

ADVANCED GCE
CLASSICAL CIVILISATION (JACT)

Greek Comedy 2

FRIDAY 13 JUNE 2008

2754

Afternoon
Time: 1 hour 30 minutes

Additional materials (enclosed): None

Additional materials (required):
Answer Booklet (8 pages)



INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Write your name in capital letters, your Centre Number and Candidate Number in the spaces provided on the Answer Booklet.
- Read each question carefully and make sure you know what you have to do before starting your answer.
- 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**.

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

Section A

Answer **one** question from this section.

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

- LYSISTRATA: The fathers of your children – don't you miss them when they're away at the war? I know that not one of you has a husband at home.
- CALONICE: Mine, my dear, has been away for five months, on the Thracian Coast, keeping an eye on our general there. 5
- MYRRHINE: And mine has been at Pylos for a full *seven* months.
- LAMPITO: And as for my mon, if he ever does turrrn up at home, straight awa' he's fitted his shield on his arm and flown off agin.
- CALONICE: Why, there isn't even anyone now to have an *affair* with – not even the ghost of one. Since the Milesians betrayed us, I haven't even seen one of those six-inch leather jobs which used to help us out when all else failed. 10
- LYSISTRATA: Well then, if I found a way to do it, would you be prepared to join with me in putting a stop to the war?
- CALONICE: By the Holy Twain, I would – even if I had to pawn this cloak of mine and drink up the money before the end of the day! 15
- MYRRHINE: And so would I – even if I had to cut myself in two, like a flatfish, and give half of myself for the cause!
- LAMPITO: And I too, if I had to climb tae the top of Mount Taygetum, so I cuid see the prospect of peace from the summit. 20
- LYSISTRATA: Then I will tell you my plan: there's no point in keeping it back. Women, if we want to force the men to make peace, we must renounce – [*She hesitates.*]
- MYRRHINE: Renounce what? Go on.
- LYSISTRATA: Then you'll do it? 25
- MYRRHINE: At the cost of our lives, if need be. [*All indicate enthusiastic agreement.*]
- LYSISTRATA: Very well then. We must renounce – sex. [*Strong murmurs of disapproval, gestures of dissent, etc. Several of the company seem on the point of leaving.*] Why are you turning away from me? Where are you going? What does all this pursing of lips and tossing of heads mean? You're all going pale – I can see tears! Will you do it or won't you? Answer me! 30
- CALONICE: I won't do it. Just let the war go on.
- MYRRHINE: Nor will I. Just let the war go on. 35
- LYSISTRATA: Excuse me, Mrs Flatfish, weren't you offering to cut yourself in half a moment ago?
- MYRRHINE: That, or walk through fire, or anything else you want – but renounce sex, never! Lysistrata, darling, there's just nothing like it!
- LYSISTRATA [*to Calonice*]: How about you? 40
- CALONICE: I'd rather walk through fire too!
- LYSISTRATA: I didn't realise that we women were such a total lot of nymphos. The tragic poets are right about us after all: shag, calve and dispose of, that's the way we live. My Spartan friend, will *you* join me? Even if it's just the two of us, we might yet succeed. 45
- LAMPITO: Weel, by the Twa Gods, it's a sair thing for a woman tae sleep alone withoot the Big Red One for company – but still I'll say aye, for we must have peace.

LYSISTRATA [*embracing her*]: Oh, Lampito, darling, you're the only real woman here!
 MYRRHINE: But look, suppose we did renounce – what you said – which may heaven forbid – but if we did, how would that help to end the war?

