



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit
State Examinations Commission

LEAVING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION, 2008

ANCIENT GREEK — ORDINARY LEVEL

(400 marks)

TIME: 3 Hours

A.

(Alexander, a harsh and evil man, takes over as ruler of Thessaly. He is killed in his sleep in a conspiracy involving his wife, who plans the murder, and her brothers, who carry it out.)

ἐπεὶ δ' ὁ Ἀλέξανδρος παρέλαβε τὴν ἀρχὴν, χαλεπὸς μὲν Θετταλοῖς ταγὸς ἐγένετο, χαλεπὸς δὲ Θηβαίοις καὶ Ἀθηναίοις πολέμιος, ἀδικὸς δὲ ληστής καὶ κατὰ γῆν καὶ κατὰ θάλατταν. αὐτὸς δ' αὖ ἀποθνήσκει, αὐτοχειρία μὲν ὑπὸ τῶν τῆς γυναικὸς ἀδελφῶν, βουλῇ δὲ ὑπ' αὐτῆς ἐκείνης. τοῖς τε γὰρ ἀδελφοῖς ἢ γυνὴ ἐξηγγειλεν ὡς ὁ Ἀλέξανδρος ἐπιβουλεύει αὐτοῖς καὶ ἔκρυψεν αὐτοὺς ἔνδον ὄντας ὅλην τὴν ἡμέραν· καὶ ἐπεὶ κατεκοίμισεν τὸν Ἀλέξανδρον μεθύοντα, τὸ ξίφος αὐτοῦ ἐξήνεγκεν. ὡς δ' ἦσθετο τοὺς ἀδελφούς ὀκνοῦντας εἰσιέναι ἐπὶ τὸν Ἀλέξανδρον, εἶπεν ὡς εἰ μὴ ἤδη πράξοιεν, ἐξεγερεῖ αὐτόν. ὡς δ' εἰσηλθον, ἢ γυνὴ ἐπισπάσασα τὴν θύραν εἶχετο τοῦ ῥόπτρου, ἕως ἀπέθανεν ὁ ἀνὴρ.

XENOPHON (70)

χαλεπός: harsh. Θετταλός: Thessalian. ταγός: ruler. ληστής: robber. αὖ: in turn.
αὐτοχειρία: "in a murder". βουλή: "in a plot". ἐπιβουλεύω (+ Dative Case): I plot against.
κατακοιμίζω: I lull to sleep. μεθύω: I am drunk. ξίφος: sword. ὀκνέω: I hesitate.
ἐξεγερεῖ: "she will wake". ἐπισπάω: I shut. ῥόπτρον: door-knocker.

B.

(Blaming them for the war, the Athenians expel the Aeginetans from the island of Aegina, replacing them with colonists of their own. In return for previous help the Lacedaemonians give to the exiled Aeginetans the town of Thyrea.)

τῷ δ' αὐτῷ θερεῖ τούτῳ οἱ Ἀθηναῖοι ἀνέστησαν ἐξ Αἰγίνης τοὺς Αἰγινήτας, αὐτοὺς τε καὶ παῖδας καὶ γυναῖκας, ἐπικαλέσαντες αὐτοὺς οὐχ ἥκιστα αἰτίους εἶναι τοῦ πολέμου· καὶ ἀσφαλέστερον ἐφαίνετο τοῖς Ἀθηναίοις, πέμψασιν ἐποίκους, ἔχειν τὴν Αἶγινα, ἐπικειμένην τῇ Πελοποννήσῳ. καὶ ἐξέπεμψαν οὐ πόλλω ὕστερον τοὺς ἐποίκους εἰς αὐτὴν. τοῖς δ' Αἰγινήταις οἱ Λακεδαιμόνιοι ἔδοσαν Θυρέαν οἰκεῖν καὶ τὴν γῆν νέμεσθαι, διότι ἑαυτῶν εὐεργέται ἦσαν ὑπὸ τὸν σεισμόν καὶ τὴν ἐπανάστασιν τῶν Εἰλώτων. ἢ δὲ Θυρεᾶτις γῆ μεθορία τῆς Ἀργείας καὶ Λακωνικῆς ἐστίν, ἐπὶ θάλασσαν καθήκουσα. καὶ οἱ μὲν αὐτῶν ἐνταῦθα ὤκησαν, οἱ δ' ἐσπάρησαν κατὰ τὴν ἄλλην Ἑλλάδα.

