



National
Qualifications
2026

X815/76/11

**Classical Studies
Classical Literature**

FRIDAY, 22 MAY

9:00 AM – 10:10 AM

Total marks — 30

Attempt question 1(a) OR 1(b) AND question 2.

Write your answers clearly in the answer booklet provided. In the answer booklet you must clearly identify the question number you are attempting.

Use **blue** or **black** ink.

You must leave your answer booklet on your desk; if you do not, you could lose all the marks for this paper.



 **Qualifications
Scotland**
Teisteanasan Alba

CLASSICAL LITERATURE — 30 marks

Attempt either question 1(a) OR 1(b) AND question 2

1. (a) Discuss the view that conflicts, once started, can be difficult to resolve. 20

In your answer you should reference any **classical text(s)** you have studied.

OR

- (b) Discuss the view that the behaviour of heroes does not always set a good example for others. 20

In your answer you should reference any **classical text(s)** you have studied.

Source A is from a modern writer discussing the issue of fate and free will.

Most people today believe they shape their own destiny. When faced with decisions, they exercise their own free will and make choices which suit their needs. Some people are lucky and are praised for the good results their choices bring. However, not everyone can rely on luck, and some are blamed when their choices backfire. Unfortunately, the future has not been decided by some higher power. People do not have a reliable way of predicting the future. They can only guess at the consequences of their actions. Sometimes these consequences are not what they intended or expected and can cause trouble for themselves and others. This mostly happens when people argue that they have no choice but to defend a deeply held view or achieve a certain goal. Perhaps this argument suggests people do not have control over their own destiny and have somehow been cursed by fate.

2. Compare this modern view of fate and free will to views of fate and free will in any **classical text(s)** you have studied. 10

Refer to **Source A** and your own knowledge, and come to an overall conclusion about similarities and differences.

[END OF QUESTION PAPER]