



Course Report 2014

Subject	Classical Studies
Level	National 5

The statistics used in this report have been compiled before the completion of any Post Results Services.

This report provides information on the performance of candidates which it is hoped will be useful to teachers/lecturers in their preparation of candidates for future examinations. It is intended to be constructive and informative and to promote better understanding. It would be helpful to read this report in conjunction with the published assessment and marking instructions for the examination.

Section 1: Comments on the Assessment

Summary of the Course assessment

Component 1: Question paper

Candidates performed well overall in the question paper, with very few candidates failing to achieve half marks.

Candidates performed equally well in each of the three sections of the question paper: Life in Classical Greece, Classical Literature and Life in the Roman World.

In Section 2, Classical Literature, texts studied and used included: Homer's Odyssey, Books 9, 10 and 12; Sophocles' Oedipus the King; and Euripides' Medea, as the most commonly referred to in answers.

All candidates were prepared for the Pompeii topic in Section 3.

No centre had chosen the Roman Britain topic in Section 3.

Component 2: Assignment

Candidates performed well in the assignment with very few candidates failing to achieve half marks.

A few candidates achieved full marks in the assignment.

Section 2: Comments on candidate performance

Component 1: Question paper

Most candidates performed well in the question paper, demonstrating their knowledge of the subject across the three sections being questioned.

Most candidates provided detailed, well structured and well expressed answers.

Most candidates achieved over half marks in this component.

Component 2: Assignment

Most candidates demonstrated evidence of research, knowledge and understanding of their chosen topic and the ability to structure their work.

Section 3: Areas in which candidates performed well

Component 1: Question paper

Section 1

Question 1: Most candidates were able to explain fully the reasons as required.

Question 2: Most candidates were able to deal with both building and festival.

Question 4: Most candidates were able to evaluate the source.

Section 2

Question 1(a): Most candidates were able to describe fully their chosen situation from a classical text.

Question 1(b): Most candidates achieved full marks in this question.

Question 1(c): Most candidates achieved full marks in the comparison question.

Question 2(a): Most candidates described fully their chosen conflict from a classical text.

Section 3 Part A

Question 1: Most candidates gave a very full description of shops and businesses.

Question 3: Most candidates were able to identify the relevant information from the source and give a full explanation.

Question 4: Most candidates were able to evaluate the source and comment on its usefulness.

Component 2: Assignment

Most candidates knew how to use their two primary sources and provided detailed information on their chosen topic from the Greek or Roman world.

Most candidates knew how to use their Resources Sheets for the assignment.

Section 4: Areas which candidates found demanding

Component 1: Question paper

Section 1

Question 3: Some candidates experienced difficulties in using points from the source to support their answer.

Section 2

Question 2(b): Some candidates had difficulty in linking their chosen conflict from a classical text and linking it to the modern world.

Section 3

Question 2: Some candidates had difficulty in answering to what extent' and coming to a reasoned conclusion, while being able to explain the different aspects of religion.

Component 2: Assignment

Some candidates had difficulty in including similarity/difference and including additional similarity and/or counter argument.

Some candidates did not include a conclusion.

Section 5: Advice to centres for preparation of future candidates

Component 1: Question paper

Candidates should remember to identify points from a source if asked to do so in a question.

In Classical Literature, candidates should remember to make the link between the theme being examined in their chosen classical text and the modern world, if asked to do so in the question.

Candidates should remember to provide a conclusion and a reason for the conclusion if asked to do so in a question.

Component 2: Assignment

Candidates should use the Instructions for Candidates in preparation for the assignment.

Candidates should make full use of their Resource Sheet, in particular making a note of similarities/differences/additional information and counter arguments where appropriate to their chosen topic.

Statistical information: update on Courses

Number of resulted entries in 2013	0
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Number of resulted entries in 2014	103
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Statistical information: Performance of candidates

Distribution of Course awards including grade boundaries

Distribution of Course awards	%	Cum. %	Number of candidates	Lowest mark
Maximum Mark 80				
A	68.9%	68.9%	71	56
B	14.6%	83.5%	15	48
C	6.8%	90.3%	7	40
D	3.9%	94.2%	4	36
No award	5.8%	-	6	-