Support Materials

GCE Classics H038/H438:
Teacher Support Booklet
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1 Introduction

The new structure of assessment at Advanced level has been introduced for teaching from September 2008. The GCE Classics specifications are designed to provide candidates with an introduction to the four classical subjects: Latin, Classical Greek, Classical Civilisation and Ancient History.

These specifications are set out in the form of units. Each teaching unit is assessed by its associated unit of assessment.

It is important to make the point that this Teacher Support material plays a secondary role to the specifications themselves. The GCE Classics Specification is the document on which assessment is based: it specifies what content and skills need to be covered. At all times, therefore, the teacher support material should be read in conjunction with the Specification. If clarification on a particular point is sought, then that clarification must be found in the Specification itself.

OCR recognises that the teaching of this qualification will vary greatly from school to school and from teacher to teacher. With that in mind, this Teacher Support Booklet is offered as guidance but will be subject to modifications by the individual teacher.

AS and A2 Latin and Classical Greek: the new four-unit specification

Rationale

The new AS and A2 specifications aim to provide a rewarding experience for students and their teachers by retaining the best features of the current OCR specifications whilst satisfying the mandatory requirements of QCA (the length of set texts, the four-unit format and the amount of examining time permitted). The new course is suitable for those candidates who take AS only, or do not go beyond A2, whilst at the same time laying a sound foundation for those who go on to study the Classical languages at a higher level. Candidates will be required to attain a level of linguistic competence equal to that demanded by the legacy specification: by the end of the course, A2 candidates should be able to understand and translate a piece of original prose or verse, or both, and, through either composition or through unprepared comprehension, demonstrate a more detailed understanding of the structure of the language. Students will also have read a range of authors and developed an appreciation of their literary techniques. Papers will give candidates the opportunity to demonstrate this appreciation by writing about specific passages from the texts and, in some cases, about the texts as a whole. The new-style literature unit at AS will offer a more satisfactory stepping-stone from GCSE to A2 than is the case at the moment.

Set texts

Comparability in assessment is an issue here: candidates should, as far as possible, operate on a ‘level playing-field’; clearly, if one candidate is offering, for example, Homer, another Plato, and others again Thucydides or Euripides, comparability is not easy to achieve. The new specifications ensure that candidates are tested on the same literary texts at AS and that all A2 candidates will have the same solid foundation on which to build their A2 study. The texts chosen for AS are suitably accessible for that level, with more challenging authors offered at A2.
The availability of annotated editions has been a consideration in the choice of AS texts. While the Latin or Greek text printed on the papers will be that of the specified editions, candidates will not be expected to reproduce the material contained in the notes and introduction.

Classics: Classical Civilisation

The Classical Civilisation specification offers a range of units focusing on literature, society and material culture. The units have been chosen to include the most popular topics from the legacy specification. With 6 units available at AS and 4 at A2, the specification offers considerable choice and flexibility to construct a programme of study to suit centres and candidates. The new course will offer a satisfying experience for those candidates who take only AS or do not go beyond A2, whilst at the same time laying a sound foundation for those who go on to study the Ancient World at a higher level.

Classics: Ancient History

The new AS and A2 units have been designed to include the most popular topics from the legacy specification, though they have sometimes been combined in different ways and there is now a clear difference in the focus of the units at AS and at A2. The AS papers focus explicitly on the study of original sources. A list of sources is provided for each option on the two papers in the specification. These prescribed sources have been taken from accessible collections. The A2 units build on the skills developed at AS. Candidates will be expected to use the skills acquired in the AS course in handling original sources, and they will be expected to use sources where appropriate in answering two essay questions. However the principle focus of these units is the investigation of historical themes through the evaluation and interpretation of original sources. Each unit has a choice of three options, so there is considerable flexibility and choice within Ancient History. The new course will offer a satisfying experience for those candidates who take only AS or do not go beyond A2, whilst at the same time laying a sound foundation for those who go on to study the Ancient World at a higher level.
Planning and designing Programmes of Study within the Classics Suite

Programme building

Below are some examples of how the Classics suite can be used to build on previous study and to create combinations of units which allow candidates to follow their interests and strengths through an individualised programme of study.

Profiles for Classics

Rachel

Rachel completed GCSE Latin and GCSE Classical Greek. She is interested in classical languages, and is intending to study a classical subject at university.

Rachel takes an AS in Latin and an AS in Classical Greek by studying F361 Latin Language and F362 Latin Verse and Prose Literature, and F371 Greek Language and F372 Greek Verse and Prose Literature. The language units allow her to continue her study of the languages, while the literature units consolidate her language skills and develop understanding of classical texts in the original languages. Due to timetabling and staff availability and her other academic commitments, Rachel does not wish to take two full classical language A levels. She chooses F363 Latin Verse and F373 Greek Verse units (as she enjoys verse texts more than prose). These units combine both language and literature skills. In this way Rachel is able to continue studying both languages to A level standard.

Rachel certificates with:
AS Classics: Latin (H039)
AS Classics: Classical Greek (H040)
A level Classics (H438).

Usman

Usman completed GCSE Latin and GCSE History. He is interested in continuing his language studies but he also wants to learn more about the classical world.

Usman chooses to take a full Latin AS level and a full Classical Civilisation AS level, taking F381 Archaeology: Mycenae and the classical world and F385 Greek Historians. He was not able to study Classical Greek as it was not offered at his school; however, he is interested in broadening his perspective by learning about the Greek world. At A2 he wants to continue his Latin, but he also wants to take more Classical Civilisation units. He takes F364 Latin Prose which allows him the opportunity to study an historical text in the original language. He also takes F387 Roman Britain: life in the outpost of the Empire continuing his study of archaeology and complementing his language studies. In addition, he takes F388 Art and Architecture in the Greek World alongside F390 Virgil and the world of the hero. These two units build on his Greek interest whilst allowing him to study Latin literature in translation.
He certificates with:
AS Classics: Latin (H039)
AS Classics: Classical Civilisation (H041)
A level Classics (H438)
A level Classics: Classical Civilisation (H441).

