

OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS

Advanced GCE

CLASSICAL CIVILISATION (JACT)

2750

Greek and Roman Historians

Monday

12 JUNE 2006

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.
- Total mark for paper = 100.

This question paper consists of 7 printed pages and 1 blank page.

Section A

Answer one question from this section.

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

PASSAGE 1

As to the army...

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Details:

Title: The Histories
Author: Herodotus
Translated by: A. de Selincourt
ISBN-10: 0140449086
ISBN-13: 978-0140449082

...all, of 5,283,220 men

HERODOTUS, The Histories 7. 184-186 (A. de Sélincourt; Penguin)

PASSAGE 2

It might have been...

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Details:

Title: Life of Nero
Author: Suetonius
Translated by R. Graves

...fractured a praetor's skull

SUETONIUS, Life of Nero 26 (R. Graves; Penguin)

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- (a)** What is the situation as the passage from Herodotus opens? [10]
- (b)** How effectively do you think that Suetonius describes Nero's actions in Passage 2? [15]
- (c)** Using these passages as a starting point, consider who uses precise detail more effectively in their work – Herodotus or Suetonius. [20]

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

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

PASSAGE 1

After this speech he...



...the control of Athens

THUCYDIDES, History of the Peloponnesian War 1.87 (R. Warner; Penguin)

PASSAGE 2

While Suetonius was thus...



...the whole country dry

TACITUS, Annals 14:31-32 (M Grant; Penguin)

- (a) What is the situation in Britain as the passage from Tacitus opens? [10]
- (b) How effectively do you think Thucydides makes Passage 1 an interesting piece of narrative? [15]
- (c) Using these passages as a starting point, consider which of the two authors, Tacitus or Thucydides, better understands the causes of war. [20]

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

Section B

Answer **one** question from this section.

- B3** Who is the more reliable in his use of sources – Thucydides or Suetonius? [50]
- B4** By comparing Herodotus with Tacitus, consider which historian has the better understanding of human nature. [50]
- B5** In your opinion, which is the more interesting for a modern reader – the military histories of Herodotus and Thucydides or the story of Nero and his reign as told by Tacitus and Suetonius? [50]

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