



2012 Classical Greek

Higher – Interpretation

Finalised Marking Instructions

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2012 Classical Greek

Higher

Interpretation

Section A

Homer, *Odyssey*, IX and X

(Mark Scheme – award 1 mark for each valid statement.)

1. (a) • Maron, priest in Ismarus
• It is very strong/perfumed/irresistible
(1 mark each – 2 marks) **2**
- (b) • Odysseus says Cyclops needs a drink after his meal
• Flatters him by saying he was bringing wine as an offering (as if to a god)
(1 mark each – 2 marks) **2**
- (c) • Cyclops asks for more (ἤτεε δευτερον αὐτις)
• Promises Odysseus a “present” as thanks (ξείνιον)
• Says it is ambrosia and nectar compared to Cyclopes’ own inferior wine (ἀμβροσις και νεκταρος ἀπορρωξί)
(1 mark each – 3 marks) **3**
2. (a) • Stake twisted in his eye
• Blood flows around it
• Eyeball burns
• Eyelids and eyebrows singed
• Roots of eye burst/crackled
• Piled-up details lend vividness and horror
Any 4, 1 mark each – 4 marks (must include comment on effect for full marks) **4**
- (b) Simile of smith dipping hot metal into cold water – effective because of similarities such as
• Sharp implement
• Heating dissipating
• Noise of hissing/boiling
• Familiar procedure
Any 3, 1 mark each – 3 marks (simile must be explained for full marks) **3**
- (c) Scansion
– v v/ – –
παντα δε οι βλεφαρ’ ἀμφι και ὄφρνας εὖσεν ἀντμη
– –/ – v v/ – v v/ – v v/ – –
γληνης καιομενης σφαραγευντο δε οι πυρι ριζαι
3 marks – ½ mark per 2 feet **3**

3. (a) • Ram usually first from cave, now last
 • Ram sympathising for his lost eye
 • If only ram could speak, he could tell where Odysseus/No-man is lurking

1 mark each – 3 marks

3

- (b) • Gives a glimpse of Cyclops' softer side – his bond with his animal (*κριε πεπον, μακρα βιβας*)
 • Shows him solicitous for his beasts' welfare (*τι μοι υστατος . . .*)
 • Contrast with return to his usual savagery (*ανηρ κακος . . . ολεθρον*)
 • Raises tension – will Odysseus be caught? (*ου πω φημι . . .*)
 • Horror – if Odysseus is caught (*εγκεφαλος . . . ραιιοιτο . . .*)

Any point 1 mark + supporting quotes (1 mark) – 4 marks

4

4. Answers must be holistic and structured and refer to the Prescription.

- (a) Points for and against might include:
- Odysseus shows forethought in taking wine to cave
 - Evades Cyclops' probings about his ship
 - Realises that to kill Cyclops straight away would be disastrous
 - Devises plan to blind Cyclops
 - Craftily gets Cyclops drunk
 - Fools him with the "No-man" name
 - Devises the escape under the sheep
 - Wisely avoids being trapped in the Laestrygonian channel

But

- (unwisely) Odysseus lingers in the cave
- Foolishly taunts the still dangerous Cyclops from the ship
- Reveals his real name, with bad consequences
- Fails to foresee his men tampering with the wind-bag
- Other points may be valid

10

OR

- (b) Odysseus encounters "good" and "bad" hospitality:
- He is saved by Alcinous' hospitality
 - Calypso initially welcomed him
 - Aeolus entertains and helps him
 - Circe eventually lavishly entertains and assists him

But

- Calypso ultimately detained him against his will
- Cyclops flouts all considerations of hospitality, even mocking it and its obligations
- Aeolus later negates his earlier hospitality and turns Odysseus away
- Circe begins with deceit and entrapment until outwitted
- Laestrygonians flout hospitality
- Other points may be valid

10

(34)

(scaled to 50)

