



**HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION**

**1997**

# **ANCIENT HISTORY**

**2/3 UNIT (COMMON)**

*Time allowed—Three hours  
(Plus 5 minutes reading time)*

**DIRECTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

- Attempt **FOUR** questions, **ONE** from Section I, **ONE** from Section II, and **TWO** from Section III.
- Choose questions from **AT LEAST TWO** of the following areas: Egypt, Near East, Greece, Rome.
- All questions are of equal value.
- Answer each question in a *separate* Writing Booklet.
- You may ask for extra Writing Booklets if you need them.

**SECTION I—ANCIENT SOCIETIES**

(25 Marks)

Attempt ONE question.

Answer the question in a *separate* Writing Booklet.**PART A—EGYPT****QUESTION 1. Society in Old Kingdom Egypt***EITHER*

- (a) Assess the importance of queens in Old Kingdom society.

*OR*

- (b) Discuss the importance of the River Nile to the people of Old Kingdom Egypt.

*OR*

- (c) Use Source 1 and your own knowledge to answer the following.

Discuss the importance of trade and industry in Old Kingdom society.

SOURCE 1



RELIEF SHOWING METAL WORKERS.  
MASTABA OF MERERUKA

'The eye of Horus', 1st edn, Gae Callender, Longman Cheshire 1993, fig 5.43 p167.

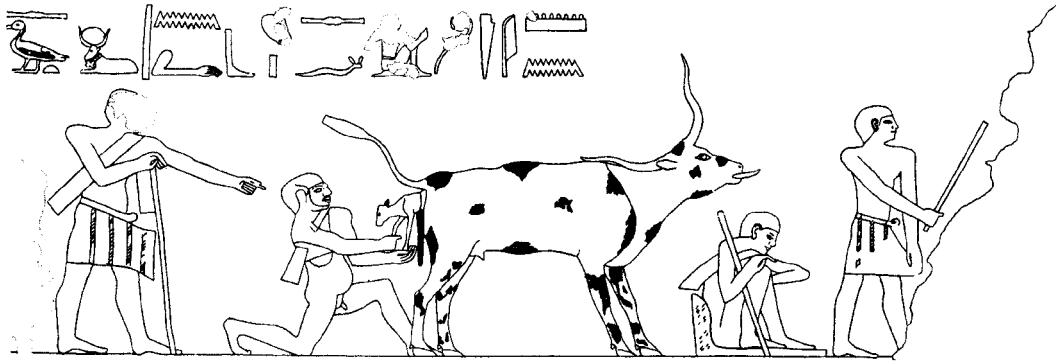
## QUESTION 2. Society in Middle Kingdom Egypt

*EITHER*

- (a) Use Source 2 and your own knowledge to answer the following.

From the evidence available, discuss the occupations of ordinary people in Middle Kingdom Egypt.

### SOURCE 2



A HERDSMAN HELPING A COW GIVING BIRTH. TOMB OF UKH-HOTEP

Reproduced courtesy the Ministry of Culture, Foreign Cultural Information Dept, Egypt.

*OR*

- (b) What were the religious beliefs and practices in Middle Kingdom Egypt? How important were they in Middle Kingdom society?

**QUESTION 3. Society in New Kingdom Egypt***EITHER*

- (a) Explain how society was structured in New Kingdom Egypt.

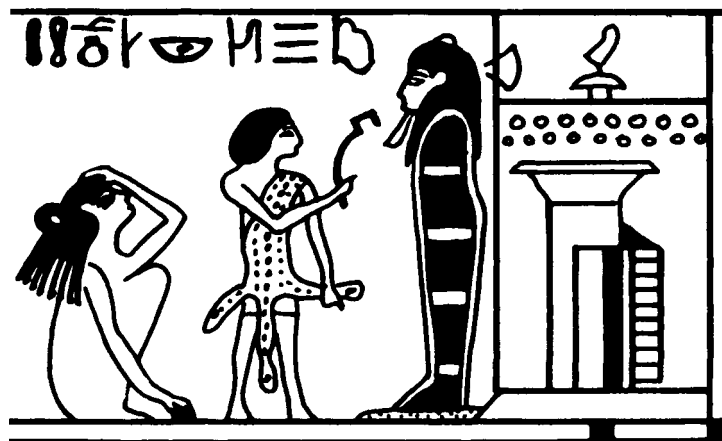
*OR*

- (b) Use Sources 3 and 4 and your own knowledge to answer the following.

Explain how people were prepared for burial in New Kingdom Egypt. What religious rites and ceremonies accompanied their burial?

**SOURCE 3****CANOPIC JARS**

Canopic jars. Licensed by the Trustees of the British Museum. © The British Museum.

