



# Cambridge International AS & A Level

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## CLASSICAL STUDIES

9274/11

Paper 1 Greek Civilisation

October/November 2025

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: Alexander the Great**

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

- 1 Study the image and answer the questions:



(Coin showing Alexander the Great)

- (a) (i) This coin was made after Alexander died. Which king had this coin made? [1]
- (ii) What metal is this coin made of? [1]
- (iii) Which Egyptian god is represented by the horns on Alexander's head? [1]
- (iv) Which goddess is shown on the reverse of this coin? [1]
- (v) In which year was this coin made? [1]
- (b) Alexander claimed that he was the son of Zeus and a descendant of Greek heroes.  
How important do you think this was in influencing his actions and behaviour? Use this image  
as a starting point in your answer. [20]

[Total: 25]

**EITHER**

- 2 'Alexander's Policy of Fusion did more harm than good.'  
Explain to what extent you agree with this statement. [25]

**OR**

- 3 How far would you agree that Alexander was a better king than he was a general? [25]

## Section B: Aristophanes

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

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

|           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |    |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| HERACLES: | You actually like that sort of thing?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |    |
| DIONYSUS: | I love it!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |    |
| HERACLES: | But that stuff's all drivel, you must see that.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |    |
| DIONYSUS: | 'Seek not within my mind to dwell', as the poet says, 'you have your own.'                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |    |
| HERACLES: | What's more, it's positively harmful.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 5  |
| DIONYSUS: | When I want advice about food, I'll come to you. Meanwhile...                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |    |
| XANTHIAS: | Never a word about me.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |    |
| DIONYSUS: | To get to the point – I see you're looking at my lion-skin. I took the liberty, seeing as you travelled in those parts when you went to fetch Cerberus – well, I was wondering if you could give me a few tips, you know, any useful contacts down there: where you get the boat, how to find the best restaurants, bakeries, boozers, knocking shops... and which places have the fewest creepy-crawlies. | 10 |
| XANTHIAS: | I might as well not exist.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |    |
| HERACLES: | You're not seriously planning to go down there, are you? You're mad!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 15 |

(Aristophanes, *Frogs*)

- (a) (i) 'that sort of thing' (line 1). To what is Heracles referring? [1]
- (ii) Why is Dionysus wearing a lion-skin (line 8)? [1]
- (iii) What is Cerberus (line 9)? Make **two** points. [2]
- (iv) 'planning to go down there' (line 15). Where is Dionysus trying to go? [1]
- (b) What types of humour does Aristophanes use in this passage? How typical are they of the types of humour used elsewhere in the play? [25]

[Total: 25]

## EITHER

- 5** 'Greek comedy is just a series of loosely related comic scenes. The plays do not need to have a clear plot.'
- How far do you agree with this statement? In your answer, you should discuss **at least two** plays. [25]

## OR

- 6** 'The visual element was the most important part of Greek comedy.'
- How far do you agree with this statement? In your answer, you should discuss **at least two** plays. [25]



### Section C: Themes in Greek Vase Painting

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

7 Study the image and answer the questions:



- (a) (i) Give the name of the painter of this pot. [2]
- (ii) Give the approximate date for this pot. [1]
- (iii) On what type of drinking vessel is this scene painted? [1]
- (iv) What type of event is depicted in this scene? [1]
- (b) 'A lively and interesting scene.'  
How far do you agree with this opinion about the scene on this pot? In your answer, you should include discussion of specific details from the scene. [20]

[Total: 25]

**EITHER**

- 8 'Pots depicting scenes from daily life are invaluable in telling us about the lives of women.'  
To what extent do you agree with this statement? In your answer, you should include reference to a range of specific pots depicting ordinary women. [25]

**OR**

- 9 'Greek pots depicted stories rich in narrative.'  
Do you think this is a more accurate description of the black-figure pots or the red-figure pots you have studied? In your answer, you should refer to **at least two** pots from each technique. [25]

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