



Level 3 Classical Studies, 2006

90513 Explain in essay format an aspect of the classical world

Credits: Six

9.30 am Tuesday 21 November 2006

ANSWER BOOKLET

Check that the National Student Number (NSN) on your admission slip is the same as the number at the top of this page.

There are five topics:

- Topic One: Alexander the Great
- Topic Two: Augustus
- Topic Three: Socrates
- Topic Four: Greek Science
- Topic Five: Roman Religion

Choose ONE of the five topics. Write the number of the topic you have chosen in the box below.

Three

Each topic has three questions. For the topic that you have chosen, choose ONE of the three questions, and write your answer in this booklet.

Check that this booklet has pages 2–12 in the correct order and that none of these pages is blank.

YOU MUST HAND THIS BOOKLET TO THE SUPERVISOR AT THE END OF THE EXAMINATION.

<i>For Assessor's use only</i>		Achievement Criteria	
Achievement		Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
Explain, with supporting evidence, an aspect of the classical world.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Analyse, with supporting evidence, an aspect of the classical world.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Write clearly and relevantly in essay format.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Write a well-structured response in essay format.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Overall Level of Performance (all criteria within a column are met)			<input type="checkbox"/>

You are advised to spend 50 minutes writing your essay in this booklet.

Tick the box next to the topic you have chosen.

- Topic One: Alexander the Great
 Topic Two: Augustus
 Topic Three: Socrates
 Topic Four: Greek Science
 Topic Five: Roman Religion

Tick the box of the question you have chosen. Choose ONE question only.

- (a) (b) (c)

Plan your essay in the space below. This plan will not be marked.

"I asked you for that special feature through which all holy things are holy" (4)
 "castrated his father for having unjustly swallowed his brothers" (3)
 "what the gods approve of is holy and what they disapprove is unholy" (5)
 "what all the gods approve of is holy and what ~~they~~ all the gods disapprove is unholy" (6)
 "honour, esteem and gratitude"
 "the one which is concerned with looking after the gods"
 "Holiness is the art of sacrifice and prayer" (9)
 "urgent engagement" (2) "I am anxious to become your pupil"

intro

- p1. describe socratic method - *eironeia*, *elenchus* and *aporia*
 + *interlocuter*
- p2. beginning of convo - *eironeia* *
- p3. first example from Euthy *
- p4. refutation from Soc - explain U.S.A
- p5. first def E. * Soc ref. → gods must disagree
- p6. 2nd def E. * Soc ref "Do the gods approve of something because it is holy or is it holy because the gods approve of it?"
- p7. interlude Euthy confused. Soc offers def also in 2nd half
- p8. Euthy - holiness is just. Soc refutation - that word means all that is just is holy: not true - holiness is part of the genus of just. "peculiarly which makes ~~holiness different~~ holiness different"
- p9. Euthy - holiness is concerned with looking after gods *
- Soc says: (9)
- p10 But it is what gods approve of so circular argument
- p11 Euthy. now feeling *aporia* has "urgent engagement"
 he is feeling confused + dizzy.
 Soc happy → can know truly find out.

conc.

P. 3 Notes

The first paragraph of the essay introduces the topic, setting Plato's *Euthyphro* in its historical context.

In the body of the essay, the candidate begins by outlining the circumstances of the conversation between Socrates and Euthyphro. This background material is then linked to the purpose of this particular Socratic investigation.

Your answer must be in essay format. It must have:

- an introduction
- well-organised paragraphs
- a conclusion.

Begin your essay here.

Plato's *Euthyphro*, ~~written~~ based in 399 BCE just before Socrates' ~~infamous~~ ^{highly} trial which convicted ~~him~~ and sentenced ~~him~~ to death, is an excellent example of the Socratic method. The Socratic method was the way in which Socrates asked and answered or at least attempted to answer the many questions which plagued his philosophical mind. Using the discussion of holiness ~~as an example~~ between Euthyphro and Socrates as an example, the method along with its effects are clearly portrayed.

~~The Socratic method consists of several steps, the first being elenchus. Elenchus is the use of Socratic irony which drives the interlocutor into feeling uncomfortable with sharing his ideas and opinions with Socrates.~~ When Socrates meets ~~King Archon~~ Euthyphro on the steps leading up to the court of the King Archon, Euthyphro is wary of Socrates who, due to popular misconceptions and his routines of questioning, is a notorious figure among the Athenians. He explains his reasons for going to the King Archon, that is to prosecute his father ^{for} of manslaughter and, Socrates, upon hearing this, is delighted. He himself is facing charges of impiety brought against him by the Athenian

P. 4 Notes

The essay develops logically.

The candidate begins with a clear explanation of eironeia as a starting point of Socratic debate.

Analysis features Greek terms, is textually based, and lucidly expressed.

public led by Meletus. This ~~had~~ has led him to question what holiness really is and concludes that Euthyphro must be an expert in the matter if he is prosecuting his own father of being unholy.

The first basic principle of the Socratic method used in the Euthyphro is eironeia, Socratic irony. Socrates flatters the interlocutor, who in this case is Euthyphro, into feeling comfortable enough with him to share his ideas and opinions on the matter. He ~~forgets~~ ^{claims} ignorance in the matter, although whether he truly believes himself to be ignorant or not is unclear. When Euthyphro admits himself to be a "self-professed expert" in ^(Plato) understanding what holiness is, Socrates tells him that he is "anxious to become your pupil", ^(Plato) thus inviting Euthyphro as the interlocutor into the conversation.

