

**OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS  
ADVANCED GCE**

**F390**

**CLASSICS: CLASSICAL CIVILISATION**

**Virgil and the world of the hero**

**WEDNESDAY 15 JUNE 2011: Afternoon**

**DURATION: 2 hours**

**SUITABLE FOR VISUALLY IMPAIRED CANDIDATES**

**Candidates answer on the answer booklet.**

**OCR SUPPLIED MATERIALS:**

**16 page answer booklet  
(sent with general stationery)**

**OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED:**

**None**

**READ INSTRUCTIONS OVERLEAF**

## **INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

- **Write your name, centre number and candidate number in the spaces provided on the answer booklet. Please write clearly and in capital letters.**
- **Use black ink.**
- **Read each question carefully. Make sure you know what you have to do before starting your answer.**
- **Answer ONE question from Section A and ONE question from Section B.**

## **INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES**

- **The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the end of each question or part question.**
- **The total number of marks for this paper is 100.**

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**Answer ONE question from Section A and ONE question from Section B.**

## **SECTION A: COMMENTARY QUESTIONS**

**Answer EITHER Question 1 OR Question 2.**

**MARKS ARE AWARDED FOR THE QUALITY OF WRITTEN COMMUNICATION IN YOUR ANSWER.**

**1 Read the passage and answer the questions.**

**Humbly Juno replied: ‘O finest of husbands, why do you cause me anguish when I am in despair and in terror of your harsh commands? If your love for me had that power which once it had, and should have still, you who can do all things would not be refusing me this. I should be able to withdraw Turnus from the battle and keep him safe for his father Daunus. But as things are, let him die. Let him pay the penalty to the Trojans with his righteous blood. Nevertheless he is descended from our stock, Pilumnus was his ancestor in the fourth generation and his generous hand has often weighed down your threshold with abundant gifts.’ The King of Heavenly Olympus made brief reply: ‘If what you ask is a stay of the death that is upon him and respite for a young man who must die, and if you accept that this is what I ordain, then rescue Turnus. Let him flee. Snatch him from the Fates that tread upon his heels. There is room for me to grant you indulgence thus far. But if there is some deeper thought of mercy underlying these appeals of yours, and if you believe that the whole course of the war can be affected or its**

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outcome changed, the hopes which you nourish  
are empty.' Juno replied, weeping as she spoke: **25**  
'What if your heart wished to give what your  
words refuse? What if you listened to me and let  
Turnus live? As it is, although he is innocent, a  
cruel death is waiting for him, unless I am wide of  
the mark and there is no truth in me. But oh how I **30**  
wish my fears were false and I were deluded! How  
I wish you would recast your plans, for you can do  
so, and choose a better course!'

**Virgil, *Aeneid* Book 10 611–634**

- (a) How far is the way Juno is portrayed in this passage typical of her portrayal elsewhere in the *Aeneid*? [25]**
- (b) Using this passage as a starting point, discuss whether you think Jupiter or Fate is more important in the *Aeneid*. [25]**

**Do NOT answer this question if you have already answered Question 1.**

**MARKS ARE AWARDED FOR THE QUALITY OF WRITTEN COMMUNICATION IN YOUR ANSWER.**

**2 Read the passages and answer the questions.**

**PASSAGE 1**

**So Achilles was amazed when he saw godlike Priam, and the others too were amazed, and looked at each other. And now Priam spoke to him in entreaty: ‘Think of your father, godlike Achilles, an old man like I am, at the cruel edge of old age. And it may be that he too is pressed by those who live around his home, and there is no-one to protect him from harm and destruction. But he at least can hear that you are alive, and feel joy in his heart, and look forward every day to seeing his dear son return from Troy. But my fate is utter misery – I fathered sons who were heroes in the broad land of Troy, and I tell you not one of them is left. I had fifty, when the sons of the Achaians came. Nineteen were from the womb of one mother, and the others were borne to me by the women in my house. Furious Ares has collapsed the strength of most of these. And the one son I had, who guarded our city and people, you have now killed as he fought to defend his country – Hektor. And it is for his sake that I come now to the ships of the Achaians, to win his release from you, and I bring unlimited ransom. Respect the gods, then, Achilles, and have pity on me, remembering your own father. But I am yet more pitiable than he. I have endured to do what**

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**no other mortal man on earth has done – I have brought to my lips the hands of the man who killed my child.’**

**So he spoke, and he roused in Achilleus the desire to weep for his father. He took the old man by the hand and gently pushed him away. And the two of them began to weep in remembrance. Priam cried loud for murderous Hektor, huddled at the feet of Achilleus, and Achilleus cried for his own father, and then again for Patroklos: and the house was filled with the sound of their weeping.**

**Homer, *Iliad* Book 24 481–512**

## PASSAGE 2

In the middle of the palace, under the naked vault of heaven, there stood a great altar, and nearby an ancient laurel tree leaning over it and enfolding the household gods in its shade. Here, vainly embracing the images of the gods, Hecuba and her daughters were sitting flocked round the altar, like doves driven down in a black storm. When Hecuba saw that Priam had now put on his youthful armour, ‘O my poor husband,’ she cried, ‘this is madness. Why have you put on this armour? Where can you go? This is not the sort of help we need. You are not the defender we are looking for. Not even my Hector, if he were here now ... Just come here and sit by me. This altar will protect us all, or you will die with us.’ As she spoke she took the old man to her and led him to a place by the holy altar. 5 10 15

Suddenly Polites, one of Priam’s sons, came in sight. He had escaped death at the hands of Pyrrhus and now, wounded and with enemy weapons on every side, he was running through the long porticos of the palace and across the empty halls with Pyrrhus behind him in full cry, almost within reach, pressing him hard with his spear and poised to strike. As soon as he reached his father and mother, he fell and vomited his life’s blood before their eyes. There was no escape for Priam. Death was now upon him, but he did not check himself or spare the anger in his voice. ‘As for you,’ he cried, ‘and for what you have done, if there is any power in heaven that cares for such things, may the gods pay you well. May they give you the reward you have deserved for making me see my own son dying before my eyes, for defiling a father’s face with the murder of his son. 20 25 30 35



**You pretend that Achilles was your father, but this is not how Achilles treated his enemy Priam. He had respect for my rights as a suppliant and for the trust I placed in him. He gave me back the bloodless body of Hector for burial and allowed me to return to the city where I was king.'** 40

**Virgil, *Aeneid* Book 2 513–545**

**(a) How successfully does Virgil make the narrative in Passage 2 vivid? [25]**

**(b) Which epic is more effective in conveying the sorrow of the war at Troy?**

**You should use these passages as a starting point and include discussion of BOTH Book 2 of the *Aeneid* AND the books of the *Iliad* you have studied. [25]**

**[Section A Total: 50]**

## **SECTION B: ESSAYS**

**Answer ONE question.**

**Start your answer on a new page.**

**MARKS ARE AWARDED FOR THE QUALITY OF WRITTEN COMMUNICATION IN YOUR ANSWER.**

- 3 'Virgil always depicts mortal women in a sympathetic light.' How far do you agree with this statement? [50]**
  
- 4 'In comparison to Achilles, Aeneas is only a shadow of a hero.' To what extent do you agree with this statement? [50]**

**[Section B Total: 50]**

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