



GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION

CLASSICAL GREEK

Sources for Classical Greek

B405/SB

INSERT-SOURCES BOOKLET

Friday 11 June 2010
Afternoon

Duration: 1 hour



INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

- This document consists of 4 pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

Sources A, B and C give views about women in Ancient Greece.

Source A A woman in a play talks about marriage

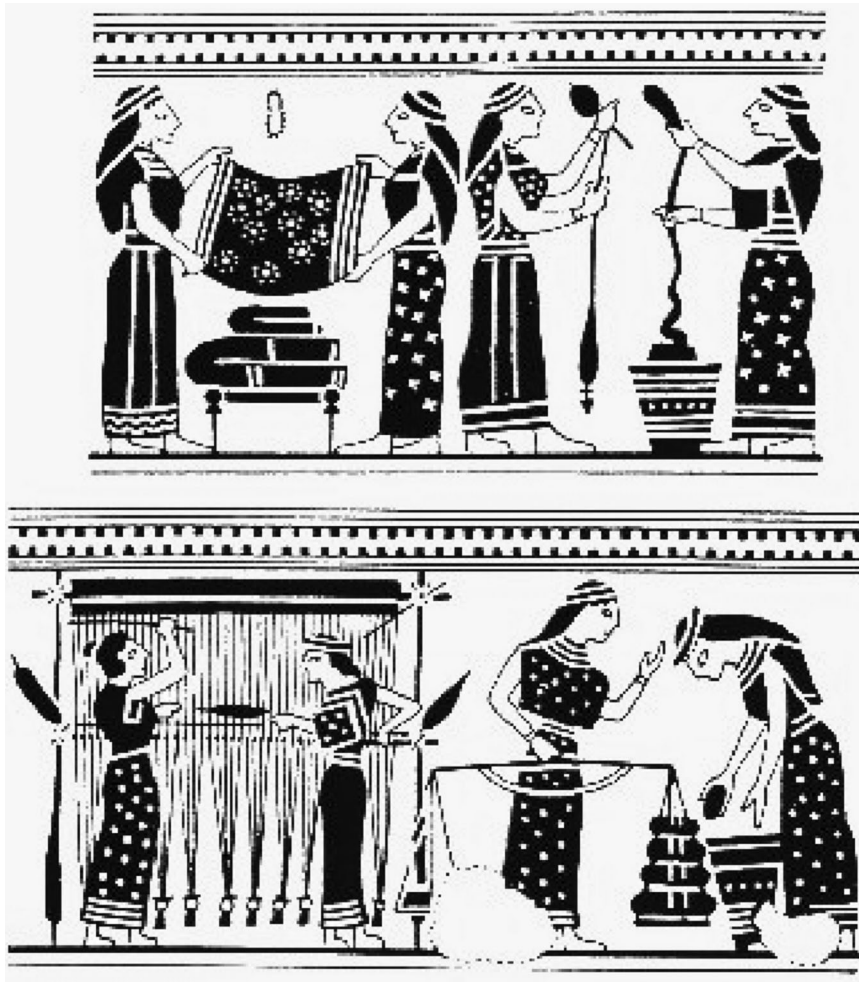
We women are the unhappiest of all the creatures which possess life and understanding.

First, we need to buy a husband at an exorbitant price. This husband then takes control of our bodies. This adds an even more painful wrong to one already suffered. Then there is the greatest worry: whether he will be a bad or good husband; divorce ruins a woman's good reputation, but she cannot reject a husband.

Next, when she goes into her new home, meeting new restrictions and customs, she needs to be able to tell the future to work out what kind of husband she shares her bed with. This is knowledge she cannot learn from her own home. When we have succeeded in our hard work at this, and our husband carries the yoke of this shared life well, then our life is considered a happy one. If he does not, however, then you might as well be dead. When the man grows tired of those he lives with in the house, he can go out and find a release from his unhappiness elsewhere. We must look to just one man. Men tell us we live a life without danger at home, while they battle with their spears. What stupid nonsense! I would stand with my shield three times in a battle line rather than bear a child once.

Euripides *Medea*

Source B This vase shows women at work



Source C A husband explains how his wife was seduced

Athenians, when I decided to get married, and took my wife to my home, to start with I behaved in such a way that I neither harassed her nor gave her too much freedom to do whatever she liked, and watched over her as far as I could, and paid attention to her, as you would expect. But when my child was born, I began to trust her and I handed over everything that I had to her, thinking this to be the greatest indication of our closeness. To begin with, Athenians, she was the best of all women, for she was an intelligent and thrifty housekeeper, and she arranged everything precisely. But after the death of my mother, whose death has been the cause of all my troubles ... for when my wife was taking part in the funeral procession she was seen by this fellow, and after a time was seduced. For he kept watch for the slave girl who used to walk to the market place and managed to corrupt her with his clever talk.

