

OCR

Oxford Cambridge and RSA

Thursday 4 June 2015 – Afternoon

GCSE ANCIENT HISTORY

A031/01 The Greeks at war

Candidates answer on the Answer Booklet.

OCR supplied materials:

- 12 page Answer Booklet
(sent with general stationery)

Other materials required:

None

Duration: 1 hour 15 minutes



INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Complete the boxes on the Answer Booklet with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- Use black ink.
- This paper has **two** options:
Option 1: The Greeks defend themselves, 499–479 BC
Option 2: Alexander the Great, 356–323 BC
- Choose **one** option only. Answer **all** the questions in Section A and **one** question from Section B.
- Write the number of each question answered in the margin.
- Read each question carefully. Make sure you know what you have to do before starting your answer.
- Do **not** write in the bar codes.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

- The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.
- The total number of marks for this paper is **86**.
- You will be assessed on the quality of written communication in your answer to the following questions: 4 or 5 (Option 1), or, 9 or 10 (Option 2). Questions marked with a pencil (✎) will carry 6 additional marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar.
- This document consists of **8** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

INSTRUCTION TO EXAMS OFFICER/INVIGILATOR

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Answer questions from **either** Option 1 **or** Option 2.

Option 1: The Greeks defend themselves, 499–479 BC

SECTION A

Answer **all** the questions in this section.

- 1 Briefly outline **two** difficulties the Greeks had when preparing for Xerxes' invasion of Greece. [5]
- 2 Read Passage 1A from Herodotus, and answer the questions which follow.

Passage 1A

When he came to Sardis, Xerxes first sent heralds to Greece to all the states except Athens and Sparta to demand earth and water and instructing them to prepare to entertain the king. This was the second Persian demand for earth and water and Xerxes did this because he thought that all those who had refused when Darius made the demand would now submit through fear. So he sent the heralds to find out if this was indeed what would happen. After this he got ready to march to Abydos. In the meantime the Hellespont was bridged from Asia to Europe.

Herodotus, *The Histories* 7.32–3

- (a) What does Passage 1A tell us about Xerxes' preparations for the invasion of Greece? [4]
- (b) Using Passage 1A, explain why Xerxes demanded earth and water from some states in Greece and not others. [4]
- (c) Using details from Passage 1A, how accurate do you think Herodotus' account of these events is? [5]

Option 1: The Greeks defend themselves, 499–479 BC

- 3 Read Passage 1B from Herodotus, and answer the questions which follow.

Passage 1B

[Miltiades said] 'It is down to you, Kallimachos, either to enslave Athens or to make her free and to leave a memorial of yourself ... greater than even Harmodios and Aristogeiton. For now the Athenians have come to the greatest crisis they have ever faced, and if they submit in slavery to the Persians, it is clear what they will suffer when handed over to Hippias; but if this city survives, it will be able to become the most powerful of all the Greek cities. ... We generals are ten in total and we have different opinions about what to do, some wanting to engage the enemy and others not. If we do not fight, I expect that the Athenians' resolve will be shaken and they will go over to the Persian side. But if we fight before this rot has entered any Athenian minds, if the gods give us fair fortune, we are able to be victorious in the battle. Everything now depends on your decision, and on you alone.'

Herodotus, *The Histories* 6.109

- (a) In what ways does Passage 1B help us to understand the importance of Kallimachos at the Battle of Marathon? You must use and evaluate details from Passage 1B. **[14]**
- (b) Marathon was a very important battle for the Athenians. How does Herodotus show us this importance and how accurate do you think his view is? You must use and evaluate details from **both** Passage 1B **and** other passages of Herodotus which you have studied. **[18]**

Option 1: The Greeks defend themselves, 499–479 BC**SECTION B**

Answer **either** Question 4 **or** Question 5.

Marks are awarded for the quality of written communication in your answer.

4 How far does Herodotus help us to understand the reasons for Persian failures in 480–79 BC?

In your answer you should:

- give a brief account of Persian failures in 480–79 BC
- assess how far Herodotus explains these failures
- show knowledge of relevant sections of Herodotus
- consider how reliable you think Herodotus is.

