

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

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Tuesday 4 June 2002 9 to 12

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Paper C4

TRANSFORMATION OF THE ROMAN WORLD, A.D. 284-476

*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 Either** (a) 'The economic, political and social structures of the Roman Empire were gradually transformed during the course of the third century – there was no crisis.' Discuss.
- Or** (b) To what extent did the institution of the tetrarchy solve the problems of the third century?
- 2** 'Empty words and empty gestures.' How important were **both** imperial ceremonial **and** panegyric in the later Roman Empire?
- 3** 'An over-elaborate system paralysed by inefficiency and corruption.' How effective was later Roman bureaucracy?
- 4** 'The degree of social mobility in the fourth century has been greatly exaggerated.' Discuss.
- 5** 'Unreliable, long-winded and opinionated.' Is this a fair assessment of the surviving works of Ammianus Marcellinus?
- 6 Either** (a) 'The fourth century witnessed two religious revolutions – one Christian, the other pagan.' Discuss.
- Or** (b) 'What Constantine had done with Christianity, Julian dreamed of repeating with paganism. They both turned to a young and popular religion and lent it their full support.' (ATHANASSIADI) Why did Constantine succeed and Julian fail?
- 7** To what extent does later Roman art represent a break with tradition?
- 8** 'Monks and ascetics stood on the margins of the late-antique world. Their impact on religious debates in the fourth and fifth centuries was minimal.' Do you agree?
- 9** 'Bishops were central to the success of Christianity in the fourth and fifth centuries.' Is this a fair assessment?
- 10** To what extent did attitudes **either** to the family **or** to sexuality change in the later Roman Empire?
- 11** How useful a guide to contemporary priorities and concerns is the *Theodosian Code*?
- 12** How important were **either** cities **or** trade to the late-antique economy?
- 13** Why were Christians more hostile to heretics than to pagans?
- 14** Was the later Roman Empire a 'slave society'?
- 15 Either** (a) Why were so many contemporaries keen to present the movement of Germanic peoples into the later Roman Empire in terms of 'barbarian invasions'?
- Or** (b) How can the successes of the Goths in the western provinces of the later Roman Empire best be explained?
- 16** How far can the so-called 'successor kingdoms' of western Europe be considered Roman?
- 17** To what extent did the eastern provinces survive the decline and fall of the Roman Empire?