**SOURCE 4****OPENING OF THE MOUTH CEREMONY**

'The eye of Horus', 1st edn, Gae Callender, Longman Cheshire 1993, fig 9.22 p 304.

*OR*

## QUESTION 3. (Continued)

- (c) What does the surviving archaeological and written evidence reveal about TWO of the following in new Kingdom Egypt?
- (i) Food
  - (ii) Clothing
  - (iii) Housing
  - (iv) Leisure activities

**PART B—NEAR EAST**

**QUESTION 4. Assyrian Society in the Time of Ashurbanipal**

*EITHER*

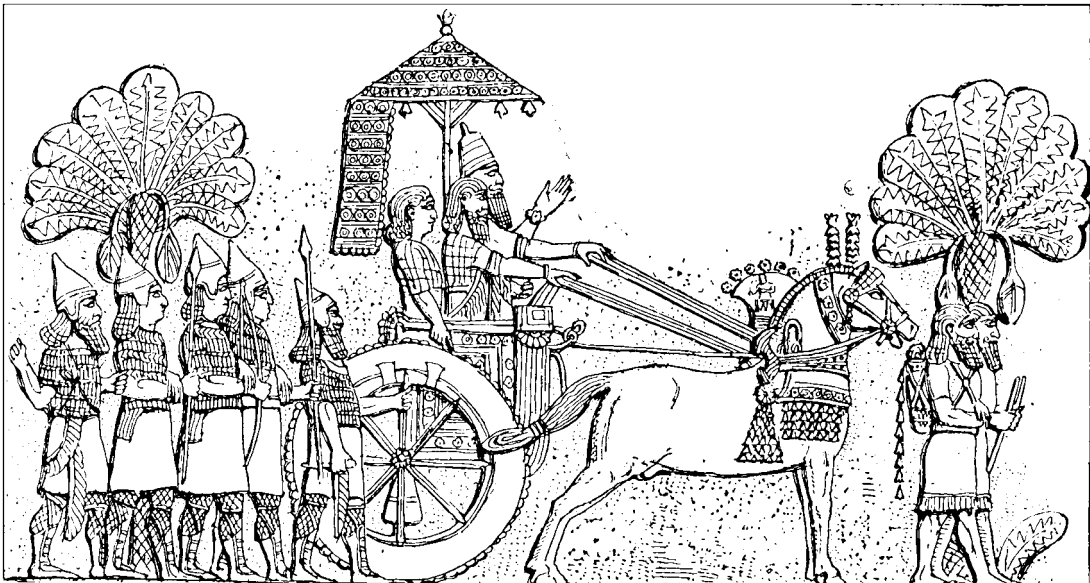
- (a) Discuss the main features and purposes of Assyrian art and architecture at the time of Ashurbanipal.

*OR*

- (b) Use Source 5 and your own knowledge to answer the following.

What were the roles of the army in Assyrian society?

**SOURCE 5**



ASHURBANIPAL REVIEWING HIS TROOPS

'The Assyrian Empire', Carla Archer, Shakespeare Head Press 1986, p 138.

*OR*

- (c) Discuss the main social classes and their roles in Assyrian society.

**QUESTION 5. Israel from Jeroboam I to the Fall of Samaria***EITHER*

- (a) Discuss the status and roles of women in Israelite society.

*OR*

- (b) Use Source 6 and your own knowledge to answer the following.

What were the main features of Israelite religious beliefs and practices? To what extent was Israelite religion monotheistic?

**SOURCE 6**

And Eli'jah came near to all the people, and said, 'How long will you go limping with two different opinions? If the Lord is God, follow him; but if Ba'al, then follow him.' And the people did not answer him a word.