Maria

Maria gained A* in her GCSE Latin. She is keen on the study of languages and has participated in a lunchtime club for Classical Greek.

Maria is keen to study Classical Greek and Latin at AS level and so goes to a private tutor to prepare Classical Greek language. She chooses F361 Latin Language and F371 Classical Greek Language units. At A2 she decides that she would prefer to study texts in translation. Her language skills provide an excellent foundation for this. She takes F389 Comic Drama in the Ancient World and F390 Virgil and the world of the hero.

She certificates with:
AS Classics (H038)
A level Classics (H438).

Colin

Colin studied Classical Civilisation and Latin at GCSE. He loves literature and decides to do a Classical Civilisation A level.

Colin takes F382 Homer's Odyssey and Society and F384 Greek Tragedy in its Context at AS. These offer him the opportunity to read widely with a focus on the Greek world. He then takes F389 Comic Drama in the Ancient World, continuing his study of Greek authors, and F390 Virgil and the world of the hero, expanding his study of Epic into the Roman period.

He certificates with:
AS Classics: Classical Civilisation (H041)
A level Classics: Classical Civilisation (H441).

Niamh

Niamh completed GCSE Latin and GCSE Classical Greek. She wants to continue to study both languages with literature in the original language.

At AS she takes F361 Latin Language and F371 Classical Greek Language, in addition to F362 Latin Verse and Prose Literature and F372 Classical Greek Verse and Prose Literature. She continues her studies at A2 with F363 Latin Verse, F364 Latin Prose, F373 Classical Greek Verse and F374 Classical Greek Prose. These allow her to extend her language skills to the highest level as well as to read a broad range of classical authors in the original languages.

She certificates with:
A level Classics: Latin (H439)
A level Classics: Classical Greek (H440).

Jack

Jack completed GCSE Latin and History. He is interested in the history of the ancient world. He is less interested in archaeology and literature, being more concerned with learning what those sources tell us about events.
Jack takes F386 *City life in Roman Italy*, which will allow him to learn about the history and society through studying material and literary evidence and F392 *Roman History from original sources* at AS. This will allow him to learn more about the history of the Roman world and learn to evaluate historical source material in translation. He is interested in the Reign of Augustus so chooses option 2: *Augustus and the Principate*. At A2 he chooses F387 *Roman Britain: life in the outpost of the Empire* which will cover the history of the Roman occupation of Britain, including political and military events and changes to Romano-British society and F394 *Roman history: the use and abuse of power*. Jack can choose to build on either his study of Rome in the age of Augustus through Option 2: *the invention of Imperial Rome 31BC-AD96* or continue his study of the Roman provinces through Option 3: *ruling the Roman Empire AD14-117*.

He certificates with:
AS Classics (H038)
A level Classics (H438).

Fred

Fred did not complete a GCSE in a classical subject but he is interested in Archaeology. He likes the OCR specification because it allows him to study archaeology and history together.

At AS Fred will do F381 *Archaeology: Mycenae and the classical world*, which will cover archaeological techniques and both classical and Mycenaean sites, and F386 *City life in Roman Italy*, which will allow him to study the history and society of three Roman towns through material and literary evidence. At A2 he will choose to study F387 *Roman Britain: life in the outpost of the Empire*, which will build on the skills learned at AS by studying historical events of the period of occupation and use archaeological evidence to draw conclusions about the development and decline of villas, agriculture and towns. F388 *Art and Architecture in the Greek World* will also build on his knowledge of the architecture of the Greek world and allow him to study art and architecture in its social context.

He certificates with:
AS Classics: Classical Civilisation (H041)
A level Classics: Classical Civilisation (H441).

Angela

Angela completed GCSE History and Geography. She has developed an interest in the day to day life of people in the ancient world, rather than political and military history.

She prefers Roman history so is going to study F383 *Roman Society and Thought* and F386 *City life in Roman Italy* at AS, and F387 *Roman Britain: life in the outpost of the Empire* and F390 *Virgil and the world of the Hero* at A2.

(If Angela wanted to focus mainly on the Greek period she would be doing F381 *Archaeology: Mycenae and the classical world*, F385 *Greek Historians*, F388 *Art and Architecture in the Greek World* and F389 *Comic Drama in the Ancient World*, but she doesn’t).

She certificates with:
AS Classics: Classical Civilisation (H041)
A level Classics: Classical Civilisation (H441).
Further examples of programmes of study that focus on particular aspects of the classical world

**An AS combination with a focus on Classical Greek language and Greek literature**
F371 (G1: Classical Greek Language)
F382 (CC2: Homer's Odyssey and Society)
This combination would lead to an AS level in Classics (H038).

**An AS combination with a focus on Latin language and Roman literature**
F361 (L1: Latin Language)
F383 (CC3: Roman Society and Thought)
This combination would lead to an AS level in Classics (H038).

**An AS combination with a focus on both classical languages**
F361 (L1: Latin Language)
F371 (G1: Classical Greek Language)
This combination would lead to an AS level in Classics (H038).

**An AS combination with a focus on Classical Greek language and Greek history**
F371 (G1: Classical Greek Language)
F391 (AH1: Greek History from original sources)
This combination would lead to an AS level in Classics (H038).

**An AS combination with a focus on Latin language and Roman history**
F361 (L1: Latin Language)
F392 (AH2: Roman History from original sources)
This combination would lead to an AS level in Classics (H038).

**A combination with a focus on Roman history and archaeology**
F386 (CC6: City Life in Roman Italy)
F392 (AH2: Roman History from original sources) Option 3: Britain in the Roman Empire
F387 (CC7: Roman Britain: life in the outpost of the Empire)
F394 (AH4: Roman History: the use and abuse of power) Option 3: ruling the Roman Empire AD 14 - 17
This combination would lead to an A level in Classics (H438).

**A combination with a focus on Roman history and literature**
F383 (CC3: Roman Society and Thought)
F392 (AH2: Roman History from original sources) Option 1: Cicero and political life in late Republican Rome
F390 (CC10: Virgil and the world of the hero)
F394 (AH4: Roman History: the use and abuse of power) Option 2: the invention of Imperial Rome 31 BC – AD 96
This combination would lead to an A level in Classics (H438).

