



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

**Wednesday 13 October 2021 – Morning**

**A Level Classical Civilisation**

**H408/34 Democracy and the Athenians**

**Time allowed: 1 hour 45 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.
- Answer **all** the questions in Section A and **one** question in Section B.

**INFORMATION**

- The total mark for this paper is **75**.
- 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 **4** pages.

**ADVICE**

- Read each question carefully before you start your answer.

## Section A

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

Start your answer to each **10, 20 and 30 mark question** on a **new page**.

**Source A: Euripides *Suppliants*: 429–450**

There's no heavier burden for a city to bear than a monarch. To begin with, a city like that has no laws that are equal to all of its citizens. It can't. It is a place where one man holds all the laws of the city in his own hands and dictates them as he wants. What then of equality? Written laws, however, give this equal treatment to all, rich and poor. If a poor man is insulted by a rich one, then that poor man has every right to use the same words against that rich man. The poor can win against the rich if justice is on his side. The essence of freedom is in these words: "He who has a good idea for the city let him bring it before its citizens." You see? This way, he who has a good idea for the city will gain praise. The others are free to stay silent. Is there a greater exhibition of fairness than this?

5

10

Where the people hold the power, they can watch with great enjoyment the youth of their city thrive. Not so when there is a single ruler. The moment he sees someone who stands out in some way, he becomes afraid of losing his crown and so he kills him. So how could a city possibly flourish like that? How could it grow in strength when someone goes about culling its bright youth like a farmer goes about cutting off the highest tips of his wheat during Spring? Why would anyone want to bother with wealth and livelihood for his children if it will all end up in the ruler's hands?

15

- 1 (a) 'There's no heavier burden for a city to bear than a monarch.' (Line 1). What is the name of the character who is speaking these words in the passage in **Source A**? [1]
- (b) What prominent position does this character hold, and in which city? [2]
- 2 Discuss how the speaker in **Source A** supports the Athenian principles of equality in law (*isonomia*) and the equal right to speech (*isēgoria*). [10]

**During the period 462–451 BC Ephialtes and Pericles introduced radical reforms to the system of democracy developed by Solon and Cleisthenes.**

- 3 Ephialtes changed the powers of the Areopagus. Who made up the membership of the Areopagus? [1]
- 4 Which Athenian playwright wrote a play in which Athena establishes the court of the Areopagus? [1]
- 5 Explain why some Athenians might have welcomed the changes in the powers and role of the Areopagus. [10]

6\* 'The introduction of payment for office was the most important reform of the period 462–451 BC.'

Explain how far you agree with this statement. Justify your response.

You may use your knowledge of Ephialtes' and Pericles' reforms as a starting point in your answer.

**[20]**

**[Section A Total: 45]**

**Section B**

Answer **one** of the following questions.

**Use classical sources, and secondary sources, scholars and/or academic works to support your argument. You should also consider possible interpretations of sources by different audiences.**

**Either**

**7\*** Explain how far you agree that we can completely understand Athenian democracy just from the works of Thucydides and Aristophanes. **[30]**

**Or**

**8\*** 'Some Athenians regarded oligarchy as a better form of government than democracy.'

With reference to at least **two** of the authors you have studied, discuss why you think some Athenians might have held this view. **[30]**

**[Section B Total: 30]**

**END OF QUESTION PAPER**

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