I KINGS 18:21

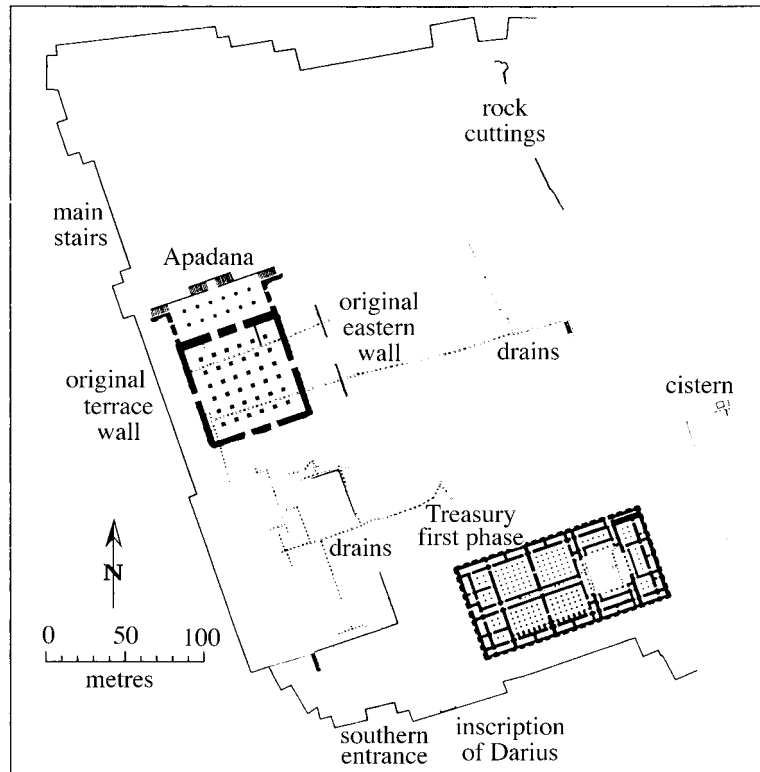
*OR*

- (c) Discuss the main architectural features of Israelite cities.

**QUESTION 6. Society in the Time of Darius I***EITHER*

- (a) Use Source 7 and your own knowledge to answer the following.

What were the main features and purposes of the building program of Darius I?

**SOURCE 7**

PERSEPOLIS 515–490 BC

'Studies in Ancient Persia', Lawless & Cameron. Nelson 1994, p 188.

*OR*

- (b) Discuss the organisation and activities of the Persian army. How important was the army to Persian society?



**PART C—GREECE****QUESTION 7. Minoan Society***EITHER*

- (a) What do Greek myths and legends tell us about Minoan society? To what extent are these myths and legends supported by archaeological evidence?

*OR*

- (b) Use Source 8 and your own knowledge to answer the following.

Discuss the role the palaces played in the economic life of Minoan Crete.

**SOURCE 8**

WESTERN MAGAZINE. PALACE AT KNOSSOS

'The Minoans', Gae Callender, Shakespeare Head Press 1987.

*OR*

QUESTION 7. (Continued)

- (c) Use Source 9 and your own knowledge to answer the following.

What do we know about Minoan burial practices? What do they tell us about Minoan society?

SOURCE 9



CHEST—SHAPED LARNAX

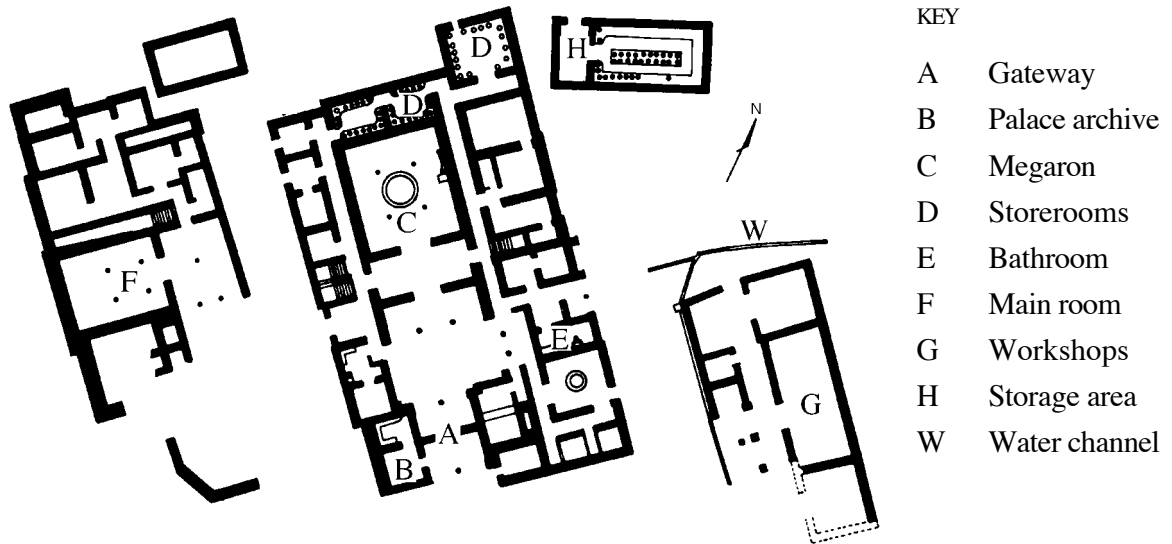
Heraklion Museum, Hannibal, Greece.

**QUESTION 8. Mycenaean Society***EITHER*

- (a) Use Source 10 and your own knowledge to answer the following.

To what extent is Pylos a typical Mycenaean palace?