**A combination with a focus on Greek literature**
F382 (CC2: Homer's Odyssey and Society)
F384 (CC4: Greek Tragedy in its context)
F389 (CC9: Comic Drama in the Ancient World)
F393 (AH3: Greek History: conflict and culture) Option 3: the culture of Athens 449-399 BC
This combination would lead to an A level in Classics (H438).
A combination with a focus on archaeology and art
F381 (CC1: Archaeology: Mycenae and the classical world)
F386 (CC6: City Life in Roman Italy)
F387 (CC7: Roman Britain: life in the outpost of the Empire)
F388 (CC8: Art and Architecture in the Greek World)
This combination would lead to an A level in Classics: Classical Civilisation (H441).

A combination with a focus on Roman society and culture
F383 (CC3: Roman Society and Thought)
F386 (CC6: City Life in Roman Italy)
F387 (CC7: Roman Britain: life in the outpost of the Empire)
F390 (CC10: Virgil and the world of the hero)
This combination would lead to an A level in Classics: Classical Civilisation (H441).

A combination with a focus on Greek society and culture
F384 (CC4: Greek Tragedy in its context)
F385 (CC5: Greek Historians)
F388 (CC8: Art and Architecture in the Greek World)
F389 (CC9: Comic Drama in the Ancient World)
This combination would lead to an A level in Classics: Classical Civilisation (H441).

A combination with a focus on Latin language and Roman verse literature
F361 (L1: Latin Language)
F362 (L2: Latin Verse and Prose Literature)
F363 (L3: Latin Verse)
F390 (CC10: Virgil and the world of the hero)
This combination would lead to an A level in Classics (H438).

A combination with a focus on Classical Greek language and Greek literature
F371 (G1: Classical Greek Language)
F372 (G2: Classical Greek Verse and Prose Literature)
F374 (G4: Classical Greek Prose)
F389 (CC9: Comic Drama in the Ancient World)
This combination would lead to an A level in Classics (H438).

A combination with a focus on Latin language and Roman society
F361 (L1: Latin Language)
F362 (L2: Latin Verse and Prose Literature)
F364 (L4: Latin Prose)
F387 (CC7: Roman Britain: life in the outpost of the Empire)
This combination would lead to an A level in Classics (H438).
3 What is available for Latin and Classical Greek?

Unit L1 (Entry Code F361): Latin Language and Unit G1 (Entry Code F371): Classical Greek Language

Section A is a conventional unseen prose translation of similar format and level of difficulty to those currently set in units 2492 and 2992. The author will not be specified, and words not contained in the new AS Defined Vocabulary List, as well as most names, will be glossed. The Latin and Greek may be adapted in some places or sections omitted but, wherever possible, the original will be retained.

Section B contains two alternative questions. Question 2 is a second, shorter, unseen passage, selected from the works of the author from whom the prose set text for Unit F362/F372 is taken. This is intended to encourage students to read more widely in the set author than might otherwise be the case. It should also ensure that the context and style of the passage will be familiar to candidates. As far as possible, the passage will be unadapted.

Teachers will have noted from the mark schemes provided with the specimen papers that translations will be marked in a new way: passages will be divided into a specified number of sections, each of which will be marked according to level descriptors. This method of marking, which has been used successfully in the Advanced Extension Award for Latin, rewards candidates in a more consistent way for the extent to which they have understood the meaning of a phrase or sentence. There are no specific marks for quality of English in the AS mark schemes, but candidates should be encouraged to strive for fluency of expression.

Question 3, translation of five short sentences from English into Latin/Greek, is an innovation at AS level. It was considered important to retain the option of prose composition at A2 and the inclusion of some English into Latin/Greek translation as an option at AS will help teachers to structure their language courses more evenly than in the past. It also provides an incentive to begin or continue composition at AS: candidates may be encouraged to recognise that writing sentences in Latin or Greek is within their capabilities.

Unit L2 (Entry Code F362): Latin Verse and Prose Literature and Unit G2 (Entry Code F372): Classical Greek Verse and Prose Literature

Texts for these units were chosen both for their intrinsic interest and taking into account the availability of suitable editions. Homer (for whom no edition has been specified as there are many available) has been included at AS rather than A2 because students, once they have become accustomed to his dialect and mode of expression, seem to find his Greek relatively accessible. Lysias and Xenophon are also here by virtue of the accessibility of their Greek: the story of the 'Against Eratosthenes' is an interesting one, and should help students to gain some insight into the social and political background of an important period in Athenian history, as well as the importance of forensic oratory. Ovid has always proved an appropriate Latin poet for AS
level, with plenty of material to amuse and interest students. Cicero’s speeches against Catiline and Verres contain much of historical and forensic interest, and are well within the capabilities of students at this level.

The questions set on the passage(s) chosen for examination will be more varied than those currently set on AS literature papers, and require candidates to comment on the passages showing an awareness of background material necessary to understand the text and demonstrating an appreciation of the author’s literary technique. Fifteen of the 50 marks available for each text are for translation; a further 10 for a ‘mini-essay’ which requires consideration of the prescribed text as a whole. One long passage, or two shorter passages, may be set for each text.

There are two assessment objectives: AO1 tests knowledge and understanding, AO2 tests analysis and evaluation. For the literature papers, AO1 involves questions on the context of a passage within the prescribed text as a whole, summary of the contents of a segment of the passage, explanation of words or phrases, and translation. ‘Summary’ means the thoughtful selection of key points, not mere translation.

AO2 involves the mini-essay for 10 marks, and questions on the style of a segment of a passage. The wording of these questions makes it clear that stylistic comments are required: ‘You should refer to both the content and the style’. (We say both content and style because, in answer to a question, what an author chooses to say can be as important as the way in which he says it). For these ‘style’ questions, a maximum of 2 marks is given per point: one for the selection of an appropriate word or phrase, one for a relevant comment on it. Candidates are, of course, welcome to make more than the required number of points, but, if a question asks for three points, and three good points are made, this will be sufficient for full marks. It is essential that candidates quote from the Latin/Classical Greek, and demonstrate an understanding of what they have quoted e.g. by adding a translation of words they quote.

