

Modified Enlarged 18pt

OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS

Tuesday 23 May 2023 – Afternoon

A Level Classical Civilisation

H408/21 Greek Theatre

**Time allowed: 1 hour 45 minutes
plus your additional time allowance**

**YOU MUST HAVE:
the OCR 12-page Answer Booklet**

READ INSTRUCTIONS OVERLEAF



INSTRUCTIONS

Use black ink.

Write your answer to each question in the Answer Booklet. The question numbers must be clearly shown.

Fill in the boxes on the front of the Answer Booklet.

Answer ALL the questions in Section A and ONE question in Section B.

INFORMATION

The total mark for this paper is 75.

The marks for each question are shown in brackets [].

Quality of extended response will be assessed in questions marked with an asterisk (*).

ADVICE

Read each question carefully before you start your answer.

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SECTION A

Start your answer to EACH 10, 20 AND 30 MARK QUESTION on a NEW PAGE.

- 1 Identify FIGURE 1 on the vase in SOURCE A. [1]**

- 2 Analyse how useful SOURCE A is in telling us about costumes in Greek comedy at the time of Aristophanes. [10]**

SOURCE A
Choregos Vase

Figure 1



SOURCE B

Sophocles' 'Oedipus the King' 408–431

TIRESIAS

You are the king no doubt, but in one respect,
at least, I am your equal: the right to reply.

I claim that privilege too.

I am not your slave. I serve Apollo.

I don't need Creon to speak for me in public.

5

So,

you mock my blindness? Let me tell you this.

You with your precious eyes,

you're blind to the corruption of your life,

10

to the house you live in, those you live with—

who *are* your parents? Do you know? All unknowing

you are the scourge of your own flesh and blood,

the dead below the earth and the living here above,

and the double lash of your mother and your father's
curse

15

will whip you from this land one day, their footfall

treading you down in terror, darkness shrouding

your eyes that now can see the light!

Soon, soon

20

you'll scream aloud—what haven won't reverberate?

What rock of Cithaeron won't scream back in echo?

That day you learn the truth about your marriage,

the wedding-march that sang you into your halls,

the lusty voyage home to the fatal harbor!

25

And a crowd of other horrors you'd never dream

will level you with yourself and all your children.

There. Now smear us with insults—Creon, myself

and every word I've said. No man will ever

be rooted from the earth as brutally as you.

30

OEDIPUS

**Enough! Such filth from him? Insufferable—
what, still alive? Get out—
faster, back where you came from—vanish!**

- 3 Give the names of Oedipus' mother and father
(lines 15–16). [2]**
- 4 What is Cithaeron (line 22)? [1]**
- 5 Give the name of ONE of Oedipus' children
(line 27). [1]**
- 6 Explain how successfully Sophocles makes the scene
in SOURCE B an exciting piece of drama. [10]**
- 7* 'The imagery of sight and blindness is vital to the
success of Sophocles' 'Oedipus the King'.'**

Explain how far you agree with this statement.

**You may use SOURCE B as a starting point in your
answer. [20]**

[SECTION A TOTAL: 45]

SECTION B

Answer ONE question from this section.

Use classical sources, and secondary sources, scholars and/or academic works to support your argument. You should also consider possible interpretations of sources by different audiences.

EITHER

- 8* Analyse whether the first half of Aristophanes' 'Frogs' (Dionysus' travels) contributes more to the success of the play than the second half (the contest between Aeschylus and Euripides). Justify your answer with close reference to Aristophanes' 'Frogs'. [30]**

OR

- 9* 'The gods and religion are at the heart of ancient Greek Theatre.'**

Assess how far you agree with this statement. Justify your answer with close reference to AT LEAST TWO of the plays you have studied. [30]

[SECTION B TOTAL: 30]

END OF QUESTION PAPER

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