

OCR

Oxford Cambridge and RSA

Wednesday 8 June 2016 – Morning

GCSE ANCIENT HISTORY

A031/01 The Greeks at war

Candidates answer on the Question Paper.

OCR supplied materials:

- 12 page Answer Booklet (OCR12)
(sent with general stationery)
- Insert (A031/01/I – inserted)

Other materials required:

None

Duration: 1 hour 15 minutes



INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- The Insert will be found inside this document.
- Complete the boxes on the Answer Booklet with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- Use black ink.
- This paper has **two** options:
Option 1: The Greeks defend themselves, 499–479 BC
Option 2: Alexander the Great, 356–323 BC
- Choose **one** option only. Answer **all** the questions in Section A and **one** question from Section B.
- Write the number of each question answered in the margin.
- Read each question carefully. Make sure you know what you have to do before starting your answer.
- 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.
- The Insert contains an image for use with Question 7 (Option 2).
- The total number of marks for this paper is **86**.
- You will be assessed on the quality of written communication in your answer to the following questions: 4 or 5 (Option 1), or, 9 or 10 (Option 2). Questions marked with a pencil (✎) will carry 6 additional marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar.
- This document consists of **8** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

INSTRUCTION TO EXAMS OFFICER/INVIGILATOR

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Answer questions from **either** Option 1 **or** Option 2.

Option 1: The Greeks defend themselves, 499–479 BC

SECTION A

Answer **all** the questions in this section.

- 1 Briefly outline **two** reasons why the battle of Marathon was significant. [5]
- 2 Read Passage 1A from Herodotus, and answer the questions which follow.

Passage 1A

The Athenians captured seven ships in this way, but the Persians retreated with the rest of their fleet, and once they had picked up the Eretrian slaves from the island where they had left them, they began to sail round Sunium, intending to get to the city of Athens before the Athenian force did. Amongst the Athenians the reason that the Persians thought of doing this was blamed on the Alcmaeonidae; for it was said that they had made an agreement with the Persians and had signalled to them with a shield when they were already on their ships.

The Persians were sailing round Sunium, and the Athenians returned as quickly as they could to help the city, and managed to arrive back before the Persians, and, having left one sanctuary of Heracles at Marathon, drew up their line of battle when they arrived in another, this time in Cynosarges.

Herodotus, *The Histories* 6.115–6

- (a) What does Passage 1A tell us about what happened after the battle of Marathon? [4]
- (b) Explain why in Passage 1A the Persians (line 1) sail towards the city of Athens. [4]
- (c) Using details from Passage 1A, how accurate do you think Herodotus' account of these events is? [5]

Option 1: The Greeks defend themselves, 499–479 BC

- 3 Read Passage 1B from Herodotus, and answer the questions which follow.

Passage 1B

Themistocles (he was always greedy for money) sent threatening demands to the other islands, using the same messengers as he had sent to the king. These stated that if the islands did not pay what was asked for, Themistocles would bring the Greek force and capture them by siege. This worked against the Carystians and Parians. Once they learned that Andros was under siege because of the help she had given Persia and that Themistocles was the best of the Greek commanders, both cities through fear sent the money to Themistocles, who soon collected a very large amount. I cannot say whether other islanders paid up besides these. I expect that some others did and not just these alone. The Carystians, even though they paid up, still had to face the Greek fleet; but the Parians, after appeasing Themistocles' anger with money, did not. So while he was besieging Andros, Themistocles gained a great deal of money from the islanders without the other commanders realising what he was doing.

Herodotus, *The Histories* 8.112

- (a) In what ways does Passage 1B help us to understand Themistocles' character?

You must use and evaluate details from Passage 1B.

[14]

- (b) 'Themistocles was the best of the Greek commanders.' In your opinion, to what extent does Herodotus' account of the invasion of 480–79 BC support this view?

You must use and evaluate details from **both** Passage 1B **and** other passages of Herodotus which you have studied.

[18]

Option 1: The Greeks defend themselves, 499–479 BC**SECTION B**

Answer **either** Question 4 **or** Question 5.