Section B

Sophocles, *Oedipus Tyrannus*

1. (a) • Oedipus could not have killed Laius
• Shepherd was heard by whole city saying “robbers” killed him
• Apollo said that Laius would die at the hands of Jocasta's child
• That child is long dead
• Oracles are worthless
1 mark each – 5 marks **5**
- (b) • Oedipus agrees (*καλως νομιζεις*)
• But shows lingering uneasiness in still summoning shepherd
(*ἀλλ' ὁμως . . .*)
1 mark each – 2 marks **2**
2. (a) • Angry/abusive, trying to shut the messenger up (*οὐκ εἰς ὄλεθρον;*)
• Ingratiating/injured innocence, to mollify Oedipus (*φεριστε δεσποτων*)
• Bluster, to cover his tracks (“This man knows nothing”)
• Terrified pleading, to avoid Oedipus' threatened punishment (“Don't hurt an old man”)
1 mark each – 5 marks **5**
- (b) • Sharply chides shepherd for his attempt to silence the messenger (l.38–9)
• Pins down his evasiveness (l.41)
• Threat of punishment if he will not speak (l.43)
• Prospect of immediate torment (l.45)
Any 3, 1 mark each – 3 marks **3**
- (c) – – v –/– – v – / v – v v
ἀ, μη κολαζε, πρεσβυ, τονδ', ἐπει τα σα (final – is acceptable)
– – v –/ – – v –/ v – v –
δειται κολαστου μαλλον ἢ τα τουδ' ἐπη
Candidates may scan in feet or metra. ½ mark per 2 feet – 3 marks **3**
3. (a) • They admired Oedipus' earlier greatness
• But now they see him as a terrible example of greatness brought low
• They are filled with horror/revulsion at his fate
• Pity for Oedipus
Any 3, 1 mark each – 3 marks **3**
- (b) • Human life is terrifyingly unpredictable, and of little account
• The greatest of humans may meet with disaster
• Human happiness can never be viewed as assured
• Over time there may be utter reversals in men's fortunes
Any 3 – 3 marks **3**

4. Answers must be holistic and structured and refer to the Prescription.

(a) Points might include:

- Oedipus was indeed glorious after defeating the Sphinx
- He proved to be a great king, trusted and admired
- He has physical and moral courage
- He has a great intellect – acute and persistent
- He has great decisiveness and energy in all he does
- He is a loving father

But

- He can also be suspicious/unjust
- He can be headstrong
- He gives way to anger
- He threatens violence
- His glory collapses into horror and infamy
- His greatness collapses into degradation
- Other points may be valid

10

OR

(b) Points might include:

- Jocasta is a prominent presence on stage throughout much of the play
- As Oedipus' wife/mother, she is at the heart of the tragedy
- She provides vital information – about the deaths of Laius and her child
- She frequently tries to support/reassure Oedipus
- She tries to moderate Oedipus' anger against Teiresias and Creon
- She acts as a foil for Oedipus' own narrative of events at the crossroads
- She ironically dismisses oracles
- Her final reactions underline that the awful truth will emerge
- Her suicide helps to drive Oedipus to blind himself
- She is equated with Oedipus in respect of sin and punishment by the Attendant (Pass. 26, l.75)
- Other points may be valid

10

(34)

(scaled to 50)

Section C

Thucydides, *Book II*

(Mark Scheme – award 1 mark for each valid statement.)

1. (a)
 - Sent herald to Thebans (1);
 - Threatened to kill POWs if those in countryside harmed (1);
 - If Thebans withdrew, they'd give back POWs (1)
 - Swore oath (1)
 - (All allegedly & disputed) (1)

Any 3: dispute over facts need not be mentioned. **3**
- (b)
 - 1 Plataeans brought in property
 - 2 Killed POWs (1)
 - 3 Sent a messenger to Athens;
 - 4 Exchanged dead under armistice;
 - 5 Took whatever steps seemed best in crisis

Must have 2 & 3 + any other two of 1, 4 and 5. (1 mark each) **4**
- (c) Athenians:
 - 1 Arrest all Boeotians/Thebans in Attica;
 - 2 Sent herald to Plataea so Plataeans wouldn't do anything irrevocable;
 - 3 Marched to Plataea
 - 4 Provisioned it
 - 5 Took away women and children and men unfit to fight
 - 6 Left troops

Must have something from 1 & 2 and from 3–6 (2 marks) + 1 other datum. **3**
- (d) Probably Athenians come out best with criticism of Thebans for engineering coup and Plataeans for killings POWs; but any sensible comment with evidence. If only two groups mentioned than max 2 marks. **5**
2.
 - 1 Describes in detail what it was like
 - 2 Motivation: in case it ever happens again.
 - 3 Source ref: "had it myself" (5 1.33)

1 mark for each point. **3**
3. (a)
 - 1 Inherited wealth sooner (not *per se* behaviour) & decided to spend it sooner
 - 2 Didn't honour honour as wouldn't survive to be known as being honourable
 - 3 Pleasure of the moment most highly valued and honoured
 - 4 No time for gods' law as good and bad seen dying indiscriminately
 - 5 No time for men's law as wouldn't live long enough to come to trial

Any 4 (but must be behaviour: eg inheriting wealth sooner not *per se* behaviour) **4**
- (b) Any sensible comment (1) with reason (1) (eg wartime and siege might have caused behavioural changes as much as disease). **2**

4. (Mark Scheme – award 1 mark for each valid statement and 1 for each supporting reference. Important and insightful statements may occasionally merit 2 marks.)

(a) Pro:

- still have massacres (Plataea & Yugoslavia)
- still have ignoring of traditional moral behaviour in society (plague & eg permissive society)
- plague misbehaviour happened under much greater pressures than many such manifestations nowadays
- if Pericles' rhetoric true then Athens more sensitive civilized society than many today
- Thucydides analytical and rhetorical gifts as highly developed as any modern writer's or intellectual's
- popular belief can still be volatile and swayed by rumour

Con:

- oracles
- chaotic disposal of dead difficult to imagine nowadays except in a more extreme collapse of society than Athens enjoyed

Pro easier to defend. If candidate makes good case for con then probably deserves good mark.

