

ENTRY LEVEL

Moderators' report

LATIN

R447

For first teaching in 2016

R447/01/02 Summer 2022 series

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Introduction

Our moderators' reports are produced to offer constructive feedback on centre's assessment of moderated work, based on what has been observed by our moderation team. These reports include a general commentary of accuracy of internal assessment judgements; identify good practice in relation to evidence collation and presentation and comments on the quality of centre assessment decisions. This report also highlights areas where requirements have been misinterpreted and provides guidance to centre assessors on requirements for accessing higher mark bands. Where appropriate, the report will also signpost to other sources of information that centre assessors will find helpful.

OCR completes moderation of centre-assessed work to quality assure the internal assessment judgements made by assessors within a centre. Where OCR cannot confirm the centre's marks, we may adjust them to align them to the national standard. Any adjustments to centre marks are detailed on the Moderation Adjustments report, which can be downloaded from Interchange when results are issued. Centres should also refer to their individual centre report provided after moderation has been completed. In combination, these centre-specific documents and this overall report should help to support centres' internal assessment and moderation practice for future series.

Advance Information for Summer 2022 assessments

To support student revision, advance information was published about the focus of exams for Summer 2022 assessments. Advance information was available for most GCSE, AS and A Level subjects, Core Maths, FSMQ, and Cambridge Nationals Information Technologies. You can find more information on our [website](#).

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General overview/Introduction

Administration:

The moderation process was able to run reasonably smoothly this year, but it was felt that some paperwork was missing from a number of centres. To help moderators further:

- please complete and cross check the Centre Summary Form (GCW184). This is vital to avoid clerical errors
- please collate all the work of individual candidates with a completed Candidate Record Sheet (CCS/436)
- supply samples promptly when requested.

Candidates who are absent on the day of examining any component should be given the opportunity to attempt a *different* topic or language paper. If this is not possible then such candidates must be marked with A. Candidates should be given 0 for a Language test or Roman Culture task when they produce a response which gains no credit under the marking criteria.

Finally, moderators give feedback and advice to centres in the form of reports. These are available from Examination Officers on results day. Centres are advised to consult these.

Language tests

There are four tests available. As the mark scheme is quite prescriptive, it was felt that they had been fairly marked.

In the future, centres might consider:

- entering candidates with different combinations of Test 1 and Test 2. Candidates are free to attempt as many *different* papers as the centre wishes, and thus enter a best mark
- marking work in a different colour from candidates
- carrying out internal moderation where appropriate.

Candidates who did well generally did the following:	Candidates who did less well generally did the following:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • thought about each answer before writing down the response • used the Latin glosses to produce an accurate translation • offered varied derivations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • had many options crossed out before settling on one response • did not use the vocabulary and help provided • offered alternative and different responses or derivations separated by /. These cannot gain credit.

Roman Culture task(s)

The assessment for R447 awards 20 marks for AO2 – demonstrating knowledge of Roman culture and 30 marks for AO3 – understanding of and personal response to Roman culture.

Centres are still tending to enter all candidates for the same title, whereas affording candidates a choice may encourage engagement by all.

Titles beginning with “What” or “Describe” can limit the possibility to reach higher levels in AO3. Empathy titles such as “Imagine you have...” or “Imagine you are” may be less successful. There is a tendency for responses such as these to be descriptive and lack analysis.

Misconception



By “personal response” moderators would like to see an argument set out by the candidate. The argument may be personal and not be wholly reliable, but the candidate is developing skills to think about a question and to try and respond. Empathy tasks cannot always elicit these responses.

More successful question words

- how far
- to what extent
- explain why.

Less successful question words

- what (was...)
- describe (a day at...)
- imagine (you are...).

For topics on material culture (such as the Roman Theatre), images of ancient material would be expected (as opposed to modern illustrations), with discussion tied into the response. Quotations would be expected of passages from classical authors.

