

CLASSICAL TRIPOS Part II
Group C History

Thursday 5 June 2003 9 to 12

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 Account for the demise of the Principate.
- 2 **Either** (a) How can the historian of late antiquity make up for the absence of narrative sources for the Tetrarchy and the early years of Constantine?
Or (b) Were the innovations of Constantine confined to the religious sphere?
- 3 What does imperial ceremonial reveal about the status and power of late Roman emperors?
- 4 How effectively was the late Roman empire governed?
- 5 Did Constantinople succeed where Rome failed?
- 6 How far, and why, did paganism survive in the fourth and fifth centuries?
- 7 Have the 'rise and function' of the holy man in late antiquity been exaggerated?
- 8 'Ammianus deliberately closed his eyes to the central role that Christianity played in the Roman empire.' (BARNES) Discuss.
- 9 Why did late antique Christians seek to define the nature of orthodox belief, and with what success?
- 10 'The secularisation of the Christian Church was more visible than the Christianisation of society in the world of late antiquity.' Discuss.
- 11 'Food was a scarce resource in ancient societies.' How then were the hungry fed?
- 12 **Either** (a) Was there a 'Mediterranean economy' in late antiquity?
Or (b) What role did great estates play in the late antique economy?
- 13 What factors shaped the fate of cities in the fourth and fifth centuries?
- 14 'The flow from non-Christian into Christian usage was unbroken.' Discuss in relation to late antique art.
- 15 How far and why were attitudes to barbarians transformed in the fourth and early fifth centuries?
- 16 **Either** (a) To what extent did the barbarian successor states seek deliberately to conserve their Roman political heritage?
Answer with reference to at least one of the following:

(i) Ostrogothic Italy;	(v) the Burgundian kingdom;
(ii) Visigothic Spain;	(vi) Anglo-Saxon England;
(iii) Frankish Gaul;	(vii) Bavaria.
(iv) Vandal Africa;	

Or (b) Is ethnogenesis a helpful route to understanding the creation of identity in the barbarian successor states?

17 Why and how did classical Latin learning survive in late antiquity?

18 What role did the Popes play in the promotion of Christianity in the Christian Church in late antiquity?

19 Either (a) What do the literary sources from Gaul contribute to our understanding of the fall of the western Roman empire?

Or (b) 'It was only in the eyes of Justinian's historiographers that the Roman empire in the West fell in 476.' Discuss.