SOURCE 10



KEY

- A Gateway
- B Palace archive
- C Megaron
- D Storerooms
- E Bathroom
- F Main room
- G Workshops
- H Storage area
- W Water channel

PLAN OF PYLOS

‘The Enduring Past’, A Cremin, UNSW Press, 1987 p 107 fig 8.22.

*OR*

- (b) Discuss the importance of agriculture and trade to the Mycenaean economy.

*OR*

- (c) What does Mycenaean art tell us about Mycenaean society?

**QUESTION 9. Spartan Society***EITHER*

- (a) Use Source 11 and your own knowledge to answer the following.

Sparta made military strength its major concern. How did this influence the lives of the members of its society?

**SOURCE 11**

As a woman was burying her son, a worthless old crone came up to her and said: 'You poor woman, what a misfortune!' 'No, by the two gods, a piece of good fortune,' she replied, 'because I bore him so that he might die for Sparta, and that is what has happened, as I wished.'

PLUTARCH, *Sayings of Spartans*

*OR*

- (b) Discuss the development of the Spartan system of government. What were the main features of Spartan government?

*OR*

- (c) What were the roles and importance of TWO of the following in Spartan society?
- (i) Helots
  - (ii) Perioikoi
  - (iii) Hupomeiones (Inferiors)
  - (iv) Gerontes (Elders)

**QUESTION 10. Athenian Society in the Classical Age***EITHER*

- (a) 'Women, metics and slaves did not have the vote, but their contributions were important in the functioning of the Athenian state.' Discuss.

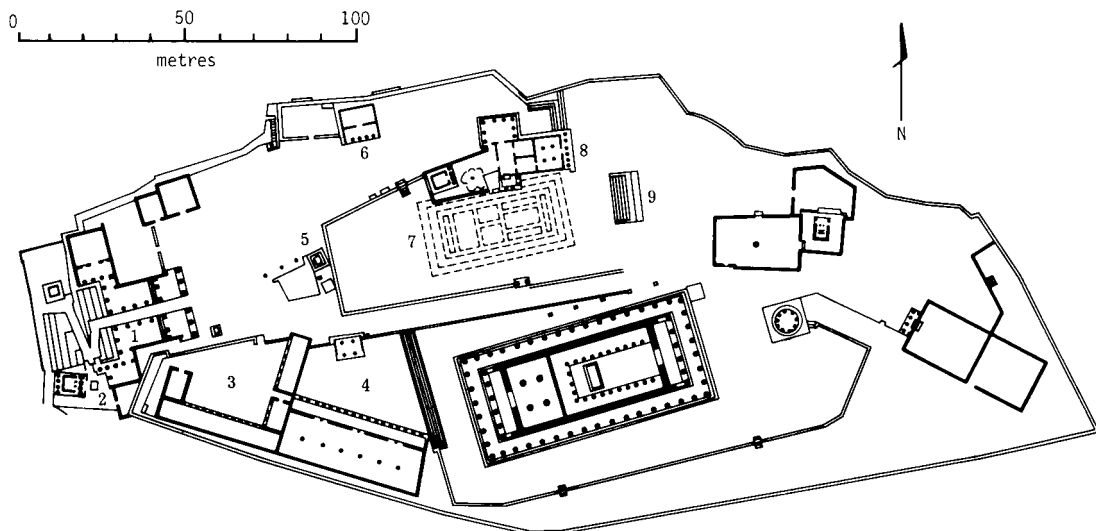
*OR*

- (b) Discuss the role of drama and the dramatist in Athenian society.

*OR*

- (c) Use Source 12 and your own knowledge to answer the following.

What do the main buildings on the Athenian acropolis tell us about Athenian society in the Classical age?

**SOURCE 12**

PLAN OF ACROPOLIS

'The Enduring Past', A Cremin, UNSW Press, 1987 p 141 fig 9.30.

**KEY**

- |   |                              |
|---|------------------------------|
| 1 Propylaia   | 5 Statue of Athena Promachos |
| 2 Temple of Athena Nike                                       | 6 House of the Arrephoroi    |
| 3 Sanctuary of Brauronian Artemis                             | 7 Old Temple of Athena       |
| 4 Entrance to Parthenon at east,<br>with Chalkotheke to south | 8 Erechtheion                |
|   | 9 Altar of Athena Polias     |

**PART D—ROME**

**QUESTION 11. Society in Republican Rome to the First Century BC**

*EITHER*

- (a) What were the latifundia (large estates)? Discuss the changes that they brought to Roman society.

*OR*

- (b) Assess the importance of the family in Roman society.

*OR*

- (c) Use Source 13 and your own knowledge to answer the following.

What did Romans consider to be the ideal Roman qualities? How did these qualities influence the activities of Roman men and women?