‘Style’ questions are pitched at a level between those of the GCSE and A2. ‘Style’ questions are not of the form ‘Discuss the style of these lines,’ without any further guidance. Rather, the wording of the question states that there is a certain effect in a segment, and asks candidates to say how that effect is conveyed. For example, ‘Show how Ovid effectively conveys the mixed feelings of Ceyx’ and ‘How does Homer make these lines both dramatic and moving?’ Here ‘mixed feelings’ and ‘dramatic and moving’ are the trigger words which point candidates in a specific direction. Candidates may, of course, make whatever points they please, but in order to be rewarded they must be relevant to the trigger. Examiners choose segments for style questions where the features to which the trigger points are salient.

Examiners recommend that candidates spend no more than 15 minutes on each of the mini-essay questions of 10 marks. The topics chosen will be central to the text studied, rather than on a minor aspect of it, and the questions will be such that candidates need to select and discuss only major points. Points must be illustrated, but this will usually be done by means of paraphrase, and direct quotation of the original, though it may be rewarded, is not required.

Examiners often find that a verse text lends itself more readily to AO2 than does a prose text, and a prose text more readily to AO1 than a verse text. Therefore, as in the specimen papers, there may be more AO2 marks than AO1 marks on a verse text, and more AO1 than AO2 on a prose text. However, across the paper as a whole, marks for AO1 and AO2 are approximately equal. Translation questions (for AO1) will always be set on both texts.

Where an edition is prescribed, the purpose is to prescribe the text of that edition. The contents of the introduction and of the notes are not prescribed.
Unit L3 (Entry Code F363): *Latin Verse* and Unit G3 (Entry Code F373): *Classical Greek Verse*

For these units, students will have a choice of texts. For Classical Greek, this will be a choice of either a tragedy or a comedy. Alongside well-established Latin texts such as Virgil and Catullus, Propertius introduces accessible and interesting poetry not seen in examinations for many years.

Section A tests prescribed literature. One question on each text is of the conventional A2 format, inviting candidates to analyse carefully a passage of the text and comment in detail on its style and content. The other question is an essay based on a passage from the text, which offers a ‘lead-in’ to the theme of the essay (as on the specimen papers). Candidates must refer both to the passage and to the remainder of the text in order to achieve the top mark ranges available.

Section B consists of a passage(s) of unprepared Latin/Classical Greek verse from a named author. The text will be almost entirely original, though occasionally a minor change may be made, or lines omitted. There is no Defined Vocabulary List for A2: it is expected, as in the legacy specifications, that candidates will have read as widely as possible in the works of the named author and thus acquired a knowledge of his style and typical vocabulary.

Please refer to the section on ‘Stretch and Challenge at A2’ below for further guidance on the nature and types of question that examiners may set in Section B.

Unit L4 (Entry Code F364): *Latin Prose* and Unit G4 (Entry Code F374): *Classical Greek Prose*

The demands of these units are similar to those of F363/F373 above. Students of Classical Greek have the opportunity to study either Plato, or Herodotus or Thucydides. Whilst for Latin, Tacitus’ *Annals XIV* and *XV* are set alongside Livy and Sallust.

In Section A, texts are tested by questions of the conventional A2 format: unlike the Verse paper, there is no essay in this unit, knowledge of the texts being tested by commentary questions only. Questions on Plato will require understanding of his arguments, where appropriate; those on Thucydides and Herodotus may require understanding of historiographical issues. Questions on the Latin texts may require knowledge of the events and personalities referred to in the texts, as well as some understanding of underlying historiographical issues.

Section B offers a choice of questions. For Question 2 there is an unprepared prose passage, from a named author, tested by translation and by comprehension questions on style, content, and language. Question 3 is a passage for prose composition. This is similar in format and standard to that set in units 2494/2994 of the current specification, though shorter.

Again, please refer to the advice on ‘Stretch and Challenge at A2’ below for further guidance on the nature and range of questions that examiners may set in Section B.
Introduction

An important aspect of the revised 16+ curriculum is the extent to which teaching and assessment can more effectively provide candidates with Stretch and Challenge. One means of achieving this is to provide a wider variety of questions which will be accessible to average candidates but will also stretch and challenge the most able.

This advice is intended to provide guidance to centres and candidates about the sort of questions which might be asked in Section B (Unprepared Translation and Comprehension) of units F363 Latin Verse, F373 Classical Greek Verse and F364 Latin Prose, F374 Classical Greek Prose and what examiners will be looking for when rewarding candidates for the use of good English in their translations. It should be read in conjunction with the Specification and the Specimen Assessment Materials already published.

Translation and Comprehension

The questions in Section A of units F363/F373 and F364/F374 test candidates' knowledge and understanding of the set texts they have studied. In Section B of each unit (Unprepared Translation and Comprehension), candidates are tested on their ability to translate unseen passages of Latin into good English and to show knowledge and understanding of the authors’ use of language. The new Specification for GCE Classics states that each unit 'builds on the linguistic competence developed at AS GCE level, but requires understanding of more complex linguistic structures and a greater sensitivity to literary idiom, developed through wider reading of texts over the full length of the Advanced GCE course.' (Specification for GCE Classics, p. 34).

What makes a good translation?

In the question requiring candidates to translate a passage of Latin/Classical Greek into English, candidates are advised that 'extra credit will be given for the use of good English.' The mark scheme which forms part of the Specimen Assessment Materials states that up to 2 marks for fluency of English should be awarded as follows:

[2] Expressed fluently and stylishly. Consistently successful improvements on a literal translation
[1] Occasional improvements on a literal translation
[0] No or very little improvement on a literal translation

The following example of a candidate scoring 2 marks may be helpful. The passage is taken from the Specimen Assessment Materials for F363 Latin Prose.

