

Advanced Subsidiary GCE Unit
CLASSICAL CIVILISATION (JACT)

2741

Greek Tragedy 2

TUESDAY 5 JUNE 2007

Morning

Time: 1 hour 30 minutes

Additional materials: Answer Booklet (8 pages)



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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.
- Use an 8 page answer booklet followed by a 4 page booklet if extra paper is required.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

- The number of marks for each question 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.
- The total number of marks for this paper is 100.

ADVICE TO CANDIDATES

- Read each question carefully and make sure you know what you have to do before starting your answer.

This document consists of **7** printed pages and **1** blank page.

Section A

Answer **one** question from this section.

A1 Read one of the following translations and answer the questions at the end.

JASON:	I'll provide for them. Cheer up.	
MEDEA:	I will. It is not that I mean to doubt your word. But women – are women; tears come naturally to us.	
JASON:	Why do you grieve so over the children?	
MEDEA:	I'm their mother.	5
	When you just now prayed for them to live long, I wondered Whether it would be so; and grief came over me. But I've said only part of what I had to say; Here is the other thing. Since Creon has resolved To send me out of Corinth, I fully recognize	10
	That for me too this course is best. If I lived here I should become a trouble both to you and him. People believe I bear a grudge against you all. So I must go. But the boys – I would like <i>them</i> to be Brought up in your care. Beg Creon to let them stay.	15
JASON:	I don't know if I can persuade him; but I'll try.	
MEDEA:	Then – get your wife to ask her father to let them stay.	
JASON:	Why, certainly; I'm pretty sure she'll win him over.	
MEDEA:	She will, if she's like other women. But I too Can help in this. I'll send a present to your wife – The loveliest things to be found anywhere on earth. The boys shall take them. – One of you maids, go quickly, bring The dress and golden coronet. – They will multiply Her happiness many times, when she can call her own A royal, noble husband, and these treasures, which My father's father the Sun bequeathed to his descendants.	20
	Boys, hold these gifts. Now carry them to the happy bride, The princess royal; give them into her own hands. Go! She will find them all that such a gift should be.	
JASON:	But why deprive yourself of such things, foolish woman? Do you think a royal palace is in want of dresses? Or gold, do you suppose? Keep them, don't give them away. If my wife values me at all she will yield to <i>me</i> More than to costly presents; I am sure of that.	30

EURIPIDES, *Medea* 926-967 (P. Vellacott; Penguin)

- (a) Describe the events since Creon has banished Medea. [10]
- (b) How does Euripides make this passage dramatically effective? In your answer, you should include discussion of the situation here, and the language used. [15]
- (c) What is Jason's attitude towards Medea in this passage? How typical is this of his attitude towards her elsewhere in the play? [20]

[Quality of Written Communication: 5 marks]

[Total: 50 marks]

- JASON: You must be cheerful. I shall look after them well.
- MEDEA: I will be. It is not that I distrust your words,
But a woman is a frail thing, prone to crying.
- JASON: But why then should you grieve so much for these children?
- MEDEA: I am their mother. When you prayed that they might live 5
I felt unhappy to think that these things will be.
But come, I have said something of the things I meant
To say to you, and now I will tell you the rest.
Since it is the king's will to banish me from here –
And for me, too, I know that this is the best thing, 10
Not to be in your way by living here or in
The king's way, since they think me ill-disposed to them –
I then am going into exile from this land;
But do you, so that you may have the care of them,
Beg Creon that the children may not be banished. 15
- JASON: I doubt if I'll succeed, but still I'll attempt it.
- MEDEA: Then you must tell your wife to beg from her father
That the children may be reprieved from banishment.
- JASON: I will, and with her I shall certainly succeed.
- MEDEA: If she is like the rest of us women, you will. 20
And I, too, will take a hand with you in this business,
For I will send her some gifts which are far fairer,
I am sure of it, than those which now are in fashion,
A finely woven dress and a golden diadem,
And the children shall present them. Quick, let one of you 25
Servants bring here to me that beautiful dress.
- She will be happy not in one way, but in a hundred,
Having so fine a man as you to share her bed,
And with this beautiful dress which Helius of old,
My father's father, bestowed on his descendants. 30
- There, children, take these wedding presents in your hands.
Take them to the royal princess, the happy bride,
And give them to her. She will not think little of them.
- JASON: No, don't be foolish, and empty your hands of these. 35
Do you think the palace is short of dresses to wear?
Do you think there is no gold there? Keep them, don't give them
Away. If my wife considers me of any value,
She will think more of me than money, I am sure of it.

EURIPIDES, *Medea* 926-967 (R. Warner; University of Chicago)

- (a) Describe the events since Creon has banished Medea. [10]
- (b) How does Euripides make this passage dramatically effective? In your answer, you should include discussion of the situation here, and the language used. [15]
- (c) What is Jason's attitude towards Medea in this passage? How typical is this of his attitude towards her elsewhere in 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.