SOURCE 13



A ROMAN WITH THE BUSTS OF HIS ANCESTORS

**QUESTION 12. Roman Society in the Early Empire**

*EITHER*

- (a) Discuss the development of the imperial cult. Assess its popularity in both Rome and the provinces.

*OR*

- (b) Use Source 14 and your own knowledge to answer the following question.  
Discuss the use and importance of slaves in Roman society in the early Empire.

SOURCE 14



NEGRO SLAVE, CLEANING A BOOT

Licensed by the Trustees of the British Museum. © The British Museum.

*OR*

- (c) What does the surviving archaeological and written evidence reveal about TWO of the following?
- (i) Food
  - (ii) Clothing
  - (iii) Housing
  - (iv) Leisure activities

**QUESTION 13. Roman Society in the Fourth Century AD**

*EITHER*

- (a) Describe the 'New Economic Order' in the fourth century AD, and assess its impact on society.

*OR*

- (b) To what extent was government in the fourth century AD dominated by an autocrat?



**SECTION II—PERSONALITIES AND GROUPS****Marks**

(25 Marks)

Attempt ONE question.

Answer the question in a separate Writing Booklet.

Start each part of the question on a new page.

You may choose *EITHER* a particular question (14–27) *OR* a general one (28–29).**PART E—EGYPT****QUESTION 14. Pharaohs in the Old Kingdom**

- |  |           |
|--|-----------|
| (a) Briefly outline the pharaoh's position within the administration of Old Kingdom Egypt. | <b>5</b>  |
| (b) Choose TWO pharaohs, and explain why they were typical rulers of their times.          | <b>10</b> |
| (c) Discuss religious cults in which the Old Kingdom pharaohs participated.                | <b>10</b> |

**QUESTION 15. Hatshepsut**

- |   |           |
|---|-----------|
| (a) Briefly outline Hatshepsut's relations with Thutmose III.           | <b>5</b>  |
| (b) Discuss the roles played by officials in the success of Hatshepsut. | <b>10</b> |
| (c) To what extent was Hatshepsut involved in military activities?      | <b>10</b> |

**QUESTION 16. Akhenaten**

- |  |           |
|--|-----------|
| (a) Briefly outline the main religious reforms of Akhenaten.             | <b>5</b>  |
| (b) How effective was Akhenaten's administration of the Egyptian empire? | <b>10</b> |
| (c) Assess the roles of Akhenaten's family in the Amarna period.         | <b>10</b> |

**PART F—NEAR EAST****QUESTION 17. Sennacherib**

- |  |           |
|--|-----------|
| (a) Briefly describe the gods worshipped by Sennacherib. | <b>5</b>  |
| (b) Discuss the main building activities of Sennacherib. | <b>10</b> |
| (c) Assess the military achievements of Sennacherib.     | <b>10</b> |

<b>QUESTION 18. Jezebel</b>	<b>Marks</b>
(a) Why did Ahab marry Jezebel?	<b>5</b>
(b) Why did the relations between Jezebel and Elijah receive so much attention in the Hebrew records?	<b>10</b>
(c) Evaluate Jezebel's reign as an Israelite queen.	<b>10</b>

**QUESTION 19. Xerxes**

(a) Briefly describe the extent of the empire inherited by Xerxes.	<b>5</b>
(b) Discuss the additions to Persepolis made by Xerxes.	<b>10</b>
(c) How successful was Xerxes as a military commander?	<b>10</b>

**PART G—GREECE**

**QUESTION 20. Women in Classical Greece**

(a) Briefly describe the roles played by women in ONE religious festival.	<b>5</b>
(b) Discuss Athenian women's roles in <i>either</i> marriage <i>or</i> funeral customs.	<b>10</b>
(c) Compare the economic position of Spartan women with that of other Greek women.	<b>10</b>

**QUESTION 21. Pericles**

(a) Briefly outline Pericles' duties and responsibilities as a strategos (general).	<b>5</b>
(b) What policies of Pericles were opposed in Athens? Explain why.	<b>10</b>
(c) Why was Pericles popular in Athens?	<b>10</b>

**QUESTION 22. Alexander**

(a) Briefly outline the problems faced by Alexander on his accession to the throne.	<b>5</b>
(b) Why was Alexander successful in his invasion of the Persian Empire?	<b>10</b>
(c) To what extent is Alexander's title, 'The Great', justified?	<b>10</b>

<b>QUESTION 23. Cleopatra VII</b>	<b>Marks</b>
(a) Briefly describe the family conflicts that Cleopatra VII faced.	<b>5</b>
(b) How did Cleopatra VII use other people to achieve her personal and political goals?	<b>10</b>
(c) What reputation did Cleopatra VII have with the Roman people? To what extent did she deserve this reputation?	<b>10</b>