Sueborum gens est longe maxima et bellicosissima Germanorum omnium. hi centum pagos habere dicuntur, ex quibus quotannis mille armatos bellandi causa ex finibus educunt. reliqui qui domi manserunt se atque illos alunt; hi in vicem anno post in armis sunt, illi domi remanent. sic
neque agri cultura neque usus belli intermittitur. sed privati ac separati agri apud eos nihil est, neque longius anno remanere uno in loco licet. neque frumento sed lacte atque pecore vivunt, multumque sunt in venationibus; quae res, et quod a pueris nullo officio aut disciplina assefacti nihil omnino contra voluntatem faciunt, et vires alit et immani corporum magnitudine homines efficit.

‘The nation of the Suebi is by far (√) the largest and most warlike nation of all the Germans. They are said to have a hundred districts, from which each year they bring out from their territories a thousand armed men to make war (√). The rest who have stayed at home maintain (√) themselves and the men on campaign (= illos √). The latter (= hi √) in turn are in arms the year after and the former (= illi √) stay at home. Thus neither the cultivation of the land (√) nor the practice (√) of war are neglected (√). But they have (= apud eos nihil est √) no private and separate land, nor are they allowed (√) to stay in one place for longer than one year. They live not on corn but milk and meat (√), and they spend a lot of time hunting (√). This, and the fact that (√), being from boyhood (√) used to no employment (√) or discipline, they do nothing at all against their will, increases their strength and make them men of enormous bodily (√) stature.’

This candidate has translated the Latin accurately and fluently. They have dealt particularly successfully with: the pronouns hi ... illos ... hi ... illi; the phrases agri cultura and usus belli; the partitive genitive privati ... nihil est (a less confident candidate might have written more awkwardly 'there is among them nothing of private and separated land'); the phrase multumque sunt in venationibus; the use of quod to mean 'the fact that'; the phrase a pueris; the meaning of officio; the final phrase immani ... efficit. The candidate has not moved unnecessarily far from the structure and wording of the Latin but has thought carefully about the meaning of individual words in the context of the passage and thereby produced a confident and stylish translation.

What is meant by ‘comprehension’? How does it form part of synoptic assessment at A2?

‘Synoptic assessment in Classics involves the drawing together of candidates’ knowledge and skills to demonstrate understanding of the links between central elements of study such as language, literature, civilisation or history in their classical contexts.’ (Specification for GCE Classics, p. 58).

In order to test the two Assessment Objectives for the Classics Specification and to provide sufficient stretch and challenge to candidates, questions in Section B of Units F363/F373 and F364/F374 may include types of activity which go beyond what teachers have traditionally understood as ‘comprehension’. Examples of such questions are included in the Specimen Assessment Materials already published for these units.

Questions may be asked which test the ability of candidates to:

- show an understanding of the meaning of an unseen passage without having to translate
- discuss the ideas or train of thought expressed in the passage
- analyse the author’s use of language (e.g. choice of vocabulary, placement of words)
- analyse the use of other poetic, linguistic or rhetorical techniques
- discuss the use of language to express tone (e.g. in a passage containing direct speech)
- show knowledge and understanding of grammatical or syntactical content.
It may also be appropriate to print an English translation (or alternative translations) of a particular word/phrase, or of a longer passage of Latin/Classical Greek, and require candidates to analyse and evaluate the merits of the translation(s) with close reference to the Latin/Classical Greek text.

Thus, in their response to comprehension questions on an unseen passage in Section B, candidates have the opportunity to demonstrate some of the knowledge and skills they have gained from their study of prepared literary texts. This drawing together of unseen translation and the study of prepared texts, testing knowledge and skills gained over the two years of the A level course, is one example of what is meant at A2 by 'synoptic assessment'.

An annotated resource list for teachers

9780199126620

Provides practice texts to support Latin unseens, translations, vocabulary and grammar practice, including accompanying teacher notes. Also provides an introduction to literary analysis and set text authors. The resource runs in OxBox - a digital management system that allows texts to be selected by theme, stylistic point, level, etc. for classroom presentation using a number of enhanced features in Powerpoint (for example hiding or revealing glosses) teachers can import their own texts and images. There will be an OCR A2 Latin OxBox.
5 Resources for Latin Language

An annotated resource list for teachers


Bateson, T, Morwood, J and Radice, K (2009) OCR A2 Latin OxBox CD-ROM 9780199126637

Carter, Ashley (2005) Latin Unseens for A level Bristol Classical Press 1853996815
Passages for A level unseen practice. The Latin of the passages in the AS level section is heavily adapted. The passages in the remainder of the selection are mostly unadapted prose and verse. Some glossing is provided. (112 pages)

Hiner, Martin (2001) Latin Comprehensions for Schools Bristol Classical Press 1853996238
This contains 80 Latin (prose) passages graded by difficulty: the easiest are suitable for Higher Tier students just before their GCSE examinations, the hardest are of A2 standard. Vocabulary glossing is minimal, so teachers may wish to adapt the glossing to a standard of support appropriate to their class. As well as questions on the content of the passage, grammar and syntax, there are opportunities for personal response and evaluation. (88 pages)

Hyde, Roy (1998) Latin Unseen Translation Bristol Classical Press 1853995606
This contains prose and verse passages for translation practice at both A level and university standard arranged in author-specific sections. An English introduction is given for each passage. A useful feature of this book is the structured author-specific vocabulary which is helpful for A2 Unseen author preparation. Students can build up a basic vocabulary list for Ovid or Caesar, for example. (191 pages)

Kennedy, BH (1965) Revised Latin Primer Longman 0582362407
This is a classic, standard primer which offers a comprehensive coverage of grammar and syntax including GCSE, A level and beyond. This is a reference tool rather than a language textbook. (256 pages)

Latousek, R Latin Vocab Drill 4.5 for OCR AS J-PROGS www.j-progs.com
Latousek, R Latin Flash Drill 4.5 for OCR AS J-PROGS www.j-progs.com
Teachers will need to check that they are using the new Defined Vocabulary List for Classics: Latin for first examination in June 2009. An excel version of the new DVL will be available for free download from www.ocr.org.uk from Summer 2008.

