

Modified Enlarged 24pt
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.

6

So,

you mock my blindness? Let me tell you this.

You with your precious eyes,

you're blind to the corruption of your life,
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
will whip you from this land one day, their downfall

5

10

15

treading you down in terror, darkness shrouding
your eyes that now can see the light!

Soon, soon

you'll scream aloud—what haven won't reverberate? 20

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!

And a crowd of other horrors you'd never dream
will level you with yourself and all your children. 25

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.

OEDIPUS

30

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 (line 15). [2]**
- 4 What is Cithaeron (line 21)? [1]**
- 5 Give the name of ONE of Oedipus' children (line 26). [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]

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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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