

OCR

Oxford Cambridge and RSA

Wednesday 7 June 2017 – Morning

GCSE ANCIENT HISTORY

A031/01 The Greeks at war

Candidates answer on the Answer Booklet.

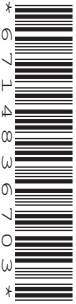
OCR supplied materials:

- 12 page Answer Booklet (OCR12)
(sent with general stationery)

Other materials required:

None

Duration: 1 hour 15 minutes



INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- 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 barcodes.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

- The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.
- 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** ways in which Themistocles contributed to the Greek success in the war against the Persians. **[5]**

- 2 Study Passage 1A from Herodotus, and answer the questions which follow.

Passage 1A

Pheidippides was sent by the generals this time, when he said that Pan appeared to him, and reached Sparta on the day after he left Athens; when he came before the Spartan magistrates he said: 'Men of Sparta, the Athenians ask you to come to help them and not to allow the most ancient city of Greece to be thrown into slavery by foreigners; for already Eretria has been enslaved and Greece is now weaker through the destruction of a notable city.' In this way Pheidippides did what he had been told to do; the Spartans wanted to go to help the Athenians, but it was impossible for them to do so immediately, as they did not wish to break their laws. For it was the ninth day of the month, and they said they could not march out on the ninth until the moon was full.

Herodotus, *The Histories* 6.106

- (a) What does Passage 1A tell us about how the Greeks prepared for the arrival of the Persians? **[4]**

- (b) Using details from Passage 1A, explain why the Athenians wanted help from the Spartans. **[4]**

- (c) Using details from Passage 1A, how accurate do you think Herodotus' account 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

I now feel compelled to state an opinion which will not be accepted by many people, yet, as it seems to me at least to be true, I will speak out. If the Athenians, through fear of the approaching danger, had left their own country (or if they had stayed in Attica and surrendered to the king), no one would have tried to resist the king by sea. If no one had opposed Xerxes by sea, then the situation on the mainland would have turned out like this: even if extensive fortifications were built by the Peloponnesians across the Isthmus, the Spartans would have been betrayed by their allies – not because they wanted to, but through necessity, as they were overwhelmed city by city by the fleet of the enemy; the Spartans would have been left alone, and would have done great deeds and would have died nobly; or perhaps, as they saw the rest of the Greek world submitting to the Persians, they would also have come to an agreement with Xerxes. So, in either case, Greece would have come under Persian control. I cannot see what use walls built across the Isthmus would have been when the Persian king controlled the sea.

Herodotus, *The Histories* 7.138

(a) In what ways does Passage 1B help us to understand the Athenians' role in the Persian War?

You must use and evaluate details from Passage 1B.

[14]

(b) In your opinion, how far does Herodotus help us to understand the reasons for Xerxes' failure in 480/79 BC?

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 What can we learn from Herodotus' accounts of the Battles of Artemisium and Salamis about the weaknesses of the Greek navy?

In your answer you should:

- outline what Herodotus tells us about the Battles of Artemisium and Salamis;
- assess how clearly Herodotus explains the weaknesses of the Greek navy;
- show knowledge of relevant sections of Herodotus;
- consider how reliable you think Herodotus is.

[30]

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

- 5 To what extent did the Athenian victory at Marathon affect the preparations for the Persian attack of 480 BC?

In your answer you should:

- outline how both the Greeks and the Persians prepared for the invasion of 480 BC;
- explain to what extent the victory at Marathon affected those preparations;
- 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** ways in which Alexander’s childhood prepared him for his expedition against Persia. [5]
- 7 Read Passage 2A from Plutarch, and answer the questions which follow.

Passage 2A

On the 24th day of the month, his fever was again very high and he was carried outside to offer sacrifice. He told the most important of his commanders to wait in the courtyard, and they spent the night there outside. He was carried to his palace on the other side of the river on the 25th day, where he slept a little, but the fever did not lessen. When his commanders came to his bedside, he was unable to speak, and he was the same the next day; because of this the Macedonians thought that he had died, and they came shouting to the doors of the palace, and they began to threaten his companions until they overwhelmed them. The doors were thrown open for them, and all the Macedonians, one by one, without their weapons, filed past his bed.

Plutarch, *Life of Alexander* 76

- (a) What does Passage 2A tell us about the final days of Alexander? [4]
- (b) Using Passage 2A, explain what Alexander’s final days show us about his relationship with his army. [4]
- (c) Using details from Passage 2A, how accurate do you think this account of Alexander’s final days is? [5]

Option 2: Alexander the Great, 356–323 BC

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

Passage 2B

A further significant problem was that the most powerful part of the Persian cavalry had been drawn up at this spot, and the sons of Memnon, and Memnon himself, threw themselves into danger with them. The first of the Macedonians who engaged with the Persians were cut down by them, though they were brave men, apart from those of them who were driven back towards Alexander as he approached. Alexander was already near, bringing with him the right wing, and he led the attack against the Persians where the whole mass of cavalry and the leaders of the Persians were stationed. Around him a fierce battle was waged; and in the meantime, wave after wave of Macedonian battalions crossed the river, by now with much less difficulty. The battle was fought on horseback, but it seemed much more like an infantry battle. Horse struggled with horse and man with man; the Macedonians strove to thrust back the Persians completely from the bank and force them into the plain, while the Persians tried to prevent the Macedonians leaving the river and thrust them back into it. Alexander's men were already beginning to get the upper hand partly through their strength and experience, but particularly because they were fighting with the cornel-wood spears against lighter and shorter weapons.

Arrian, Anabasis of Alexander 15

- (a) In what ways does Passage 2B help us to understand what happened at the Battle of the Granicus?

You must use and evaluate details from Passage 2B.

[14]

- (b) How far do the ancient sources help us understand the reasons for Alexander's success in battle?

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 To what extent does Plutarch provide us with a convincing account of Alexander’s character?

In your answer you should:

- outline what Plutarch says about Alexander’s character;
- explain to what extent you find Plutarch’s account convincing;
- show knowledge of relevant sections of Arrian and Plutarch;
- consider how reliable you think Arrian and Plutarch are.

[30]

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

10 ‘Alexander was always threatened by conspiracies.’ To what extent do Arrian and Plutarch support this view?

In your answer you should:

- outline the conspiracies Alexander faced;
- explain how far Arrian and Plutarch suggest that Macedonians were always engaged in conspiracies against Alexander;
- show knowledge of relevant sections of Arrian and Plutarch;
- consider how accurate you think Arrian and Plutarch are.

[30]

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

END OF QUESTION PAPER

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