This contains student-friendly explanations of key grammar points with example sentences as illustration. There is a comprehensive vocabulary to support the exemplar sentences which include practice in English to Latin as well as Latin to English translation. The appendices include Roman dates, money and weights and measures as well as a list of literary terms and a guide to Latin pronunciation. (256 pages)


This volume summarises the grammar and syntax required for Higher Tier GCSE standard and includes 600 examples and practice sentences. Additionally, there is a set of prose unseen passages and these are useful for the start of an AS Latin course. (144 pages)

Offers a systematic approach to achieving fluency in Latin to English translation. Advanced Latin grammar features are presented alongside structured exercises for translation. The selections are chosen from the works of major Latin writers. (228 pages)

Bristol Classical Press
1853995495
(72 pages)
6 Resources for Classical Greek Language

A resource list for teachers


Bowen, A (1991) *Advanced Greek Unseens* Bristol Classical Press 0906515475

Crane, G (2000) *Perseus 2.0* (PIP) Yale University Press, [www.yalebooks.co.uk](http://www.yalebooks.co.uk)


Hiner, Martin (1991) *Greek Comprehensions for Schools* Bristol Classical Press 1853990531

Moore, J and Evans, J (1998) *Variorum (Greek Unseens)* Bristol Classical Press 1853991902


Paul, A (2001) *Grammatikon* A H Paul, AHPaul@compuserve.com

Wilding, LA (1994) *Greek for Beginners* Bristol Classical Press 0715626469
7 Resources for AS Classical Civilisation Units

The asterisks indicate resources which may be particularly useful.

Unit CC1 (Entry Code F381): *Archaeology: Mycenae and the classical world*

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Crane, G. *Perseus 2.0* (PIP) 2000, Yale University Press [www.yalebooks.co.uk](http://www.yalebooks.co.uk)


Finley, M. *The World of Odysseus* 1999, Pimlico. ISBN 0712665730


Mountjoy, P. *Mycenaean Pottery: an Introduction* 1993, Oxford University Committee for Archaeology. ISBN 0947816364


*Renfrew, C. and Bahn, P. *Archaeology, Theories, Methods and Practice* 2004, Thames and Hudson. ISBN 0500284415


Unit CC2 (Entry Code F382): *Homer's Odyssey and Society*


Crane G, *Perseus 2.0* (PIP) 2000, Yale University Press [www.yalebooks.co.uk](http://www.yalebooks.co.uk)


*Finley, M. I. The World of Odysseus* 1979, Pimlico. ISBN 0712665730


Unit CC3 (Entry Code F383): Roman Society and Thought


Braund, D. C. The Administration of the Roman Empire 1988, University of Exeter Press. ISBN 0859892042

Braund, S. Roman Satirists and Their Masks 1996, Bristol Classical Press. ISBN 1853991392

Coffey, M. Roman Satire 1995, Bristol Classical Press. ISBN 1853990469

Conté, G. B. The Hidden Author: an Interpretation of Petronius' Satyricon 1997, University of California Press. ISBN 0520207157


Rudd, N. The Satires of Horace 1994, Bristol Classical Press. ISBN 0862920418


Wiedemann, T. The Julio-Claudian Emperors 1989, Bristol Classical Press. ISBN 1853991171
Unit CC4 (Entry Code F384): Greek Tragedy in its context

Arnott, P. D. An Introduction to the Greek Theatre 1965, Macmillan. ISBN 0333079132


Crane, G. Perseus 2.0 (PIP) 2000, Yale University Press www.yalebooks.co.uk


Morgan, J. Hellenika Photo CD 2004, J-PROGS www.j-progs.com


**Unit CC5 (Entry Code F385): Greek Historians**


Crane, G. *Perseus 2.0 (PIP)* 2000, Yale University Press [www.yalebooks.co.uk](http://www.yalebooks.co.uk)


*Duff, T. *Greek and Roman Historians* 2002, Bristol Classical Press. ISBN 1853996017


Sharwood-Smith, J. *Greece and the Persians* 1998, Bristol Classical Press. ISBN 1853991139


Unit CC6 (Entry Code F386): City Life in Roman Italy


Clarke, J. R. The houses of Roman Italy 100 BC – AD 250: Ritual, Space and Decoration 1991, University of California Press. ISBN 0520084292

Clements, P. Herculaneum: Destruction and Rediscovery http://www.romanherculaneum.com

Connolly, P. Pompeii 1990, Oxford University Press. ISBN 0199171580

Cooley, A. E. Pompeii 2003, Duckworth. ISBN 0715631616


Curtis, R. I. ‘A Personalized Floor Mosaic from Pompeii’ in American Journal of Archaeology 88.4, October 1984, (pages 557-566). JSTOR

Deiss, J. Herculaneum: Italy’s Buried Treasure 1993, Getty Trust Publications. ISBN 0892361646

Fox, W. Pompeii Interactive 2000, Canis Education www.pompeii.co.uk


*Pompeii in Pictures* [http://pompeiiinpictures.com/pompeiiinpictures/index.htm](http://pompeiiinpictures.com/pompeiiinpictures/index.htm)


Morgan, J. *Pompeii* 2006, J-PROGS [www.j-progs.com](http://www.j-progs.com)

Morgan, J. *Pompeii Photo CD* 2006, J-PROGS [www.j-progs.com](http://www.j-progs.com)


Shelton, J. A. *As the Roman Did: A Sourcebook in Roman Social History* 1988, Oxford University Press. ISBN 0195089731


8 Resources for AS Ancient History Units

Unit AH1 (Entry Code F391): Greek History from original sources

Option 1: Athenian Democracy in the 5th century BC


*Powell, A. Athens and Sparta: Constructing Greek political and social history from 478 BC 2001, Routledge. ISBN 0415262801

Option 2: Delian League to Athenian Empire

*Powell, A. Athens and Sparta: Constructing Greek political and social history from 478 BC 2001, Routledge. ISBN 0415262801

Option 3: Politics and society of Ancient Sparta

Cartledge, P. *Spartan reflections* 2001, Duckworth. ISBN 0520231244


*Powell, A. Athens and Sparta: Constructing Greek political and social history from 478 BC* 2001, Routledge. ISBN 0415262801


