

**CLASSICAL TRIPOS Part II**  
**Group C History**

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Wednesday 31 May 2000 9 to 12

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Paper C 3

**MONEY IN THE ANCIENT WORLD**

*Answer three questions.*

**It is important to write good English.**

**Irrelevance will be penalised.**

- 1 Why did the use of coinage spread so rapidly through the archaic Greek world?
- 2 **Either** (a) How do you account for the treatment accorded to money by Plato and Aristotle?  
**Or** (b) What can any one ancient author tell us about money in the ancient world?
- 3 **Either** (a) Was classical Athens a money economy?  
**Or** (b) What and why did people lend and borrow in classical Athens?
- 4 What was the so-called 'Athenian Coinage Decree' about?
- 5 What were the characteristics of money-use in Ptolemaic Egypt?
- 6 'The oil that greased the wheels.' Is this a fair assessment of the role of money in Roman Republican politics?
- 7 What part was played by money in political crises of the early Principate?
- 8 What can the historian learn from Pompeii about the use of money in Roman Italy?
- 9 **Either** (a) To what extent did money serve to bind together the Roman Empire?  
**Or** (b) Was inflation ever a problem in the Roman Empire?
- 10 'The triumph of Christianity made no significant difference to ancient attitudes towards money.' True?
- 11 **Either** (a) 'Coin types tell us about the taste of individuals and very little else.' Discuss [*You may, if you wish, confine your answer to the coinage of either Greece or Rome.*]  
**Or** (b) How can numismatists help historians?

**[TURN OVER**

- 12 Is money in the ancient world 'Good to think with'?
- 13 How and why does money appear in the art of **either** Greece **or** Rome?
- 14 How do ancient attitudes towards money compare with those of modern societies?
- 15 How was money manipulated as a metaphor in the ancient world?