

# OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS Advanced Subsidiary GCE

**CLASSICAL CIVILISATION (JACT)** 

2739

Roman Historians

Tuesday **7 JUNE 2005** 

Morning

1 hour 30 minutes

Additional materials: Answer booklet

TIME 1 hour 30 minutes

### **INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

- Write your name, Centre number and candidate number in the spaces provided on the answer booklet.
- You must answer one question from Section A and one question from Section B.
- Start your answer to each question on a new page.

## **INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES**

- The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the end of each question or part question.
- All questions are worth 50 marks in total including 5 marks for quality of written communication.

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#### Section A

# Answer one question from this section.

A1 Read the translation below and answer the questions at the end.

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Details:	J
Title: Life of Nero Author: Suetonius Translated by: R. Graves	10
	1 1 15
he emerged proved it SUETONIUS, Life of Nero 28 (R. Graves; Penguin)	

- (a) (i) What position did a Vestal Virgin (line 2) hold in Roman society?
  - (ii) Describe in detail how Nero's relationship with Agrippina comes to an end. [10]
- (b) How does Suetonius make this passage interesting? In your answer, you should include discussion of what he says and how he says it. [15]
- (c) What does this passage reveal about Suetonius' use of sources? How typical is this of his approach to sources elsewhere in his Life of Nero? [20]

[Quality of Written Communication: 5 marks]

[Total: 50 marks]

A2 Read the translation below and answer the questions at the end.

Poppaea's arguments, playing on...

5 An extract of text has been removed due to third party copyright restrictions Details: 10 Title: Annals **Author: Tacitus** Translated by: M. Grant 15

...died a natural death

TA CITUS, Annals 14.62 (M. Grant; Penguin)

- (a) (i) Who are Poppaea (line 1) and Octavia (line 2) and what is their relationship with Nero?
  - Explain the situation as this passage opens. (ii)

elsewhere in the Annals?

[10]

- (b) How does Tacitus make this passage interesting? In your answer, you should include discussion of what he says and how he says it. [15]
- (c) How does Tacitus portray Nero in this passage? How typical is this of the way he is portrayed [20]

[Quality of Written Communication: 5 marks]

[Total: 50 marks]

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#### Section B

# Answer one question from this section.

'Suetonius is more interested in the personalities of his subjects than in their achievements.' To

	what extent do you believe Life of Nero demonstrates this?	[50]
В4	Which author, Tacitus or Suetonius, have you found more enjoyable to read? In your answer, you	
	should include discussion of literary style and choice of subject matter.	[50]

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