Todd, S. *Athens and Sparta* 1998, Bristol Classical Press. ISBN 1853993980

Unit AH2 (Entry Code F392): *Roman History from original sources*

**Option 1: Cicero and Political Life in Late Republican Rome**


*Patterson, J. R. *Political Life in the City of Rome* 2000, Bristol Classical Press. ISBN 1853995142


**Option 2: Augustus and the Principate**


**Option 3: Britain in the Roman Empire**


9  Resources for A2 Classical Civilisation
Units

Unit CC7 (Entry Code F387): Roman Britain: life in the outpost of the Empire

*Bennett, J. Towns in Roman Britain 2001, Shire Publications. ISBN 0747804737
De la Bédoyère, G. The English Heritage Book of Roman Towns in Britain 1992, Batsford. ISBN 0713468947
De la Bédoyère, G. The Buildings of Roman Britain 2001, Batsford. ISBN 0752419064
Henig, W. Religion in Roman Britain 1995, Batsford. ISBN 0713460474
Morgan, J. Roman Britain 2.1 2004, J-PROGS www.j-progs.com
Unit CC8 (Entry Code F388): Art and Architecture in the Greek World

General

*Boardman, J. Greek Art 1996, Thames & Hudson. ISBN 0500202923


Crane, G. Perseus 2.0 (PIP) 2000, Yale University Press www.yalebooks.co.uk


Morgan, J. Hellenika Photo CD 2004, J-PROGS www.i-progs.com


*Woodford, S. An Introduction to Greek Art 1997, Gerald Duckworth. ISBN 0715620959

Vases

Boardman, J. Athenian Black Figure Vases 1985, Thames & Hudson. ISBN 0500201382

Boardman, J. Athenian Red Figure Vases: the Classical Period 1989, Thames & Hudson. ISBN 0500202443


Woodford, S. The Trojan War in Ancient Art 1993, Duckworth. ISBN 0715624687

Architecture


**Sculpture and Architectural Sculpture**


Boardman, J. *Greek Sculpture: the Late Classical Period* 1995, Thames & Hudson. ISBN 0500202050


Unit CC9 (Entry Code F389): *Comic Drama in the Ancient World*


*Cartledge, P. *Aristophanes and his Theatre of the Absurd* 1980, Bristol Classical Press. ISBN 1853991147

Crane, G. *Perseus 2.0 (PIP)* 2000, Yale University Press [www.yalebooks.co.uk](http://www.yalebooks.co.uk)


Unit CC10 (Entry Code F390): *Virgil and the world of the hero*

*Camps, W. A. An Introduction to Virgil 's Aeneid* 1969, Oxford University Press. ISBN 0198720246


*Griffin, J, Virgil 1987, Bristol Classical Press. ISBN 1853996262


Griffin, J. *Virgil* 1987, Bristol Classical Press. ISBN 1853996262


Murgatroyd, P. *Aeneid 1 and the Trojan War* 1999, J-PROGS www.j-progs.com


10 Resources for A2 Ancient History Units

Unit AH3 (Entry Code F393): *Greek History: conflict and culture*

**Option 1: Greece and Persia 499–449 BC**

**Original sources**


Brosius, M. *The Persian Empire from Cyrus II to Artaxerxes* 2000, London Association of Classical Teachers. ISBN 0903625288 LACTOR 16 (This contains extracts from original source material in translation).


Any appropriate original sources may be used for this unit.

**Secondary sources**


Harrison, T. *The Emptiness of Asia* 2000, Duckworth. ISBN 0715629689


Lewis, Boardman, Davies and Ostwald (eds.) *The Cambridge Ancient History: Persia, Greece and the Western Mediterranean, C.525-479 B.C.* v. 4 1988, Cambridge University Press. 0521228042

Lewis, D. M. *Sparta and Persia* 1977, Brill. ISBN 9004054278


**Option 2: Greece in conflict 460–403 BC**

**Original sources**


Any appropriate original sources may be used for this unit.
Secondary sources


Cartledge, P. *The Spartans: An Epic History* 2002, Channel 4


Hanson-Davis, V. *A War Like No Other: How the Athenians and Spartans Fought the Peloponnesian War* 2006, Random House. ISBN 0812969707


Option 3: The culture of Athens 449–399 BC

Original sources


Any appropriate original sources may be used for this unit.

**Secondary sources**


Cohen, B. (ed.) *Not the classical ideal: Athens and the Construction of the Other in Greek Art* 2000, Brill. ISBN 9004117121


Dover, K. *Greek Popular Morality in the time of Plato and Aristotle* 1977, Hackett Publishing. ISBN 0872202453


Hall, E. Inventing the Barbarian 1991, Oxford University Press. ISBN 0198147805


Spivey, N. Understanding Greek Sculpture: Ancient meanings, modern readings 1996, Thames and Hudson. ISBN 0500278768


Unit AH4 (Entry Code F394): *Roman History: the use and abuse of power*

**Option 1: The fall of the Roman Republic 81 – 31 BC**

**Original sources**


Thorpe, M. A. *Roman Politics: sources for the history of the late Republic* 1971, London Association of Classical Teachers. LACTOR 7 (This contains extracts from original source material in translation. It is currently out of print. A revised version is in preparation. Until this is published Cicero, in *Catilinam* 2.17-23 and 4.7-10, 20-22 is available in translation on the LACTOR website. [http://www.lactor.kcl.ac.uk/summ.htm](http://www.lactor.kcl.ac.uk/summ.htm)


Any appropriate original sources may be used for this unit.

**Secondary sources**


Option 2: The invention of Imperial Rome, 31 BC – AD 93

**Original sources**


Any appropriate original sources may be used for this unit.

**Secondary sources**


Hannestad, N. *Roman art and Imperial Policy* 1986, Aarhus University Press. ISBN 8772881666


Option 3: Ruling the Roman Empire – AD 14 -117

**Original sources**


Any appropriate original sources may be used for this unit.

**Secondary sources**


[http://www.nyu.edu/projects/aphrodisias/home.ti.htm](http://www.nyu.edu/projects/aphrodisias/home.ti.htm) (on Aphrodisias, see especially the Sebasteion reliefs for an imperial cult complex).
11 Publisher Partner Resources

Published Resources
OCR offers centres a wealth of quality published support material with a choice of ‘Official Publisher Partner’ and ‘Approved Publication’ resources, all endorsed by OCR for use with OCR specifications.