Answers that only draw on English sources 5 marks maximum and only on Greek 6 marks.

10

OR

- (b)
- important as first really analytical historian
 - important as greatest influence on western historiography
 - his period very important for rest of European history
 - his description of types of government still very relevant
 - very vivid writer drawing reader into scene
 - his unique style
 - other valid points

Pro easier to defend. If candidate makes good case for con (eg oligarchic bias) then probably deserves good mark.

Answers that only draw on English sources 5 marks maximum and only on Greek 6 marks.

10

(34)

(scaled to 50)

Section D

Plato, *Republic I and II*

(Mark Scheme – award 1 mark for each valid statement.)

1. (a) “Shameless, disgusting” etc (1)
Socrates always taking Thrasymachus' statements and interpreting them in worst way (1) **2**
- (b) (i) Each régime passes laws to suit itself (1);
eg democrats and/or tyrants (1);
each proclaim as just what's to their own advantage (1) **3**
- (ii) Any sensible conclusion (1)
backed up by sensible reason (eg that while tyrants may so distort justice, democracies may have to accommodate differing pressure groups) (1). **3**
2. (a) “Simple”; needs wetnurse (1);
can't tell difference between sheep and shepherd; view wide of mark (2) reasonable evaluation of Thrasymachus' words to support opinion of Socrates. **4**
- (b) Tyrannies:
1 Appropriate possessions private
2 and public
3 wholesale
4 kidnap and enslave citizens
5 and get away with it/praised for it
Any 3 provided something from both 1–3 and 4–5. **3**
- (c) Any sensible conclusions (1–2 marks) backed up by sensible reasons (1–2 marks) 3 marks max provided drawn from text (eg that history has shown tyrants getting away with murder but remember sword of Damocles etc.). If no Greek quoted then max 2. **3**
3. (a) “deluging . . . shower of words”; (1)
Thrasymachus preparing to leave without further explanation or examination; (1) suggestion Thrasymachus doesn't recognise importance of issue; (1) irony “your secret . . . bad investment” (1)
Any 3 **3**
- (b) 1 Rapid fire of questions;
2 Thrasymachus can only let answer very briefly;
3 Claims of “to please you” and “I'm delighted” (11. 11–13)
4 Thrasymachus having to agree all the time
5 Thrasymachus recognises Socrates' enjoyment here (1.51)
Point 4 must be included + any other 2. **3**

4. (Mark Scheme – award 1 mark for each valid statement and 1 for each supporting reference. Important and insightful statements may occasionally merit 2 marks.)

(a) Pro:

- still need regular discussion about justice within society
- still have tyrannical regimes though in theory "all democrats now"
- examples like athletes (8 l.7), diet (8 l.8f), medicine (9 l.45 *al.*), maths (9 l.46f), ship's captains (9 l.83), agriculture (9 l.158ff)
- still types of wrongdoing like kidnap, burglary etc. (10 l.23f) though sacrilege less common (10 l.23)
- importance now as then of living happier and better lives (13 l.2)
- still different types of good (15 l.8ff)
- today's society transitional, post-war and time when old traditions breaking down like much of 20th century

Con:

- Myths of Gyges (16 l.26ff)
- sacrilege less common (10 l.23)
- less accepting nowadays even in post-Christian and Enlightenment society of view that no man is just of own free will (16 l.60f)

Answers that only draw on English sources 5 marks maximum and only on Greek 6 marks.

10

OR

(b) Despite his claim to be a realist, Thrasymachus's insisting government is an art whose impeccability ignores fallibility of humans who are governors or doctors.

- Socrates' argument that an art has no welfare or advantage which can be distinguished from the welfare or advantage of the object committed to its care is invalid: every art has object but no guarantee every art seeks good of its own object and if it does may be because it coincides with artist's good. Thrasymachus right that sheep tending studies sheep's advantage (9 l.158ff)
- In rhetorical speech on tyrants (10), Thrasymachus does not consistently maintain that might is right and so the strong are *ipso facto* just but defines Justice as weak men acting together.
- Thrasymachus also introduces new idea that Injustice is better than Justice (eg 14 l.40) which is quite different (stumbled upon [*ib.*]).

(Weaknesses of argument at 14 that mind controls life like eyes sight.)

Candidates much more likely to pick on what they see as more obvious flaws, contradictions, assumptions etc. Any sensible point will be credited especially with sound text based reasoning but retelling of the plot of philosophy much more difficult than eg of a play and will be credited.

Answers that only draw on English sources 5 marks maximum and only on Greek 6 marks.

10

(34)

(scaled to 50)

[END OF MARKING INSTRUCTIONS]