THUCYDIDES (70)

θέρος: summer. ἀνίστημι: I make emigrate. ἐπικαλέω: I allege. ἥκιστα: least. ἀσφαλής: safe.
ἐπίκοις: colonist. ἐπικείμενος (+ Dative Case): lying off the coast of. νέμομαι: I possess.
εὐεργέτης: benefactor. ὑπό: about the time of. σεισμός: earthquake. ἐπανάστασις: revolt.
Εἰλώτης: Helot. Θυρεᾶτις: of Thyrea. μεθορίας (+ Genitive Case): on the border between.
καθήκω: I come down, reach. σπείρω: I scatter.

C.

(Menelaus threatens to kill Andromache's son unless she leaves the altar and statue of the goddess, where she has sought protection against the hatred of Menelaus' daughter.)

ἤκω λαβῶν σὸν παῖδ', ὃν εἰς ἄλλους δόμους
λάθρα θυγατρὸς τῆς ἐμῆς ὑπεξέθου.
σὲ μὲν γὰρ ἡύχεις θεᾶς βρέτας σώσειν τόδε,
τοῦτον δὲ τοὺς κρύψαντας· ἀλλ' ἐφηυρέθης
ἦσον φρονούσα τοῦδε Μενέλεω, γύναι.
κεῖ μὴ τόδ' ἐκλιποῦσ' ἐρημώσεις πέδον,
ὄδ' ἀντὶ τοῦ σοῦ σώματος σφαγήσεται.
ταῦτ' οὖν λογίζου, πότερα κατθανεῖν θέλεις
ἢ τόνδ' ὀλέσθαι σῆς ἀμαρτίας ὑπερ,
ἢν εἰς ἔμ' εἰς τε παῖδ' ἐμὴν ἀμαρτάνεις.

EURIPIDES (70)

λάθρα (+ Genitive Case): in secret from. ὑπεκτίθεμαι: I carry safely away. αὐχέω: I boast, declare.
βρέτας: statue. ἐφευρίσκω: I discover. ἦσον φρονέω (+ Genitive Case): I am less clever than.
κεῖ = καὶ εἰ. ἐρημώω: I abandon. πέδον: place. σφάζω: I slaughter. λογίζομαι: I consider.
πότερα: whether. ὄλλυμαι: I perish. ἀμαρτία: error. ὑπερ (+ Genitive Case): because of.
ἀμαρτάνω: I commit (an error).

D.

(Queen Arete orders a cauldron of water to be heated for a bath. She then fetches a chest in which to put the gifts that the Phaeacians have given their guest Odysseus, and adds some gifts herself.)

ὣς ἔφατ', Ἀρήτη δὲ μετὰ δμωῆσιν ἔειπεν
ἀμφὶ πυρὶ στήσαι τρίποδα μέγαν ὅττι τάχιστα.
αἱ δὲ λοετροχόον τρίποδ' ἴστασαν ἐν πυρὶ κηλέω,
ἐν δ' ἄρ' ὕδωρ ἔχεαν, ὑπὸ δὲ ξύλα δαῖον ἐλούσαι.
γάστρη μὲν τρίποδος πῦρ ἀμφεπε, θέρμετο δ' ὕδωρ·
τόφρα δ' ἄρ' Ἀρήτη ξείνῳ περικαλλέα χηλὸν
ἐξέφερον θαλάμοιο, τίθει δ' ἐνὶ κάλλιμα δῶρα,
ἔσθητα χρυσόν τε, τὰ οἱ Φαίηκες ἔδωκαν·
ἐν δ' αὐτῇ φᾶρος θῆκεν καλὸν τε χιτῶνα.