### **PART H—ROME**

<b>QUESTION 24. Scipio Africanus</b>	
(a) Why was Scipio sent to Spain?	<b>5</b>
(b) Assess Scipio Africanus' military achievements in Africa.	<b>10</b>
(c) What reputation did Scipio Africanus have with the Roman people at the end of his career? To what extent did he deserve this reputation?	<b>10</b>

<b>QUESTION 25. Caesar</b>	
(a) Briefly describe the political career of Julius Caesar up to his first consulship (59 BC).	<b>5</b>
(b) What does Caesar's career reveal about his ambitions as a politician?	<b>10</b>
(c) Why was Caesar murdered in 44 BC?	<b>10</b>

<b>QUESTION 26. Agrippina II</b>	
(a) Briefly describe the family background of Agrippina II.	<b>5</b>
(b) What were Agrippina's aims and what methods did she use to achieve them?	<b>10</b>
(c) Why and how did Agrippina lose her political influence?	<b>10</b>

<b>QUESTION 27. The Christians in the Later Roman Empire</b>	
(a) Briefly describe the status of Christians at the time of the Emperor Decius.	<b>5</b>
(b) Discuss the consolidation of Christianity under Constantine I.	<b>10</b>
(c) How successful were the Romans in their persecution of the Christians in the later Roman Empire?	<b>10</b>

**PART I—GENERAL: PERSONALITIES AND GROUPS****Marks****QUESTION 28**

- |   |           |
|---|-----------|
| (a) How important was his or her family to the personality you have studied?                                | <b>5</b>  |
| (b) Describe something that this personality attempted but failed to accomplish.<br>Why did he or she fail? | <b>10</b> |
| (c) Why is this personality still remembered?   | <b>10</b> |

**QUESTION 29**

- |  |           |
|--|-----------|
| (a) What was the position in society of the group? | <b>5</b>  |
| (b) How did their society react to this group?     | <b>10</b> |
| (c) Evaluate the major achievements of this group. | <b>10</b> |

### SECTION III—HISTORICAL PERIODS

(50 Marks)

Attempt TWO questions.

Each question is worth 25 marks.

Answer each question in a *separate* Writing Booklet.

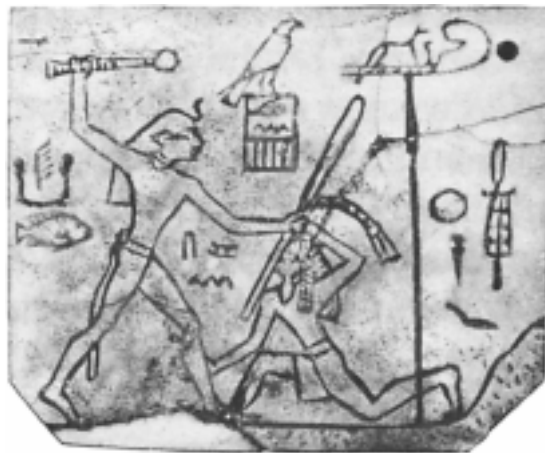
#### PART J—EGYPT

#### QUESTION 30. Egypt to Dynasty VI

*EITHER*

Use Source 15 and your own knowledge to answer the following.

SOURCE 15



DEN STRIKING AN ASIATIC CHIEFTAIN (DYNASTY I)

Licensed by the Trustees of the British Museum. © The British Museum.

- (a) What were the achievements of the early dynasties (I–II)? How did they contribute to the development of Old Kingdom Egypt?

*OR*

- (b) To what extent did the rise in independence of the nobles affect the government of Egypt?

*OR*

- (c) Assess the achievements of the pharaohs of the Old Kingdom in dynasties III–VI.

**QUESTION 31. Middle Kingdom Egypt: Dynasty XI–XII**

*EITHER*

- (a) To what extent was there a change in the power of the pharaoh during this period?

*OR*

- (b) What did pharaohs of the Middle Kingdom do to extend Egyptian territory and influence?

*OR*

- (c) Discuss the achievements of TWO Middle Kingdom pharaohs.

**QUESTION 32. New Kingdom Egypt: to the Death of Thutmose IV**

*EITHER*

- (a) Discuss the role of Ahhotep and Ahmose-Nefertari in the government and administration of Egypt.

*OR*

- (b) How did Egypt gain and maintain its empire in the early New Kingdom?

*OR*

QUESTION 32. (Continued)

(c) Use Sources 16 and 17 and your own knowledge to answer the following.

Assess the achievements of Thutmose III.

SOURCE 16



JUBILEE HALL. TEMPLE OF AMUN—RE AT KARNAK

'The Enduring Past', A Cremin, UNSW Press, 1987 p 35.

