



2010 Classical Greek

Intermediate 2 – Interpretation

Finalised Marking Instructions

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Intermediate 2

Interpretation

Thucydides

1. (a) in the dark (just before dawn) 1
- (b)
- their preparations were complete
 - in daylight the Thebans would be confident and fighting on equal terms
 - in the dark the Thebans would not be confident
 - in the dark they would be disadvantaged because they did not know the city well
- 1 mark for each point, up to 2 2
- (c)
- the Thebans beat off attacks 2 or 3 times
 - Plataean men were attacking and making a great noise
 - Plataean women and slaves were on the roofs shouting
 - and throwing down stones and tiles
 - it had rained hard all night
- 1 mark for each point, up to 3 3
- (d)
- to make it exciting
 - to make the reader feel he or she is there
 - to show exactly what it was like
- 1 mark for a point 1
2. (a) put them to death 1
- (b)
- justified: the attempt on Plataea in peacetime was unjustified
the Plataeans claimed they had not promised on oath to
return the prisoners
- not justified: the Thebans did not harm the people outside the walls
the Thebans withdrew without doing any harm
the Thebans claimed the argument had been sworn to
- 1 mark for each point, up to 2 2

3. Yes, he does emphasise the horrific:
- makes the most of the ignorance and plight of the Thebans in Plataea
 - so much so that we sympathise with them
 - describes the failure of the relief force
 - gives gory details of suffering during the plague
 - depressingly describes the inability of people to cope
 - depressingly shows the randomness of death
 - gives disturbing details of the breakdown of society (especially with regard to funeral ceremonies)
- No, he does not emphasise the horrific:
- gives a purely factual account of events (eg the outbreak of war)
 - describes positive actions by the Plataeans to deal with the Theban invasion
 - includes some human moments

Any other valid comment

1 mark for each general point and 1 mark for each detailed reference to the text, up to 5. If no reference to passage 3 max 3/5

5

4. (a)
- at dawn he milks the flocks
 - sets her lamb beneath each ewe
 - after his meal drives the flocks out to the hills
 - in the evening brings the flock back into the cave
 - milks the ewes and goats
 - sets her lamb beneath each ewe

1 mark for each point, up to 3

3

- (b)
- peaceful/idyllic/pastoral
 - world of a kindly, hardworking shepherd
 - contrast between pastoral and savage

1 mark for a point

1

- (c)
- to show the Cyclops' routine is orderly
 - to frame the time when Odysseus and his men are shut in the cave, and when they formulate their plan of escape
 - it is a story-telling technique – brings us back to the essentials of the story (Cyclops + flocks/Cyclops as ogre)
 - feature of oral composition

1 mark for each point, up to 2, or 2 marks for a well developed point

2

- (d) any valid comment, but has to expand if point already made in (c)

1

5. (a)
 - he is in pain, with the hot pole stuck in his eye
 - he pulls the pole out of his bleeding, blind eye

1 mark for a point

1

- (b) sympathy: gory details make us feel his pain
Odysseus' ploy for escaping is very cruel, even if the Cyclops is cruel himself
the Cyclops calls pitifully for others to help him

no sympathy: the Greeks' action justified as the Cyclops is a cruel monster
any other valid point

1 mark for each point, up to 2

2

6. good: brave/clever/resourceful
takes the lead
shows foresight
encourages his men
not so good: foolhardy/arrogant
puts his men in danger
doesn't listen to his men

1 mark for each general point and 1 mark for each detailed reference to the text, up to 5

5

(30)

[END OF MARKING INSTRUCTIONS]