

CLASSICAL TRIPOS Part II
Group C History

Thursday 31 May 2001 9 to 12

Paper C3

MONEY IN THE ANCIENT WORLD

Answer three questions.

It is important to write good English.

Irrelevance will be penalised.

**You may not start to read the questions
printed on the subsequent pages of this
question paper until instructed that you
may do so by the Invigilator**

- 1 What have historians discovered to date about the origins and early spread of coinage?
- 2 'Medium of exchange, unit of account, store of value.' How far does this modern summary cover the range of uses of money in the ancient world?
- 3 **Either** (a) What can the historian learn from the treatment accorded to money by Plato and Aristotle?
Or (b) How and why is money introduced into **one or more** works of **either** Greek **or** Latin fictional writing?
- 4 **Either** (a) How were goods exchanged in the Athenian Agora?
Or (b) 'Athenian economy and society: a banking perspective.' (COHEN) Is such a thing possible?
- 5 'The language of metals.' Discuss with respect to the Greek world.
- 6 How can the historian best make sense of the so-called 'Athenian Coinage Decree'?
- 7 How does an understanding of coinage affect our evaluation of Philip II and Alexander the Great?
- 8 What were the parts played by money in Ptolemaic economy and society?
- 9 Why did the Roman Republican state issue coinage?
- 10 What part was played by money in the political crises of **either** the late Republic **or** the early Principate?
- 11 What can Roman historians learn from the evidence for minting, destruction and hoarding of coinage?
- 12 To what extent did money enable the Roman empire to function as a single economic unit?
- 13 'To subvert a state, first undermine its currency.' How did the Roman authorities cope with inflation in the later Roman empire?
- 14 What has the New Testament to tell the historian on the subject of money and attitudes towards it?
- 15 'Coin types which assist the ancient historian are very much the exception rather than the rule.' Discuss. [*You may, if you wish, confine your answer to the coinage of **either** Greece **or** Rome.*]
- 16 How and why are money, sex and art so frequently juxtaposed in the ancient and modern worlds?