HOMER (70)

ἔφατο: the subject of this verb is "he", i.e. Alcinoos, husband of Arete. δμωή: maidservant.
τρίπους: cauldron. ὅττι = ὥς. λοετροχόος: for filling the bath. κηλεός: blazing. χέω: I pour.
ὑπό: underneath. ξύλον: piece of wood. δαίω: I kindle. γάστρη: belly (of cauldron).
ἀμφιέπω: I lap round. τόφρα: meanwhile. χηλός: chest. θάλαμος: storeroom. ἔσθης: clothing.
φᾶρος: cloak.

2.

[100]

(i) Translate into English:-

(60)

πῶς δ' ἂν μᾶλλον ἐνδείξαιτό τις
πόσιν προτιμῶς ἢ θέλουσ' ὑπερθανεῖν;
καὶ ταῦτα μὲν δὴ πᾶσ' ἐπίσταται πόλις·
ἃ δ' ἐν δόμοις ἔδρασε θαυμάση κλύων.
ἐπεὶ γὰρ ἦσθεθ' ἡμέραν τὴν κυρίαν
ἤκουσαν, ὕδασι ποταμίοις λευκὸν χροᾶ
ἐλούσατ', ἐκ δ' ἐλούσα κεδρίνων δόμων
ἐσθήτα κόσμον τ' εὐπρεπῶς ἠσκήσατο,
καὶ στᾶσα πρόσθεν Ἑστίας κατηύξατο·
'δέσποιν', ἐγὼ γὰρ ἔρχομαι κατὰ χθονός,
πανύστατόν σε προσπίτνουσ' αἰτήσομαι,
τέκν' ὀρφανεῦσαι τὰμά· καὶ τῶ μὲν φίλην
σύζευξον ἄλοχον, τῇ δὲ γενναῖον πόσιν.
μηδ' (ὥσπερ αὐτῶν ἡ τεκοῦσ' ἀπόλλυμαι)
θανεῖν ἀώρους παῖδας, ἀλλ' εὐδαίμονας
ἐν γῆ πατρῶα τερπνὸν ἐκπλήσαι βίον.'

READING GREEK

(ii) Answer **any four** of the following questions. (Each question carries ten marks):-

(40)

- (a) Explain why Alkestis is going to die.
- (b) Describe briefly the role of the Chorus in a Greek drama.
- (c) Write a short note on the life of Euripides.
- (d) Give the **First Person, Singular Number, Present Tense** of **any two** of these verbs underlined above:
- προτιμῶσα, θέλουσα, ἔδρασε, θαυμάση.
- (e) Write a short account of the meeting between Odysseus and Nausikaa.
- (f) Outline the course of the dispute between Aristarkhos and Theophemos.

3. Answer **three** of the following questions. At least **one** question must be chosen from Section A and **one** from Section B. The **third** question may be chosen from **either** Section A **or** Section B. (Each question carries thirty marks):- [90]

A.

- (i) Discuss **three** of the factors that led to the defeat of Athens in the Peloponnesian War.
- (ii) Write short notes on **any two** of the following:-
Peace of Nicias; Battle of Cunaxa; Agesilaus; Battle of Chaeronea.
- (iii) In your view, which of the battles fought by Alexander the Great in his conquest of Persia was the most significant? Justify your choice and describe the course of this battle.
- (iv) Outline the reforms that Solon introduced in Athens.

B.

- (i) Imagine that you are Plato in his old age. Write a short speech, addressed to new students in your Academy, in which you outline the course of your life and some of your main philosophical ideas.
- (ii) Tell what you know about the life and work of Aeschylus and his contribution to Athenian drama. Briefly outline the story of **one** of his plays.
- (iii) You are a Spartan ambassador, newly arrived in Athens, and have just been given a tour of the Acropolis. In a letter home, describe what you saw on the Acropolis and give your opinion of it.
- (iv) Write short notes on **any two** of the following:-
Black Figure vases; the Doric column; the Discobolus; Pediments.

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