[30]


 Spelling, punctuation and grammar **[6]**

5 'In the end, it was the power of the Spartan army that proved decisive in winning freedom for the Greeks.' Do you agree with this view?

In your answer you should:

- outline the role of the Spartans in winning Greek freedom
- explain to what extent the freedom of the Greeks depended on the Spartan army
- show knowledge of relevant sections of Herodotus
- consider how reliable you think Herodotus is.

[30]

 Spelling, punctuation and grammar **[6]**

Option 2: Alexander the Great 356–323 BC

Do not answer questions from this option if you have already answered Option 1.

SECTION A

Answer **all** the questions in this section.

- 6** Briefly outline **two** reasons for Alexander’s decision to arrange marriages between the Macedonians and Persians. **[5]**
- 7** Read Passage 2A from Plutarch, and answer the questions which follow.

Passage 2A

When ambassadors came from the Persian king while Philip was away, Alexander entertained them and spent time with them and impressed them with his friendliness. He asked no childish or trivial questions but wanted to know about the length of roads in Persia and what the journey from the coast into the interior was like, and also what sort of warrior the king was and how courageous and powerful the Persians were, with the result that they were astonished and considered that Philip’s reputation for cleverness was as nothing compared to Alexander’s eagerness to achieve great things. At any rate, whenever it was announced that Philip had taken a famous city or achieved a notable victory in battle, Alexander was not very happy to hear it but said to his friends, ‘Boys, my father will capture everything first. He will leave no great and brilliant deed for me to achieve with your help.’

Plutarch, *Life of Alexander* 5

- (a)** What does Passage 2A tell us about Alexander? **[4]**
- (b)** Explain what Passage 2A tells us about the relationship between Alexander and his father. **[4]**
- (c)** Using details from Passage 2A, how accurate do you think Plutarch’s account of these events is? **[5]**

Option 2: Alexander the Great 356–323 BC

- 8 Read Passage 2B from Arrian, and answer the questions which follow.

Passage 2B

When the ships with Alexander approached the city and the gangways were thrown onto the wall from them, the royal guards went along then bravely on to the wall. Admetus showed himself a brave man at this time, and Alexander followed them, taking energetic part in the action, yet watching to see if there were any outstanding display of courage by others in the crisis. The wall was first captured where Alexander had stationed himself; the Tyrians were easily thrust back from the wall, since the Macedonians for the first time were making their assault from a secure foundation which was not excessively steep in every direction. Admetus was the first onto the wall, and as he was ordering his men to follow up, he was struck by a spear and died there. Alexander followed him and seized the wall with his companions. When he gained control of some towers and the parts of walls between them, he went through their fortifications towards the palace because the descent into the city seemed easier by that route.

Arrian, *Anabasis of Alexander* 2.23

- (a) In what ways does Passage 2B help us to understand Alexander's leadership during the capture of Tyre? You must use and evaluate details from Passage 2B. **[14]**
- (b) How far do the ancient sources help us to understand the impact of Alexander's leadership on his army? You must use and evaluate details from **both** Passage 2B **and** other ancient sources which you have studied. **[18]**

Option 2: Alexander the Great 356–323 BC**SECTION B**

Answer **either** Question 9 **or** Question 10.

Marks are awarded for the quality of written communication in your answer.

- 9** 'His great enthusiasm for Alexander makes Arrian unreliable.' Explain how far you agree with this view.

In your answer you should:

- give some examples of Arrian's enthusiasm towards Alexander
- explain to what extent Arrian's account is supported by Plutarch
- show knowledge of relevant sections of Arrian and Plutarch
- consider how reliable you think Arrian and Plutarch are.

[30]


 Spelling, punctuation and grammar **[6]**

- 10** To what extent did Alexander's military commanders support his aims throughout the expedition?

In your answer you should:

- give an account of what Alexander's military commanders did on the expedition
- explain how far his military commanders supported Alexander's aims throughout the expedition
- show knowledge of relevant sections of Arrian and Plutarch
- consider how accurate you think Arrian and Plutarch are.

[30]

 Spelling, punctuation and grammar **[6]**

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