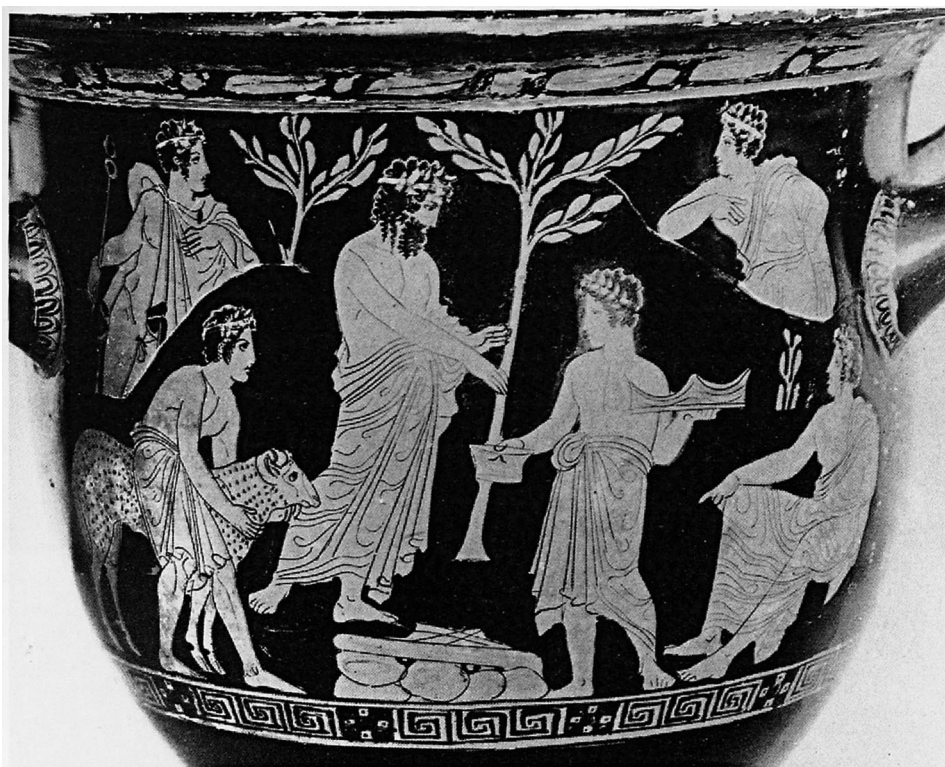
Lysias On the Murder of Eratosthenes 1.6ff

Sources D, E and F show aspects of religious life in Ancient Greece.

Source D A poet gives advice

If a man gets wealth
 By force of hands or through his lying tongue,
 As often happens, when greed clouds the mind
 And shame is pushed aside by shamelessness,
 Then the gods blot him out and blast his house
 And soon his wealth deserts him. Also he
 Who harms a guest or suppliant, or acts
 Unseemly, sleeping with his brother's wife,
 Or in his folly, hurts an orphan child,
 Or he who picks rough quarrels, and attacks
 His father at the threshold of old age,
 He angers Zeus himself and in the end
 He pays harsh penalties for all his sins.
 Now, shut your foolish heart against these things
 And sacrifice to the immortal gods
 With reverence and ritual cleanliness,
 And burn the glorious thigh bones; please the gods
 With incense and libations, when you go
 To bed, and when the holy light returns,
 That they may favour you, with gracious hearts
 And spirits, so that you may buy the lands
 Of other men, and they may not buy yours.

Hesiod Works and Days

Source E This vase shows a ram being sacrificed**Source F The Chorus of women in a play describe how they were involved in religious ceremonies when they were young**

Chorus of old women:

Citizens, we now begin our advice which will prove useful to the city: quite rightly, since the city brought me up in luxury and splendour. The moment I was seven years old I carried the peplos of Athena, then I was a grinder. When I was ten at the Brauronia I shed my saffron gown and was a bear of the founder. And I was a basket-carrier, a beautiful girl with a necklace of dried figs.

So, I am obliged to offer good advice to the city. If I am a woman, don't hold it against me if I introduce some ideas that are better than the present situation. I have a share in the national wealth – I contribute men.

Aristophanes *Lysistrata* 638-49

Copyright Information

OCR is committed to seeking permission to reproduce all third-party content that it uses in its assessment materials. OCR has attempted to identify and contact all copyright holders whose work is used in this paper. To avoid the issue of disclosure of answer-related information to candidates, all copyright acknowledgements are reproduced in the OCR Copyright Acknowledgements Booklet. This is produced for each series of examinations, is given to all schools that receive assessment material and is freely available to download from our public website (www.ocr.org.uk) after the live examination series.

If OCR has unwittingly failed to correctly acknowledge or clear any third-party content in this assessment material, OCR will be happy to correct its mistake at the earliest possible opportunity.

For queries or further information please contact the Copyright Team, First Floor, 9 Hills Road, Cambridge CB2 1GE.

OCR is part of the Cambridge Assessment Group; Cambridge Assessment is the brand name of University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate (UCLES), which is itself a department of the University of Cambridge.