- ARTEMIS: I came here to reveal your son's righteous heart, so that he may die with name untarnished, and your wife's lustful desire – or in a way her nobility. For the goddess most hated by me and all who love virginity plagued and goaded her into a passionate desire for your son. She tried by strength of mind to master the Cyprian but fell against her will through her nurse's scheming – she it was divulged her mistress' sickness to your son under oath. But he, as was right and proper, rejected her proposal and, god-fearing man, did not retract the pledge he had sworn, nor even in the face of your calumny. Phaedra, fearing she might be exposed, wrote a letter of lies and by trickery destroyed your son – you were persuaded none the less. 5
- THESEUS: Oh no!
- ARTEMIS: They wound you, do they, Theseus, these words of mine? Contain yourself; you have louder groans to make when you hear what is to follow. You are aware of the three binding curses you have from your father? One of them you used (how wickedly!) against your son, when an enemy might have felt its force. Your father, then, the sea's lord, wishing you well, gave what he was bound to give, since his word had been given. But you have offended both him and me by your behaviour; you did not wait for proof or advice from prophets, you did not cross-question him, or allow an enquiry over a length of time; no, with improper haste you launched curses at your son and took his life. 10
- THESEUS: Mistress, I pray for death!
- ARTEMIS: You have done a terrible thing but nevertheless even you may yet win pardon for this. For it was the Cyprian's will that this took place; she was satisfying her anger. We gods have a law: none seeks to oppose the settled purpose of another; we always stand aside. For, be assured, only my dread of Zeus would have forced me into such a shameful position – doing nothing to save from death the man I love best of all mortals. 15
- 20
- 25
- 30

EURIPIDES, *Hippolytus* 1310-1330 (J. Davie; Penguin)

- (a) What has happened in the play since the arrival of Theseus? [10]
- (b) How effectively does Euripides create sympathy for Theseus in this passage? In your answer, you should include discussion of what Artemis says and how Theseus reacts. [15]
- (c) How is Artemis portrayed in this passage? How typical is this of the way gods are portrayed elsewhere in the play? [20]

[Quality of Written Communication: 5 marks]

[Total: 50 marks]

- ARTEMIS: I have come here for this – to show you that your son’s heart
was always just, so just that for his good name
he endured to die. I will show you, too,
the frenzied love that seized your wife, or I may call it,
a noble innocence. For that most hated Goddess, 5
hated by all of us whose joy is virginity,
drove her with love’s sharp prickings to desire
your son. She tried to overcome her love
with the mind’s power, but at last against her will,
she fell by the nurse’s stratagems, 10
the nurse, who told your son under oath her mistress loved him.
But he, just man, did not fall in with her
counsels, and even when reviled by you
refused to break the oath he had pledged.
Such was his piety. But your wife fearing 15
lest she be proved the sinner wrote a letter,
a letter full of lies; and so she killed
your son by treachery; but she convinced you.
- THESEUS: Alas!
- ARTEMIS: This is a bitter story, Theseus. Stay, 20
hear more that you may groan the more.
You know you had three curses from your father,
three, clear for you to use? One you have launched,
vile wretch, at your own son, when you might have
spent it upon an enemy. Your father, 25
King of the Sea, in loving kindness to you
gave you, by his bequest, all that he ought.
But you’ve been proved at fault both in his eyes
and mine in that you did not stay for oaths
nor voice of oracles, nor gave a thought 30
to what time might have shown; only too quickly
you hurled the curses at your son and killed him.
- THESEUS: Mistress, I am destroyed.
- ARTEMIS: You have sinned indeed, but yet you may win pardon. 35
For it was Cypris managed the thing this way
to gratify her anger against Hippolytus.
This is the settled custom of the Gods:
No one may fly in the face of another’s wish:
we remain aloof and neutral. Else, I assure you,
had I not feared Zeus, I never would have endured 40
such shame as this – my best friend among men
killed, and I could do nothing.

EURIPIDES, *Hippolytus* 1310-1330 (D. Grene; University of Chicago)

- (a) What has happened in the play since the arrival of Theseus? [10]
- (b) How effectively does Euripides create sympathy for Theseus in this passage? In your answer, you should include discussion of what Artemis says and how Theseus reacts. [15]
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[Quality of Written Communication: 5 marks]

[Total: 50 marks]

Section B

Answer **one** question from this section.

Start your answer to each question on a new page.

- B3** 'In the *Bacchae*, the punishment inflicted by Dionysus on Cadmus and his family is too great for the sins they have committed.' How far do you agree with this opinion? In your answer, you should include discussion of how Dionysus is treated in the play, and the revenge he takes. [50]
- B4** 'In Euripides' plays, the characters always allow their emotions to rule their actions.' How far would you agree with this opinion? In your answer, you should include discussion of **at least two** plays you have studied. [50]

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