The method now used by Socrates is called elenchus, the most important principle in the Socratic method. This involves the interlocutor, ~~namely~~ Euthyphro, putting forward a definition of holiness to be discussed and refuted by Socrates. The definition Socrates is looking for is a universal standard by which all holy things can be measured.

Euthyphro presents his first definition in the form of an example which does not please Socrates. He claims holiness is what he is doing now

P. 5 Notes

Detailed knowledge of Plato's Euthyphro and the sequence of the discussion on holiness is evident throughout.

The argument is sustained and coherent. Focus remains on the question set and is well supported by accurate, pertinent references to the set work.

prosecuting his father for manslaughter. He then gives further examples in saying Zeus, king of the Gods, did the same as him, that he "castrated his father for ^{having} unjustly swallowed his brothers" (Plato). This is refuted by Socrates as it is an example and not a universal stand against which people can measure the holiness of their acts.

Euthyphro's second definition "What the gods approve of is holy and what they disapprove of is unholy" (Plato) pleases Socrates in form as it is a definition against which actions may be measured however he refutes the content of it. According to Socrates the gods must surely disagree on certain acts. Euthyphro argues in saying the gods can not disagree on whether a murder is holy or unholy but Socrates refutes this also is claiming the gods would disagree over the degree of justification involved in the murder and so therefore the same thing could be "both holy and unholy at the same time" (Plato).

As the interlocuter is required to do to advance the discussion Euthyphro now presents his next definition by merely adding the word "all" to his latter definition, "What all the gods approve of is holy and what all the gods disapprove of is unholy" (Plato). This is where the dialogue becomes more complex as Socrates refutes this definition with a question for

Euthyphro, "Do the gods approve of something because it is holy or is it holy because the gods approve of it?" ^(Plato) Through helping Euthyphro to understand this question he shows him the fault with his definition. Something is ~~approved~~ approved of by the gods because it is holy but it can not be holy because of the gods approval as the approval only comes as a result of the holiness and to say the holiness comes as a result of the gods approval is to put the cart before the horse.

This is a complex theory and Euthyphro struggles to understand it. There is a break in their conversation in which Socrates encourages Euthyphro to introduce a new definition. The second half of the dialogue shows a change in the Socratic method with Socrates offering his own definitions just as Euthyphro does.

Euthyphro now offers the definition that holiness is what is just. Socrates ~~rejects this~~ changes this to holiness is a part of the genus of family of justice as otherwise saying holiness is justice would imply that everything else associated with ~~holiness~~ ~~and~~ ~~be~~ ~~just~~ ~~and~~ ~~now~~ justice must be holy. Socrates and Euthyphro, having now established that holiness is in the genus of justice, must establish or find a peculiarity which sets holiness apart ~~and~~

P. 7 Notes

The candidate's commentary is discerning and provides excellent evidence of a perceptive understanding of the key elements of Socratic method, and the roles of both Socrates and Euthyphro.

from those other attributes we call just.

From here Euthyphro offers a new definition which has them discussing dangerous ideas in Ancient Athens. He claims holiness is what "is concerned with looking after the gods" (Plato) and that by men doing this they can make the gods better. Both Socrates and Euthyphro agree to abandon this line of questioning as it is approaching 'hubris', a very dangerous offence.

Euthyphro now suggests that holiness is ~~being~~ "honour, esteem and gratitude" ^(Plato) for the gods. Socrates takes this to mean that "holiness is the art of sacrifice and prayer" ^(Plato). He then goes on to explain to Euthyphro that ~~if~~ if holiness is bound up with "honour, esteem and gratitude" ^(Plato) then it is also linked to the gods' approval. Socrates then forces Euthyphro to admit that their argument has come a full circle as once again what is holy must be approved of by the gods.

This complex discussion between Euthyphro and Socrates has now done a full circle and the effect it has had on both of them is known as the last step and principle in the Socratic method.

P. 8 Notes

The conclusion of the essay effectively summarises the significance of the main points made in the essay.

The perspective is widened, but no new material is introduced.

Socrates feels that although no universal standard has been defined, the results of this conversation are positive. He ~~now~~ now knows what holiness is not and the boundaries of his limited knowledge. It is only at this point does he truly believe that true knowledge on the matter can be achieved.

Euthyphro feels quite the opposite to Socrates and is experiencing the sensation of 'aporia', a common side effect for the interlocutors of Socrates' elenchus discussions. 'Aporia' is the feeling that comes when you realise you know nothing, it leaves you feeling weightless, dizzy and confused. The effect the conversation has had on him is negative and he now wishes nothing more than to escape from Socrates' conversation which is why he rushes off to an "urgent engagement". (Plato)

In Plato's Euthyphro, the discussion between Socrates and Euthyphro on holiness which took place over 2400 years ago is still as widely studied as it ever was ~~and~~ ^{because} it is an excellent illustration of Socrates' philosophic method. Through the basic principles of this method such as eroneia, elenchus and aporia and Euthyphro's participation as the interlocutor who offers definitions for Socrates to refute,

Extra paper for continuation of answer if required.

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the subject of piety is intricately explored. The reaction of Socrates is typical, now he knows ^{that he} knows nothing he can begin to achieve true knowledge but the effect it had on Euthyphro is more accurate to how an ancient Athenian would have felt. Plato's Euthyphro should be studied by anyone interested in Socrates as a true and accurate account of one of the greatest philosophers and his famous Socratic method.

P. 9 Notes - Summary

All parts of the question are answered, with appropriate emphasis given to each part. The nature of Socrates' philosophic method is fully discussed, with liberal use of specific primary source material. Familiarity with the detail of Plato's Euthyphro is evident everywhere. The candidate writes in a lucid, logical and insightful manner and is clearly in command of the discussion.