SOURCE 17



THUTMOSE III EXECUTING NORTHERN ENEMIES

'The Enduring Past', A Cremin, UNSW Press, 1987 p 35.

**QUESTION 33. New Kingdom Egypt: from Amenhotep III to the Death of Rameses II**

*EITHER*

- (a) How influential were royal women in foreign affairs and the government of Egypt in this period?

*OR*

- (b) How successful were the New Kingdom pharaohs in maintaining the Egyptian Empire from the time of Tutankhamun to the death of Rameses II?

*OR*

- (c) Discuss the purpose and extent of the building program of TWO of the following pharaohs:

- (i) Akhenaten
- (ii) Seti I
- (iii) Rameses II.



**PART K—NEAR EAST****QUESTION 34. Assyria from Tiglath-Pileser I to Tiglath-Pileser III, 1115–727 BC***EITHER*

- (a) Assess the achievements of the reign of Tiglath-Pileser I.

*OR*

- (b) What vassal-states proved to be troublesome for the Assyrian monarchs in this period (1115–727 BC)? How effectively were they dealt with?

*OR*

- (c) Explain the success of Tiglath-Pileser III in expanding the Assyrian empire.

**QUESTION 35. Assyria: Sargon II to the Fall of Nineveh, 721–609 BC***EITHER*

- (a) Choose *either* Sargon II *or* Ashurbanipal. Outline how he became king, and evaluate the achievements of his reign.

*OR*

- (b) What were the dominant issues in Assyria's foreign policy in this period? Explain any changes in policy.

*OR*

- (c) Discuss the importance of Nineveh as a source for the history of Assyria in this period.

**QUESTION 36. From the Reign of David to the Fall of Jerusalem, 586 BC***EITHER*

- (a) How did David and Solomon attempt to unify their nation? How successful were they?

*OR*

- (b) Assess Assyria's influence on the kingdoms of Israel and Judah.

*OR*

- (c) Discuss the Babylonian invasion of Judah.

**QUESTION 37. From the Coming of the Medes and the Persians to the Death of Darius III**

*EITHER*

- (a) Compare and contrast the reigns of Cyrus II (the ‘Great’) and his son Cambyses II.

*OR*

- (b) How did the Persians administer and control their empire?

*OR*

- (c) What internal problems did the Persian Empire face in the fourth century BC? How successful were they in overcoming them?

**PART L—GREECE**

**QUESTION 38. Development of the Greek World: 800–500 BC**

*EITHER*

- (a) Discuss the reasons for and the results of Greek colonisation.

*OR*

- (b) Discuss the effects of tyranny upon the Greek city states during the period 800–500 BC. Refer to at least TWO Greek city states in your answer.

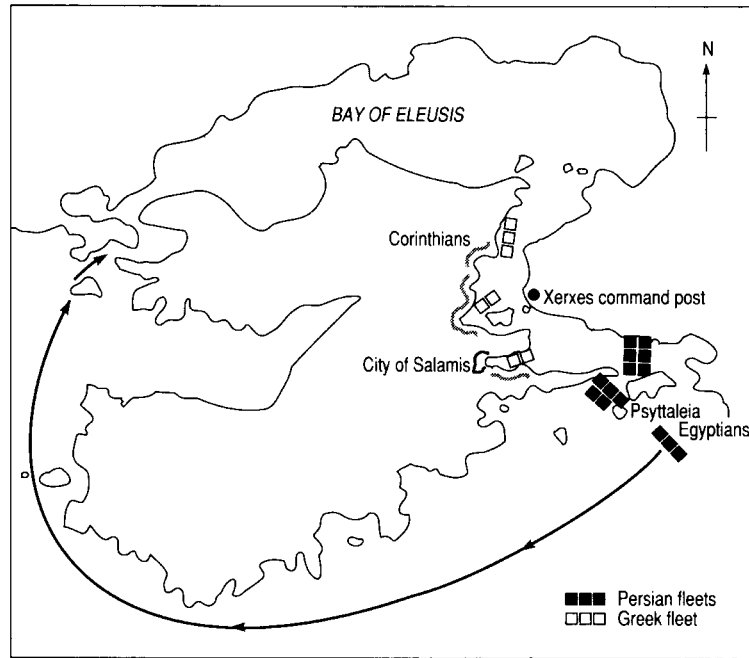
*OR*

- (c) To what extent did Athenian government change during this period (800–500 BC)?

**QUESTION 39. The Greek World: 500–450 BC***EITHER*

- (a) Use Source 18 and your own knowledge to answer the following.

What was Themistocles' contribution to the defence of Greece against the Persians? How important was his contribution to the success of the Greeks?