Marks are awarded for the quality of written communication in your answer.

- 4 'Xerxes was always determined to conquer Greece.' Using Herodotus' account, explain to what extent you agree with this statement.

In your answer you should:

- give a brief account of Xerxes' actions before and during the expedition;
- explain whether Xerxes' actions show that he was always determined to conquer Greece;
- show knowledge of relevant sections of Herodotus;
- consider how reliable you think Herodotus is.

[30]

 Spelling, punctuation and grammar **[6]**

- 5 What can we learn from the battle of Salamis about the strengths and weaknesses of Greek opposition to the Persian invasion?

In your answer you should:

- outline events immediately before and during the battle of Salamis;
- explain how these events show the strengths and weaknesses of Greek opposition to the Persian invasion;
- show knowledge of relevant sections of Herodotus;
- consider how reliable you think Herodotus is.

[30]

 Spelling, punctuation and grammar **[6]**

Option 2: Alexander the Great, 356–323 BC

Do not answer questions from this option if you have already answered Option 1.

SECTION A

Answer **all** the questions in this section.

- 6** Briefly outline **two** reasons why the Macedonian phalanx was so successful during Alexander's expedition against Persia. **[5]**
- 7** Study Image 2A (the Mosaic from the House of the Faun in Pompeii) in the separate Insert, and answer the questions below.
- (a)** Using details from Image 2A, describe what Alexander is doing at the battle of Issus. **[4]**
- (b)** Using details from Image 2A, explain what we can learn about the leadership of Darius. **[4]**
- (c)** Using details from Image 2A, how reliable do you think this Mosaic is for the battle of Issus? **[5]**

Option 2: Alexander the Great, 356–323 BC

- 8 Read Passage 2B from Arrian, and answer the questions which follow.

Passage 2B

If Alexander made mistakes through haste or anger, or if he was led on to act in a barbarian and rather arrogant manner, for my part, I do not consider these serious faults, if one considers reasonably Alexander's youth and his continual success and the nature of such men as associate, and will always associate, with kings to please them, not for the best of motives, but for evil. I know that the remorse he showed when he had done wrong because of the nobility of his nature was unparalleled amongst the kings of old. ... That Alexander kept claiming divine origin for himself does not seem to me a serious fault, and perhaps it was a device directed at his subjects to gain greater respect. ... As for Alexander's adoption of Persian dress, this seems to me a device aimed at the barbarians to make sure that the king did not appear completely foreign to them, and also at the Macedonians, to give him some relief from Macedonian sharpness and insolence.

Arrian, Anabasis of Alexander 7.29

- (a) In what ways does Passage 2B help us to understand the character of Alexander?

You must use and evaluate details from Passage 2B.

[14]

- (b) To what extent do the ancient sources provide us with a reliable account of Alexander's weaknesses?

You must use and evaluate details from **both** Passage 2B **and** other ancient sources which you have studied.

[18]

Option 2: Alexander the Great, 356–323 BC**SECTION B**

Answer **either** Question 9 **or** Question 10.

Marks are awarded for the quality of written communication in your answer.

- 9** ‘Alexander’s greatest victory.’ To what extent do you agree with this opinion of the battle of the River Granicus?

In your answer you should:

- give an account of how Alexander won the battle of Granicus;
- explain how far you consider this battle to be Alexander’s greatest military success;
- show knowledge of relevant sections of Arrian and Plutarch;
- consider how accurate you think Arrian and Plutarch are.

[30]


 Spelling, punctuation and grammar **[6]**

- 10** ‘After the death of Darius, Alexander achieved nothing.’ Using Arrian and Plutarch, explain how far you agree with this opinion.

In your answer you should:

- give a brief account of what Alexander did after the death of Darius;
- explain whether or not you think he achieved anything significant in this time;
- show knowledge of relevant sections of Arrian and Plutarch;
- consider how reliable you think Arrian and Plutarch are.

[30]

 Spelling, punctuation and grammar **[6]**

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