

**ENTRY LEVEL CERTIFICATE IN CLASSICAL GREEK**

**R446: Exemplar Task: Part 2 Classical Greek Culture**

200 word tasks

Classical Greek Literature in translation



**INSTRUCTIONS TO TEACHERS**

- Please refer to Section 4 of the specification for instructions on completing internal assessment tasks.
- Students should have studied selections chosen from Euripides' *Medea* in class before completing this task and should have access to their notes while completing the task.
- Candidates must complete two tasks of 200 words each.
- The total number of marks for each task is **20**.

**INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES**

- This document consists of **4** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.



*This is a literary task. It would be appropriate to set the scene in any given passage. The passage below is a suggestion of length and approach. Centres should be alert to choosing suitable content.*

### **Exemplar Task 1:**

#### **Euripides *Medea*** (Lines 1167–1201)

The context is that Medea has been left by her husband Jason, who is about to be married to a young princess called Glauce. Medea and Jason have two young sons who are to attend the wedding. Medea has sent the princess a beautiful dress. In the speech below a messenger describes what happens when she puts on the dress.

#### **Messenger:**

But then we were exposed to a horrific sight. The colour left her face and, with limbs trembling, she lurched backwards towards the throne and collapsed on to it, barely stopping herself from falling on the ground. At this an old servant woman, thinking, I suppose, that Pan or some other deity was attacking her wits, raised the cry honouring the god, until she saw white foam trickling over her lips, her eyes rolling and protruding, and a bloodless pallor invading her flesh. Then, to counter her earlier cry, she uttered a loud scream of lamentation. At once one servant rushed into Creon's palace, another to the girl's new husband to tell what had happened to his bride.

Every room in the palace echoed to the sound of constant running. A fast runner, in his stride, would have turned the stadium bend and be closing on the finishing line by the time the poor girl broke her silence and woke from her trance with a terrible cry of pain. For she was being assailed by a double torment. The golden coronet resting on her head released a wondrous stream of devouring fire, while the fine dress that she wore, the gift from your children, began to consume the wretched girl's white flesh. Up she leapt from the throne, all aflame, and took to her heels, tossing her head and hair this way and that in her desire to be rid of the crown. But the gold kept its fastening and would not move, while each time she shook her head, the flame burned twice as fiercely. She sank to the ground, crushed by her affliction, barely recognisable except to a parent's eye. For her eyes had lost their normal look, her features their healthy bloom, blood congealed with fire was dripping from the top of her head and, as the poison's jaws worked away unseen, the flesh melted away from her bones like resin from a pine-tree – a sight to stop the heart.

#### **Question:**

Explain how Euripides makes this a frightening account. You should write about 200 words.

**[20]**

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