

**ADVANCED GCE****ANCIENT HISTORY (JACT)**

Document Study 2: Roman World

Britain Through Roman Eyes

**2461**

Candidates answer on the Answer Booklet

**OCR Supplied Materials:**

- 8 page Answer Booklet

**Other Materials Required:**

None

**Friday 28 May 2010  
Morning****Duration: 1 hour 15 minutes****INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

- Write your name clearly in capital letters, your Centre Number and Candidate Number in the spaces provided on the Answer Booklet.
- Use black ink.
- Read each question carefully and make sure that you know what you have to do before starting your answer.
- Answer **two** questions.
- You may choose **either** Question 1 **or** Question 2. **All candidates must answer Question 3\*.**
- In answering the (b) sub-question of each question answered, you are expected throughout the paper to draw together the historical knowledge and skills acquired over the course as a whole, and to demonstrate overall historical understanding. You may make reference, where appropriate, to relevant material covered elsewhere in the course.
- 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.
- Up to 10 marks will be awarded for clarity of expression, structure of arguments, presentation of ideas, spelling, punctuation and grammar.
- The total number of marks for this paper is **100**.
- This document consists of **4** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

## Britain Through Roman Eyes

Answer **two** questions. You may choose **either** Question 1 **or** Question 2.  
**You must then answer Question 3\*.**

In answering the (b) sub-question of each question answered, you are expected throughout the paper to draw together the historical knowledge and skills acquired over the course as a whole, and to demonstrate overall historical understanding. You may make reference, where appropriate, to relevant material covered elsewhere in the course.

- 1** Read the extract and then answer **both parts** of the question which follows. You are expected to refer to the extract and to use your own knowledge in your answers.

Such was the condition to which Britain had been brought by the ups and downs of warfare when Agricola crossed the Channel with the summer already half over. The soldiers thought they had done with campaigning for the present and were relaxing, while the enemy were looking for a chance to profit thereby. Shortly before his arrival the tribe of the Ordovices had almost wiped out a squadron of cavalry stationed in their territory, and this initial stroke had excited the province. Those who wanted war welcomed the lead thus given, and only waited to test the temper of the new governor. The summer was now far spent, the auxiliary units were scattered all over the province, and the soldiers assumed that there would be no more fighting that year. Everything, in fact, combined to hinder or delay a new campaign, and many were in favour of simply watching the points where danger threatened. In spite of all, Agricola decided to go and meet the peril. He concentrated the legionaries serving on detachment duties and a small force of auxiliaries. As the Ordovices did not venture to descend into the plain, he led his men up into the hills, marching in front himself so as to impart his own courage to the rest by sharing their danger, and cut to pieces almost the whole fighting force of the tribe. But he realized that he must continue to live up to his reputation, and that the outcome of his first enterprises would determine how much fear his subsequent operations would inspire. So he decided to reduce the island of Anglesey, from the occupation of which Paulinus had been recalled by the revolt of all Britain, as I described in an earlier chapter.

Tacitus, *Agricola* 18

[Tacitus, *The Agricola and the Germania*, trans. H. W. Mattingly, revised S. A. Handford; Penguin]

- (a) How reliable is Tacitus' depiction of Agricola's first months as governor in this passage? **[20]**
- (b) On the basis of this passage and your own knowledge and understanding, how successful was Agricola's military leadership during his time as governor? **[25]**

**[Total: 45]**

- 2 Read the extract and then answer **both parts** of the question which follows. You are expected to refer to the extract and to use your own knowledge in your answers.

‘If you were confronted by strange nations and unfamiliar troops, I would quote the examples of other armies to encourage you. As things are, you need only recall your own battle-honours, only question your own eyes. These are the men who last year attacked a single legion like robbers in the night, and acknowledged defeat when they heard your battle-cry. These are the greatest runaways of all the Britons – which is the reason why they have survived so long. When we plunged into woods and gorges on the march, all the brave beasts used to charge straight at us, while the timid and slothful ones slunk away at the mere sound of our tread. It is the same now. The most courageous of the Britons have fallen long since; those who remain are just so many spiritless cowards. You have overtaken them at last, not because they have chosen to stand at bay, but because they are cornered. It is only their desperate plight and deadly fear that have paralysed their army where it stands, for you to win a great and brilliant victory over it. Have done with campaigning; crown fifty years with one glorious day, and prove to Rome that her soldiers were never to blame if wars have been allowed to drag on or the seeds of fresh rebellion sown.’

Tacitus, *Agricola* 34

[Tacitus, *The Agricola and the Germania*, trans. H. W. Mattingly, revised S.A. Handford; Penguin]

- (a) How credible is this picture of British resistance to Rome’s advance northwards through British territory? [20]
- (b) On the basis of this passage and your own knowledge and understanding, how useful are the speeches included by Greek and Roman writers in their works about Roman Britain? [25]

[Total: 45]

- 3\*** Read the extracts and then answer **both parts** of the question which follows. You are expected to refer to the extracts and to use your own knowledge in your answers.

**A** For the Britons, their fears allayed by the absence of the dreaded legate, began to canvass the woes of slavery, to compare their wrongs and sharpen their sting in the telling. 'We gain nothing by submission except heavier burdens for willing shoulders. We used to have one king at a time: now two are set over us – the governor to wreak his fury on our life-blood; the procurator, on our property. Whether our masters quarrel with each other or agree together, our bondage is equally ruinous. The governor has centurions to execute his will; the procurator, slaves; and both of them add insults to violence. Nothing is any longer safe from their greed and lust. In war it is at least a braver man who takes the spoil; as things stand with us, it is mostly cowards and shirkers that seize our homes, kidnap our children, and conscript our men – as though it were only for our own country that we would not face death. What a mere handful our invaders are, if we reckon up our own numbers!' 5 10

Tacitus, *Agricola* 15

[Tacitus, *The Agricola and the Germania*, trans. H. W. Mattingly, revised S.A. Handford; Penguin]

**B** Experience has taught you the difference between freedom and slavery. Some of you may have been led by your ignorance of which was better, to be taken in by the Romans' tempting promises. But now you have tried both – and you have learned how wrong you were to prefer a foreign tyranny to the way of life followed by your ancestors; you have discovered the difference between freedom in humble circumstances and slavery amidst riches. Have we not suffered every variety of shameful and humiliating treatment from the moment that these people turned their attention to Britain? Have we not been deprived wholesale of our most important possessions, while paying taxes on the rest? Do we not pasture and till all our other property for them and then pay an annual tax on our very lives? How much better it would have been to be traded as slaves once and for all rather than ransom ourselves each year and meaninglessly call ourselves free? How much better to have died by the sword than live and be taxed for it?' 5 10

Dio 62.3.1–4

[LACTOR 11]

- (a) How would you explain the similarities and differences between these two passages in their presentation of British hostility to Roman rule? [20]
- (b) On the basis of these passages and your own knowledge and understanding, how varied were British attitudes to Roman rule? [25]

[Total: 45]



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