**SOURCE 18****BATTLE OF SALAMIS**

'Studies in Ancient Greece', D Hennessy (ed) Nelson 1991.

*OR*

- (b) Discuss the steps by which the Delian League became the Athenian Empire.

*OR*

- (c) Use Source 19 and your own knowledge to answer the following.

How and why did the events of 461 BC change Athenian government and foreign policy?

**SOURCE 19**

Athenians came to Sparta with a considerable force under the command of Cimon. This expedition was the occasion for the first open quarrel between Athens and Sparta.

THUCYDIDES, I. 102

'The Peloponnesian War', Thucydides, Penguin 1972.

**QUESTION 40. The Greek World: 460–399 BC**

*EITHER*

- (a) Explain the reasons for revolts by Athens' allies between 460 BC and 431 BC. How did Athens deal with these revolts?

*OR*

- (b) Discuss the relationship between Athens and Sparta in the period 460–431 BC.

*OR*

- (c) To what extent was the course of the Peloponnesian War affected by any TWO of the following?

- (i) Cleon
- (ii) Nicias
- (iii) Brasidas
- (iv) Lysander

**QUESTION 41. Fourth-Century Greece**

*EITHER*

- (a) Explain the failure of the Spartan hegemony in the fourth century BC.

*OR*

- (b) How successful was Philip II in extending the power of Macedonia?

*OR*

- (c) How did Alexander organise and administer his empire?

**QUESTION 42. Hellenistic Period: Death of Alexander to Cleopatra VII**

*EITHER*

- (a) Explain why the Greek states were unable to throw off Macedonian rule after the death of Alexander.

*OR*

- (b) To what extent did the Seleucid rulers make use of pre-existing political and social structures in the administration of their kingdoms?

*OR*

- (c) To what extent did the Ptolemies contribute to the prosperity of Egypt?

**PART M—ROME****QUESTION 43. Early History of Rome to the End of Rome's Wars of Expansion***EITHER*

- (a) How important was the influence of non-Roman peoples on the development of Rome during this period?

*OR*

- (b) Use Source 20 and your own knowledge to answer the following.

Discuss the causes of the Second Punic War.

**SOURCE 20**

Some historians of the Hannibalian war, when they wish to point out to us the causes of this contest between Rome and Carthage, allege first the siege of Saguntum by the Carthaginians, and, secondly, their breach of treaty by crossing the river called by the natives the Iber. But though I should call these the first actions in the war, I cannot admit them to be its causes.

POLYBIUS, III. 6

Polybius, *Universal History* translation, D Shuckburgh.*OR*

- (c) What were the strengths and weaknesses of the Roman constitution?

**QUESTION 44. Political Revolution in Rome: 133–78 BC***EITHER*

- (a) Assess the importance of the tribunate in the political revolution in Rome, 133–78 BC.

*OR*

- (b) Discuss the military reforms of Marius. What benefits did they bring to Rome?

*OR*

- (c) What effects did the wars of expansion have on Rome?

**QUESTION 45. 78–28 BC: The Fall of the Republic**

*EITHER*

(a) To what extent does Pompey deserve the title 'Magnus' (the Great)?

*OR*

(b) How did Caesar use any TWO of the following to further his career?

- (i) The tribunate
- (ii) Veterans
- (iii) Political alliances

*OR*

(c) To what extent was the senate responsible for the Roman civil wars in this period?

**QUESTION 46. Augustus and the Julio-Claudians**

*EITHER*

(a) Discuss the problems faced by Augustus in finding a successor to the principate.

*OR*

## QUESTION 46. (Continued)

- (b) Use Source 21 and your own knowledge to answer the following.

To what extent did EITHER Tiberius OR Claudius make a positive contribution to Rome and its empire?

## SOURCE 21



ROMAN SHIP ENTERS THE PORT OF OSTIA

Mansell Collection

*OR*

- (c) How and why did the position and power of TWO of the following change in this period?
- (i) The equestrian order
  - (ii) The Praetorian Guard
  - (iii) The plebeians

## QUESTION 47. Roman Empire: AD 68–250

*EITHER*

- (a) Assess the achievements of the Flavian emperors.

*OR*

- (b) Discuss the benefits of the reign of EITHER Trajan OR Hadrian to Rome and the empire.

*OR*

- (c) How did the Roman army change in this period?

**Please turn over**

**QUESTION 48. The Later Empire, AD 250–410**

*EITHER*

- (a) Discuss the Tetrarchy established by Diocletian. How successful was it in governing the empire?

*OR*

- (b) To what extent does Theodosius I deserve the title ‘the Great’?

*OR*

- (c) Discuss the effects and success of the Roman Emperors in defending their frontiers in the period AD 250–410.