

**OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS**

**Advanced GCE**

**CLASSICAL CIVILISATION (JACT)**

**2754**

Greek Comedy 2

Monday

**27 JUNE 2005**

Afternoon

1 hour 30 minutes

Additional materials:

8 page 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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**This question paper consists of 6 printed pages and 2 blank pages.**

## Section A

Answer one question from this section.

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

Blepyrus: No footpads at...



**An extract of text has been removed due to third party copyright restrictions**

Details:

Title: Assemblywomen  
 Author: Aristophanes  
 Translated by: D. Barrett

...pretty young girl there'

ARISTOPHANES, Assemblywomen 672-696 (D. Barrett; Penguin)

- (a) What proposals for the communal life has Praxagora already put forward as this passage starts? [10]
- (b) In this passage, how successfully does Aristophanes adapt aspects of life in contemporary Athens into Praxagora's vision of the future? [15]
- (c) 'Blepyrus is a dull character who serves as little more than a contrast to his wife.' How accurate do you consider this statement to be? In your answer you should include discussion of both the passage and the rest of the play. [20]

[Quality of Written Communication: 5 marks]

[Total: 50 marks]

A2 Read one of the following translations and answer the questions at the end.

Third Woman: Not yet...



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Details:

Title: Lysistrata  
Author: Aristophanes  
Translated by: A. Sommerstein

...Pretty blunt, isn't it?

ARISTOPHANES, Lysistrata 742-777 (A. Sommerstein; Penguin 1973)

- (a) What has happened since the women took over the Acropolis? [10]
- (b) How successfully has Aristophanes made this passage humorous? [15]
- (c) How effectively do the props contribute to this passage and the rest of the play? [20]

[Quality of Written Communication: 5 marks]

[Total: 50 marks]

A third woman runs...



5  
10  
15  
20  
25  
30  
35  
40  
45

...gods, that's pretty blunt!

ARISTOPHANES, Lysistrata 742-777 (A. Sommerstein; Penguin 2002)

- (a) What has happened since the women took over the Acropolis? [10]
- (b) How successfully has Aristophanes made this passage humorous? [15]
- (c) How effectively do the props contribute to this passage and the rest of the play? [20]

[Quality of Written Communication: 5 marks]  
[Total: 50 marks]

**Section B**

Answer **one** question from this section.

- B3** 'It is not necessary to know anything about ancient Athens in order to appreciate a performance of *Dyskolos* (*Old Cantankerous*). To what extent do you agree with this opinion? [50]
- B4** In the 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD, Plutarch wrote 'The only reason for an intelligent person to go to the theatre is to enjoy Menander.' How would an Aristophanes enthusiast argue against his view? In your answer you should discuss *Assemblywomen*, *Lysistrata* and *Dyskolos* (*Old Cantankerous*). [50]





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