Publisher partners
OCR works in close collaboration with three Publisher Partners; Hodder, Heinemann and Oxford University Press (OUP) to ensure centres have access to:

- Better published support, available when you need it, tailored to OCR specifications
- Quality resources produced in consultation with OCR subject teams, which are linked to OCR’s teacher support materials
- More resources for specifications with lower candidate entries
- Materials that are subject to a thorough quality assurance process to achieve endorsement

Oxford University Press (OUP) is the publisher partner for OCR GCE Classics

Oxford University Press is producing the following resources for OCR GCE Classics for first teaching in September 2008, which will be available from Spring 2008 (AS) and Spring 2009 (A2).


**Approved publications**
OCR still endorses other publisher materials, which undergo a thorough quality assurance process to achieve endorsement. By offering a choice of endorsed materials, centres can be assured of quality support for all OCR qualifications.

![Approved Publication Logo](image)

**Endorsement**
OCR endorses a range of publisher materials to provide quality support for centres delivering its qualifications. You can be confident that materials branded with OCR’s “Official Publishing Partner” or “Approved publication” logos have undergone a thorough quality assurance process to achieve endorsement. All responsibility for the content of the publisher’s materials rests with the publisher.

These endorsements do not mean that the materials are the only suitable resources available or necessary to achieve an OCR qualification. Any resource lists which are produced by OCR shall include a range of appropriate texts.
Can a candidate take qualifications in more than one subject?

Yes, a candidate may, for example, enter for Latin as well as Classical Greek and, in addition, if they wish, for Classical Civilisation and/or Ancient History.

If a candidate wishes to enter for both Latin (or Greek/Classical Civilisation/Ancient History) and the unendorsed Classics pathway, they must have four distinct units for each qualification - no unit from the suite may count twice. Here is an example:

Terry prepares both A Level Classics: Latin and A Level Classics.

- For the Latin pathway, he must take L1, L2, L3 and L4.
- For the Classics pathway he chooses to take G1 (F371) Classical Greek Language, AH1 (F391) Greek History from original sources, CC9 (F389) Comic Drama in the Ancient World and AH3 (F393) Greek History: conflict and culture. He qualifies for A level Classics because he has taken two AS units and two A2 units and the four units are from at least two different subjects.

He has two distinct A levels from the Classics suite.

Are the names of the new certifications suitably clear e.g. Classics: Latin?

The names make it clear that the certifications are part of the Classics suite, whilst still identifying which subject has been studied.

Will the ‘Classics’ pathway be taken seriously?

The Classics pathway allows candidates to combine units from two or more classical subjects in order to gain GCE Classics. This mix of subjects is in fact closer to the mix of subjects offered by many University courses. It is evidence that the candidate has covered a broad and wide-reaching course. It allows candidates who wish to study languages to AS level only to continue their studies at A2 with the study of Literature in translation, for example, and to gain a full A level. Classics has its own classification code.

Is it still possible to do the subjects separately?

Yes, it is still possible to study Latin, Classical Greek, Classical Civilisation and/or Ancient History by taking only subject-specific units.

If I do take a mix of units, will the certificate say ‘Unendorsed’?

No, the word ‘unendorsed’ will not appear on the certificate. The certificates will say either

OCR Advanced Subsidiary GCE in Classics or OCR Advanced GCE in Classics.

How does the synoptic element at A2 work?

In the new A levels, synopticity is part of stretch and challenge. Synoptic assessment in Classics involves the drawing together of candidates’ knowledge and skills to
demonstrate understanding of the links between central elements of study such as language, literature, civilisation or history in their classical contexts. Each A2 unit is synoptic. Classical Civilisation and Ancient History units require the study of a period of history, or literature, or art, in a number of different contexts and the essay questions on the exam papers for these units ask candidates to consider the classical world from a number of different perspectives. For Classical Civilisation this could be a study and evaluation of a Homeric epic poem or Roman town planning in their historical, religious, cultural and social contexts, or a comparative analysis of authors. For Ancient history it might be 'an assessment of a significant historical figure, event or development from a range of perspectives, such as political, military, social, cultural, economic.

For each A2 unit in Latin and Classical Greek, candidates have the opportunity to demonstrate some of the knowledge and skills they have gained from their study of prepared literary texts in their response to comprehension questions on an unseen passage in Section B. This drawing together of unseen translation and the study of prepared texts, testing knowledge and skills gained over the two years of the A level course, exemplifies what is meant at A2 by synoptic assessment.

What is 'Stretch and Challenge' and how will it work?

For Classical Civilisation and Ancient History, the 'Stretch and Challenge' questions are the essays at A2. For Latin and Classical Greek 'Stretch and Challenge' is tested through Section B of each A2 unit. Please see the question and answer above about synopticity for more detail, and section 4 'Providing Stretch and Challenge at A2' in this booklet.

Classical Civilisation seems harder that it used to be – why?

The reduction from 6 to 4 units means that the content in each unit has increased. In the legacy specification each unit was 1/6 of a GCE, whereas now each unit is 1/4.

During the development process we looked carefully at the overall content candidates were required to study in order to ensure that the legacy and new specification made similar demands on candidates. We also looked carefully at comparability between the units to ensure that all AS units are similarly demanding, and all A2 units similarly demanding.

Art and Architecture – where do the 'illustrations' come from?

The material prescribed for F388 (CC8: Art and Architecture in the Greek World) does not have to be studied from any one set of illustrations. Candidates just need to be familiar with the material prescribed in the unit description. Advice on possible resources is available in the Resource lists in this booklet.

Essential reading for some Classical Civilisation units is enormous – what does ‘essential’ really mean?

This relates to a draft version of the specification. There is no 'essential reading' apart from the prescribed material listed in the unit descriptions in the specification. The resource lists suggest resources that teachers may find helpful. They are in no way essential or prescriptive, and OCR recognises that what is appropriate for one centre or group of candidates may not be suitable for another. The wording has been altered in order to clarify the meaning.