



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

**Tuesday 18 June 2019 – Morning**

**A Level Ancient History**

**H407/21 Republic and Empire**

**Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes**



**You must have:**

- the OCR 12-page Answer Booklet  
(OCR12 sent with general stationery)

**Other materials required:**

- None

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- Use black ink.
- There are **two** sections in this paper: Section A and Section B. In Section A, answer Question 1 or 2 and Question 3. In Section B, answer Question 4 and Question 5 or 6.
- Write your answers in the Answer Booklet. The question number(s) must be clearly shown.

**INFORMATION**

- The total mark for this paper is **98**.
- The marks for each question are shown in brackets [ ].
- Quality of extended response will be assessed in questions marked with an asterisk (\*).
- This document consists of **4** pages.

**SECTION A: The Julio-Claudian Emperors, 31 BC–AD 68**

Answer **either** question 1 **or** question 2 **and** then question 3.

Answer **either** question 1 **or** question 2.

- 1\* To what extent and for what reasons did the emperors attempt to improve the lives of the inhabitants of the city of Rome?

You must use and analyse the ancient sources you have studied as well as your own knowledge to support your answer. **[30]**

- 2\* How useful is Suetonius for our understanding of the reigns of the emperors of this period? You must consider the accounts of at least **two** emperors in your answer.

You must use and analyse the ancient sources you have studied as well as your own knowledge to support your answer. **[30]**

Answer question 3.

- 3 Read the interpretation below.

Whether people liked (Augustus) or loathed him, he was in many ways a puzzling and contradictory revolutionary. He was one of the most radical innovators Rome ever saw. ...

Yet Augustus appears to have abolished nothing. The governing class remained the same (this was no revolution in the strict sense of the word), the privileges of the senate were in many ways enhanced, not removed, and the old offices of state, consulships and praetorships and so on, continued to be coveted and filled. Much of the legislation that is usually ascribed to Augustus was formally introduced, or at least fronted, by those regular officials. ... Most of his formal powers were officially voted to him by the senate and cast almost entirely in traditional Republican format, his continued use of the title 'son of a god' being the only important exception. And he lived in no grand palace but in the sort of house on the Palatine Hill where you would expect to find a senator, and where his wife Livia could occasionally be spotted working her wool. The word that Romans most often used to describe his position was *princeps*, meaning 'first citizen' rather than 'emperor' as we choose to call him, and one of his most famous watchwords was *civilitas* – 'we're all citizens together'. **5**  
**10**  
**15**

M. Beard, *SPQR A History of Ancient Rome* (adapted)

How convincing do you find Beard's interpretation that 'Augustus appears to have abolished nothing'?

You must use your knowledge of the historical period and the ancient sources you have studied to analyse and evaluate Beard's interpretation. **[20]**

**SECTION B: The Breakdown of the Late Republic, 88–31 BC**

Answer question 4 **and** then **either** question 5 **or** question 6.

Answer question 4.

4 Read the passage below.

However, the Romans gave way before the good fortune of the man and accepted the bit, and regarding the monarchy as a respite from the evils of the civil wars, they appointed him dictator for life. This was frankly a tyranny, since the monarchy, besides the element of irresponsibility, now took on that of permanence. It was Cicero who proposed the first honours for him in the Senate, and their magnitude was, after all, not too great for a man; but others added excessive honours and vied with one another in proposing them, thus rendering Caesar odious and obnoxious even to the mildest citizens because of the pretentiousness and extravagance of what was decreed for him. It is thought that the enemies of Caesar, no less than his flatterers, helped to force these measures through, in order that they might have as many grievances as possible against him and might be thought to have the best grounds for any attempt they should make upon his life. For since the civil wars were over, he had nothing else that he could be charged with. ...When his friends thought it best that he should have a bodyguard, and many of them volunteered for this service, he would not consent, saying that it was better to die once for all than to be always expecting death.	5  10  15
Plutarch, <i>Caesar</i> 57	

How useful is this passage for understanding why Caesar was assassinated? **[12]**

Answer **either** question 5 **or** question 6.

5\* 'Politicians achieved success as a result of their military commands.' How far do you agree with this view?

You must use and analyse the ancient sources you have studied as well as your own knowledge to support your answer. **[36]**

6\* 'Economic problems caused the breakdown of the Republic.' How far do you agree with this view?

You must use and analyse the ancient sources you have studied as well as your own knowledge to support your answer. **[36]**

**END OF QUESTION PAPER**

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