Responses over the word limit are felt to gain an unfair advantage in the assessment of detail offered. Responses considerably below 400 words (or 2 x 200) are self-limiting as well.

Examples of good practice were many, such as the inclusion of a copy of the task or passage set and a bibliography. Many centres gave an indication of the amount of material provided by the teacher and that derived from the candidates' independent research. This was really helpful and is now expected.


OCR support



OCR is happy to advise on the suitability of Roman Culture titles. It was good to see that centres which had approached OCR in advance and acted on the advice produced successful and engaging responses. Please contact: classics@ocr.org.uk

More successful titles	Less successful titles
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “A Roman palace fit for a King”. How far does the decoration at Fishbourne Roman palace suggest this statement is true? <p>This makes the decoration the focus and so the response can be successfully attempted in 400 words</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gladiators- a source of entertainment or cruelty? <p>This gives candidates an argument with two aspects to address within 400 words.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • My life as a gladiator <p>The response may be descriptive, limiting access to marks for AO3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What happened when.... <p>The response may be very factual, but the analysis will be limited</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Were slaves important to the Romans? <p>This is very general as a title and could be narrowed down perhaps to domestic slaves and posed as <i>how far</i> or <i>to what extent</i>.</p>

Misconception



For centres which enter candidates under code R447/01, the intention is that samples will be uploaded into the OCR Repository. Centres which enter candidates under code R447/02 would be expected to send samples to moderators via the postal system. This year several centres entered candidates under the code R447/01 but in fact only two centres uploaded work to the repository.

Avoiding potential malpractice

Centres are advised to study and refresh their understanding of the requirements of the R447 specification.

- candidates are free to attempt as many *different* Language papers as the centre wishes, and thus enter a best mark, however candidates may not sit the *same* Language test as both a practice paper and live test
- peer marking is not permitted
- **Language papers must not be returned to candidates to take home.** Nor should tests be returned to candidates in order for them to see mistakes and make corrections
- OCR Entry Level Language Tests must **not** be used as internal centre examinations when feedback and results are required sooner than OCR's releases results
- the write up of the Roman Culture task(s) should be undertaken in the classroom under supervised conditions and not set as homework.

Security

Please make sure the continued security of the qualification for all by keeping all completed test papers and written pieces under secure conditions within the centre. All Language papers, including unused ones should be securely shredded in November and fresh copies downloaded for the new series. The test papers are live and should not be put into general recycling.

Helpful resources

Centres might consider using source material offered by other classical qualifications:

[Latin GCSE Prescribed source booklet](#)

[Classical Civilisation GCSE Prescribed visual sources](#)

[Classical Civilisation GCSE Prescribed literary sources](#)

Supporting you

Post-results services

If any of your students' results are not as expected, you may wish to consider one of our post-results services. For full information about the options available visit the [OCR website](#).

Keep up-to-date

We send a weekly roundup to tell you about important updates. You can also sign up for your subject specific updates. If you haven't already, [sign up here](#).

OCR Professional Development

Attend one of our popular CPD courses to hear directly from a senior assessor or drop in to a Q&A session. Most of our courses are delivered live via an online platform, so you can attend from any location.

Please find details for all our courses on the relevant subject page on our [website](#) or visit [OCR professional development](#).

Signed up for ExamBuilder?

ExamBuilder is the question builder platform for a range of our GCSE, A Level, Cambridge Nationals and Cambridge Technicals qualifications. [Find out more](#).

ExamBuilder is **free for all OCR centres** with an Interchange account and gives you unlimited users per centre. We need an [Interchange](#) username to validate the identity of your centre's first user account for ExamBuilder.

If you do not have an Interchange account please contact your centre administrator (usually the Exams Officer) to request a username, or nominate an existing Interchange user in your department.

Need to get in touch?

If you ever have any questions about OCR qualifications or services (including administration, logistics and teaching) please feel free to get in touch with our customer support centre.

Call us on
01223 553998

Alternatively, you can email us on
support@ocr.org.uk

For more information visit

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