

**OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS  
AS GCE**

**F382/01/I**

**CLASSICS: CLASSICAL CIVILISATION**

**Homer's *Odyssey* and Society**

**INSERT – QUESTION BOOKLET**

**FRIDAY 17 MAY 2013: Morning**

**DURATION: 1 hour 30 minutes  
plus your additional time allowance**

**MODIFIED ENLARGED**

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

**Read each question carefully. Make sure you know what you have to do before starting your answer.**

**Answer ONE question from Section A and ONE question from Section B.**

**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 100.**

**Any blank pages are indicated.**

**INSTRUCTION TO EXAMS OFFICER/INVIGILATOR**

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**Answer ONE question from Section A and ONE question from Section B.**

## **SECTION A – COMMENTARY QUESTIONS**

**Answer EITHER Question 1 OR Question 2.**

**MARKS ARE AWARDED IN PARTS (b) AND (c) OF QUESTIONS 1 AND 2 FOR THE QUALITY OF WRITTEN COMMUNICATION IN YOUR ANSWER.**

**1 Read the passage and answer the questions.**

‘Hermes went off through the island forest, making for high Olympus, while I with a heart oppressed by many dark forebodings pursued my way to Circe’s home. I stood at the doors of the lovely goddess’s palace and called out. Circe 5 heard me, came out immediately, and, opening the polished doors, invited me in. Filled with misgivings, I followed her indoors and she offered me a beautiful silver-studded chair with a stool for my feet. She prepared a brew in a golden 10 bowl for me to drink and with evil in her heart dropped in the drug. She gave me the bowl and I drained it, but without suffering any magic effects. She struck me with her stick and shouted, “Off to the pigsty, and lie down with your friends.” 15 Whereupon I snatched my keen sword from my hip and rushed at Circe as though I meant to kill her. But with a shriek she slipped below my blade, clasped my knees and burst into tears.

““Who are you and where do you come from?” 20 she asked, and her words had wings. “Where is your native town? Who are your parents? I am amazed to see you take my drug and suffer no magic change. For never before have I known a

man who could resist that drug once he had taken 25  
it and swallowed it down. You must have a heart in  
your breast that is proof against all enchantment. I  
am sure you are Odysseus, that resourceful man;  
the man whom the Giant-killer with the golden  
wand always told me to expect here on his way 30  
back from Troy in his swift black ship. But now  
put up your sword and come with me to my bed,  
so that in making love we may learn to trust one  
another.”

**Homer, ‘Odyssey’ Book 10 307–335**

- (a) What has happened from the point when Odysseus leaves Polyphemus’ cave to the start of this passage? [10]**
- (b) How does Homer make this passage vivid and exciting? In your answer, you should include discussion of what is said and done, and the way it is written. [20]**
- (c) Whom do you admire more, Circe or Calypso? You should use the passage as a starting point and include discussion of BOTH characters in your answer. [25]**

**Do NOT answer this question if you have already answered Question 1.**

**MARKS ARE AWARDED IN PARTS (b) AND (c) OF QUESTIONS 1 AND 2 FOR THE QUALITY OF WRITTEN COMMUNICATION IN YOUR ANSWER.**

**2 Read the passage and answer the questions.**

**Pallas Athene had fuddled the Suitors' wits to such effect that they greeted Telemachus' reply with peal after peal of uncontrollable laughter. But before long their laughing faces took on a strained and alien look. Blood was spattered on the food they ate. Their eyes were filled with tears, their hearts with forebodings of grief.** **5**

**And now the voice of the godlike prophet Theoclymenus was heard. 'Unhappy men,' he cried, 'what horror is this that has descended on you? Your heads, your faces and your knees are veiled in night. The air is ablaze with lamentation; cheeks are streaming with tears. The walls and lovely alcoves are splashed with blood. The porch is filled with ghosts. So is the court – ghosts hurrying down to darkness and to the Underworld. The sun is blotted out from heaven and a foul mist has crept upon the world.'** **10**

**They laughed at him. They laughed delightedly, with one accord; and Polybus' son, Eurymachus, got up and shouted: 'Our new friend from abroad is out of his mind. Quick, you fellows, show him out and direct him to the assembly-place: he imagines it is night in here.'** **15**

**'Eurymachus,' the godlike Theoclymenus retorted, 'I want no help from you to find my way. I have eyes and ears and two feet of my own, and a sound enough head on my shoulders – quite** **20**

enough to get me through those doors, where I  
am going now. For I see advancing on you all a catastrophe which you cannot hope to survive  
or shun, no, not a single one of you with your  
brutal acts and reckless plots here in the home of  
godlike Odysseus.' And with that he strode from  
the splendid palace and sought out Peiraeus, who  
gave him a warm welcome.

Homer, 'Odyssey' Book 20 345–372

- (a) Briefly outline what has happened from the point when Odysseus has fought the beggar Irus to the start of this passage. [10]
- (b) In this passage, how does Homer show that the Suitors are going to die? In your answer, you should include discussion of what is said, what happens and the way it is described. [20]
- (c) How and why are the Suitors going to die? In your answer, you should include discussion of the actions of the Suitors and the situation they are in. [25]

[SECTION A TOTAL: 55]

## **SECTION B – ESSAYS**

**Answer ONE question.**

**Start your answer on a new page.**

**MARKS ARE AWARDED FOR THE QUALITY OF WRITTEN COMMUNICATION IN YOUR ANSWER.**

- 3 To what extent do you think Odysseus does things entirely his own way?**

**In your answer, you should:**

**consider what Odysseus does;**

**discuss whether Odysseus can take all the credit for his actions;**

**use evidence from the ‘Odyssey’.**

**[45]**

- 4 ‘Mortal women are undervalued by the people around them and unimportant to the story of the ‘Odyssey’.’ To what extent do you agree with this description of mortal women in the ‘Odyssey’?**

**In your answer, you should:**

**consider the portrayal of mortal women (do NOT include Circe and Calypso);**

**discuss their value and importance in the epic;**

**use evidence from the ‘Odyssey’.**

**[45]**

- 5 'Homer portrays a society which has no morals.' To what extent do you agree with this opinion?**

**In your answer, you should:**

**consider different aspects of Homeric society and of how people behave;**

**discuss whether these aspects show Homeric society to be good or bad;**

**support your answer with evidence from the 'Odyssey'.**

**[45]**

**[SECTION B TOTAL: 45]**

**END OF QUESTION PAPER**

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