



# Cambridge International AS & A Level

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## CLASSICAL STUDIES

9274/23

Paper 2 Roman Civilisation

October/November 2023

1 hour 30 minutes



You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)

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### INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **two** questions in total:  
Answer questions from **one** section only.  
For each section, follow the instructions inside on which questions to answer.
- Follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper, ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

### INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 50.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [ ].

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This document has **8** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

## Section A: Augustus

Answer **Question 1** and **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.

- 1 Study the image and answer the questions:



(Coin)

- (a) (i) What type of coin is shown in the image? [1]
- (ii) Name the **two** figures shown on the coin in the image. [2]
- (iii) Who is shown on the other side of this coin? [1]
- (iv) From what metal is this coin made? [1]
- (b) 'Augustus' family was very important to his success as emperor.'  
Using this image as a starting point, explain how far you agree with this statement. [20]

[Total: 25]

## EITHER

- 2 'Augustus' reforms of the provinces benefitted **both** the people of Rome **and** the people of the provinces.'  
Explain how far you agree with this statement. [25]

## OR

- 3 How far would you agree that Augustus destroyed the Roman Republic, rather than saving it? [25]

Section B: Virgil's *Aeneid*

Answer **Question 4** and **either** Question 5 **or** Question 6.

**4** Read the passage and answer the questions:

'Alas! Alas! Was I the cause of your dying? I swear by the stars, by the gods above, by whatever there is to swear by in the depths of the earth, it was against my will, O queen, that I left your shore. It was the stern authority of the commands of the gods that drove me on, as it drives me now through the shades of this dark night in this foul and mouldering place. I could not have believed that my leaving would cause you such sorrow. Do not move away. Do not leave my sight. Who are you running from? Fate has decreed that I shall not speak to you again.' With these words Aeneas, shedding tears, tried to comfort that burning spirit, but grim-faced she kept her eyes upon the ground and did not look at him. Her features moved no more when he began to speak than if she had been a block of flint or Parian marble quarried on Mount Marpeesus. Then at last she rushed away, hating him, into the shadows of the wood where Sychaeus, who had been her husband, answered her grief with grief and her love with love. Aeneas was no less stricken by the injustice of her fate and long did he gaze after her with tears, pitying her as she went.

(Virgil, *Aeneid* 6)

- (a) (i) 'Alas! Alas! Was I the cause of your dying?' (line 1). Who is Aeneas talking to? [1]
- (ii) Where precisely is Aeneas? [1]
- (iii) 'I left your shore' (line 3). Where was this shore? [1]
- (iv) 'stern authority of the commands of the gods' (line 3). Which **two** gods had commanded Aeneas to leave this shore? [2]
- (b) How is Aeneas portrayed in this passage? How typical is this of his portrayal in Books 4 and 6? [25]

[Total: 25]

**EITHER**

- 5** 'The books of the first half of the *Aeneid* are far more interesting and exciting than those of the second half.'
- To what extent do you agree with this statement? [25]

**OR**

- 6** 'An effective piece of propaganda for Augustus and his regime.'
- How far do you agree with this description of the *Aeneid*? [25]

**Section C: Architecture of the Roman City**

Answer **Question 7** and **either** Question 8 **or** Question 9.

**7** Study the image and answer the questions:



- (a) (i) What type of structure is shown in the image? [1]
- (ii) What is the name of the structure shown in the image? [1]
- (iii) Identify the location of this structure. [1]
- (iv) Who commissioned the building of this structure? [1]
- (v) When was this structure built? [1]
- (b) 'A masterpiece of simplicity which blends in with the landscape.'  
How far do you agree with this description of the structure shown in the image? [20]

[Total: 25]

**EITHER**

- 8 'All the same, but different.'  
To what extent do you think that this is true of houses from Herculaneum **and** Pompeii? In your answer, you should include discussion of **at least four** houses and make reference to specific features of the houses to explain your answer. [25]

**OR**

- 9 'No imagination, no innovation.'  
How far do you think that this is true of the temples you have studied? In your answer, you should consider the design, construction and decoration of **at least three** Roman temples. [25]

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