50

ARISTOPHANES, *Lysistrata* 99-148 (A. Sommerstein; Penguin)

- (a) 'How would that help to end the war?' (line 52). How do Lysistrata and Lampito answer this and further objections from Myrrhine before an oath is agreed to? [10]
- (b) How humorous do you find this passage? Give reasons for your answer. [15]
- (c) Using this passage as a starting point, discuss how far Lysistrata is portrayed differently from the other women in the play. [20]

[Quality of Written Communication: 5 marks]

[Total: 50 marks]

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

GORGIAS:	Well. If I spoke <u>a bit strongly</u> , forget it now. You've convinced me completely, and I'm on your side. I'm an interested party. I'm the girl's half-brother, my friend, and that's why I can speak like this.	
SOSTRATOS:	Then you can certainly help with the next move.	
GORGIAS:	How?	5
SOSTRATOS:	I can see you're a good-natured chap –	
GORGIAS:	I don't want to fob you off with empty excuses: but face facts. The girl's father is an oddity – no one like him, past or present.	
SOSTRATOS:	Oh, the chap with the temper! I think I know him.	
GORGIAS:	He's trouble: and more than trouble. His property here is really a very decent one, but he persists in farming it all by himself. He won't have any help – no farm servant, no locally hired labour, no neighbour to lend a hand; just himself alone. His chief pleasure is never to set eyes on another human being. Mostly he works with his daughter beside him – she's the only one he talks to, never an easy word to anyone else. And he says he'll only let her marry when he finds a husband of his own kidney.	10
SOSTRATOS:	[<i>gloomily</i>]: That means never.	
GORGIAS:	So don't put yourself to any trouble, my friend. It'll be useless. Leave us to cope with this. We're family, it's our job.	15
SOSTRATOS:	For heaven's sake, have you never been in love?	
GORGIAS:	I can't be, my friend.	
SOSTRATOS:	Why? What's to stop you?	
GORGIAS:	Simple arithmetic. I count up my troubles. There's no time at all for anything else.	20
SOSTRATOS:	Yes, I can see you <i>haven't</i> been in love. What you say on the subject certainly suggests lack of experience. You tell me to give up. But that's no longer in my hands, it's in God's.	
GORGIAS:	Well, you're doing us no harm, but <i>you're</i> suffering to no good purpose.	25
SOSTRATOS:	Not if I get the girl.	
GORGIAS:	You won't get her. But you can come with me and ask. He works the field next to mine.	30
SOSTRATOS:	How'll we do it?	
GORGIAS:	I'll bring up the subject of the girl's marriage. It's something I'd be glad to see settled. He'll promptly find fault with everyone, and fulminate against the way they live. And if he sees you looking elegant and idle, he won't stand the sight of you.	35
SOSTRATOS:	Is he there now?	
GORGIAS:	No, but he'll soon be going out. This is the way he always goes.	40
SOSTRATOS:	[<i>eagerly</i>]: Taking the girl with him, you mean?	
GORGIAS:	Maybe. Maybe not.	
SOSTRATOS:	Lead on, then! I'm ready.	
GORGIAS:	What a suggestion!	
SOSTRATOS:	Please, be my friend.	45
GORGIAS:	How?	
SOSTRATOS:	I'll tell you how. Let's go ahead to the place you mean.	
GORGIAS:	Then what? Are you going to stand there, in your smart cloak, while we work away?	
SOSTRATOS:	Why not?	50

MENANDER, *Old Cantankerous (Dyskolos)* 315-366 (N. Miller; Penguin)

- (a) What has Gorgias just spoken 'a bit strongly' about (line 1), and how has Sostratos won him over? [10]
- (b) To what extent are the portrayals of Knemon and Sostratos in this passage similar to their portrayals elsewhere in the play? [15]
- (c) Using this passage as a starting point, discuss how accurate you think it is to describe Gorgias as the most important character in the play. [20]

[Quality of Written Communication: 5 marks]

[Total: 50 marks]

Section B

Answer **one** question from this section.

Start your answer on a new page.

- B3** 'The happy ending of *Assemblywomen* shows that Praxagora's ideas have worked out successfully.'
To what extent do you agree with this statement? [50]
- B4** Who would make the better writer of a script for a television comedy programme, Aristophanes or Menander? You must include evidence from *Lysistrata*, *Assemblywomen* and *Old Cantankerous* (*Dyskolos*) to support your answer. [50]

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