

**[Section B Total: 25]**

## Option 2: The *Odyssey*

Answer **all** the questions in Section A and **one** question in Section B.

### Section A

Answer **all** the questions in this section.

Choose one of the following translations of the *Odyssey* and answer the questions which follow.

#### Passage A: Homer, *Odyssey*, 6.186–203

‘Sir,’ said the white-armed Nausicaa, ‘since your manners show that you are not a bad man or a fool – it is Olympian Zeus himself who assigns good fortune to men, good and bad alike, as he wills, and must have sent you your personal misfortune – and you must just endure it – but now since you have come to our country and our city here, you certainly shall not want for clothing or anything else that an unfortunate suppliant has the right to expect from those he meets. I will show you the way to the town and tell you who we are. This country and the city belong to the Phaeacians. I myself am the daughter of great-hearted Alcinous, who is the source of the might and majesty of the Phaeacian people.’

5

Here she turned and called out to her maids: ‘Stop, girls. Where are you flying to at the sight of a man? Don’t tell me you take him for an enemy. There is no man on earth, nor ever will be, who would dare to set hostile feet on Phaeacian soil. The gods are too fond of us for that.’

10

*Trans: E. V. Rieu*

Then Nausicaa of the white arms answered: ‘Stranger, you seem neither unknowing nor ill intentioned: it is Olympian Zeus himself who brings men good fortune, to the virtuous or not as he wills, and since he has brought you this, whatever it may be you must endure it. But, now you are come to our land and city, you shall not go short of clothes or anything else a hard-pressed suppliant deserves from those he meets. I will show you the way to town, and tell you whom we are. This is the Phaeacians’ country and city, and I am the daughter of valiant Alcinous, in whom the Phaeacians vest their majesty and power.’

5

With this she called to her lovely maids: ‘Stop, girls, why do you shun the sight of a man? Surely you don’t imagine he’s unfriendly? There will never be mortal man so contrary as to set hostile feet on Phaeacian land, for we are dear to the gods.’

10

*Trans: A. S. Kline*

- 13 Which goddess arranged this meeting in **Passage A** between Nausicaa and Odysseus? [1]
- 14 Why do you think this meeting is important to Odysseus? [1]
- 15 What were Nausicaa and her maids doing before they met Odysseus? Make **one** point. [1]
- 16 Where do Nausicaa and Odysseus go after this passage? [1]
- 17 Explain how Nausicaa is portrayed in **Passage A**.  
Make **four** points and support each point with reference to **Passage A**. [8]

Choose one of the following translations of the *Odyssey* and answer the questions which follow.

**Passage B: Homer, *Odyssey*, 12.403–425**

‘When we had left the island astern and no other land, or anything but sky and water, was to be seen, Zeus brought a sombre cloud to rest above the hollow ship so that the sea was darkened by its shadow. Before she had run very far, a howling wind suddenly sprang up from the West and hit us with hurricane force. The squall snapped both forestays simultaneously. As the mast toppled, all the rigging tumbled into the hold, and the mast itself, reaching the stern, struck the helmsman on the head and smashed in all the bones of his skull. He plunged like a diver from the deck, and his brave soul left his body. Then at one and the same moment Zeus thundered and struck the vessel with lightning. The whole ship reeled from the blow of his bolt and was filled with the smell of sulphur. My men were flung overboard and round the black hull they floated like sea-gulls on the waves. There was no homecoming for them: the god saw to that. 5  
10

‘Meanwhile I kept shifting from one part of the ship, to another, till a great wave tore her sides from her keel, which the sea then swept along denuded of its ribs. It snapped the mast off close to the keel, but as the backstay, which was a leather rope, had fallen across the mast, I used it to lash mast and keel together, and astride these two timbers I became the sport of the furious winds.’ 15

*Trans: E. V. Rieu*

It was not till the island fell astern, and we were out of sight of all but sky and sea, that Zeus anchored a black cloud above our hollow ship, and the waves beneath were dark. She had not run on for long before there came a howling gale, a tempest out of the west, and the first squall snapped both our forestays, so that the mast toppled backwards and the rigging fell into the hold, while the tip of the mast hitting the stern struck the steersman’s skull and crushed the bones. He plunged like a diver from the deck, and his brave spirit fled the bones. 5

At that same instant Zeus thundered and hurled his lightning at the ship. Struck by the bolt she shivered from stem to stern, and filled with sulphurous smoke. Falling from the deck, my men floated like sea-gulls in the breakers round the black ship. The gods had robbed them of their homecoming. But I ran up and down the ship till a surge ripped the sides from the keel, and drove her on naked, snapping the mast close to the keel. The backstay of ox-hide rope lay across the mast, and with it I lashed the keel and mast together, and sitting astride I was carried before the driving wind. 10

*Trans: A. S. Kline*

- 18 In **Passage B**, which ‘island’ (line 1) have Odysseus and his men just left? [1]
- 19 Why do you think Odysseus is the only survivor of this storm? [1]
- 20 (a) What danger is Odysseus dragged back to after this passage? [1]  
(b) On whose island is Odysseus washed up after this danger? [1]
- 21 Explain how **Passage B** is a memorable piece of writing.  
Make **four** points and support each point with reference to **Passage B**. [8]

- 22\*** Explain who you think was the most responsible for the troubles Odysseus' men face on their travels. In your answer you should include at least **three** points. You may use **Passage B** as a starting point, and your own knowledge in your answer. **[16]**

**[Section A Total: 40]**



**Section B**

Answer **one** question from this section.

**Either**

**23\*** 'It is not possible to feel any sympathy for the Suitors.' Explain how far you agree with this statement. Justify your answer. **[25]**

**Or**

**24\*** Explain how the plot of the *Odyssey* adds to the success of the epic. Justify your answer. **[25]**

**[Section B Total: 25]**

**END OF QUESTION PAPER**





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