

**Victorian Certificate of Education
2021**

CLASSICAL STUDIES

Written examination

Tuesday 16 November 2021

Reading time: 11.45 am to 12.00 noon (15 minutes)

Writing time: 12.00 noon to 2.00 pm (2 hours)

QUESTION BOOK

Structure of book

<i>Section</i>	<i>Number of questions</i>	<i>Number of questions to be answered</i>	<i>Number of marks</i>
A – Individual study	8	2	40
B – Comparative study	8	1	40
			Total 80

- Students are permitted to bring into the examination room: pens, pencils, highlighters, erasers, sharpeners and rulers.
- Students are NOT permitted to bring into the examination room: blank sheets of paper and/or correction fluid/tape.
- No calculator is allowed in this examination.

Materials supplied

- Question book of 15 pages, including **assessment criteria** for Section B on page 14
- One or more answer books

Instructions

- Write your **student number** in the space provided on the front cover(s) of the answer book(s).
- All written responses must be in English.

At the end of the examination

- Place all other used answer books inside the front cover of the first answer book.
- You may keep this question book.

Students are NOT permitted to bring mobile phones and/or any other unauthorised electronic devices into the examination room.

SECTION A – Individual study**Instructions for Section A**

There are eight questions in Section A. Answer only **two** of these. Each question has three parts. Clearly number your answers in the answer book(s) provided. The mark allocation for each question provides a guide in determining the length of your response. All questions in Section A are worth 20 marks.

Question 1 (20 marks)**Homer, *The Iliad*, Book 6**

translated by Robert Fagles with an introduction and notes by Bernard Knox, Penguin Classics, 1998

In the same breath, shining Hector reached down
[...]
it's born with us the day that we are born ...”

Due to copyright restrictions,
this material is not supplied.

- a. Describe the circumstances that have led to the encounter in this extract. 4 marks
- b. Identify and explain how the poet creates sympathy (pathos) in this extract. 6 marks
- c. Using evidence, evaluate the significance of this extract for the characterisation of Hector in Book 6. 10 marks

Question 2 (20 marks)**Thucydides, *History of the Peloponnesian War***

translated by Rex Warner with an introduction and notes by MI Finley, Penguin Classics, 1972

‘So, in my youth and with this folly of mine which is supposed
[...]
in arming herself adequately ...’

Due to copyright restrictions,
this material is not supplied.

- a. Describe the circumstances that have led to this speech. 4 marks
- b. Identify and explain the persuasive techniques used in this extract. 6 marks
- c. Using evidence, evaluate the significance of this extract for the characterisation of Nicias and Alcibiades to the work prescribed for study this year. 10 marks

Question 3 (20 marks)**Aeschylus, 'Agamemnon'**

from *The Oresteia*, translated by Robert Fagles with an introductory essay, notes and glossary by Robert Fagles and WB Stanford, Penguin Classics, 1977 (reprinted with revisions in 1979)

CLYTAEMNESTRA:

Words, endless words I've said to serve the moment –

[...]

he drains the dregs. My lord is home at last.

Due to copyright restrictions,
this material is not supplied.

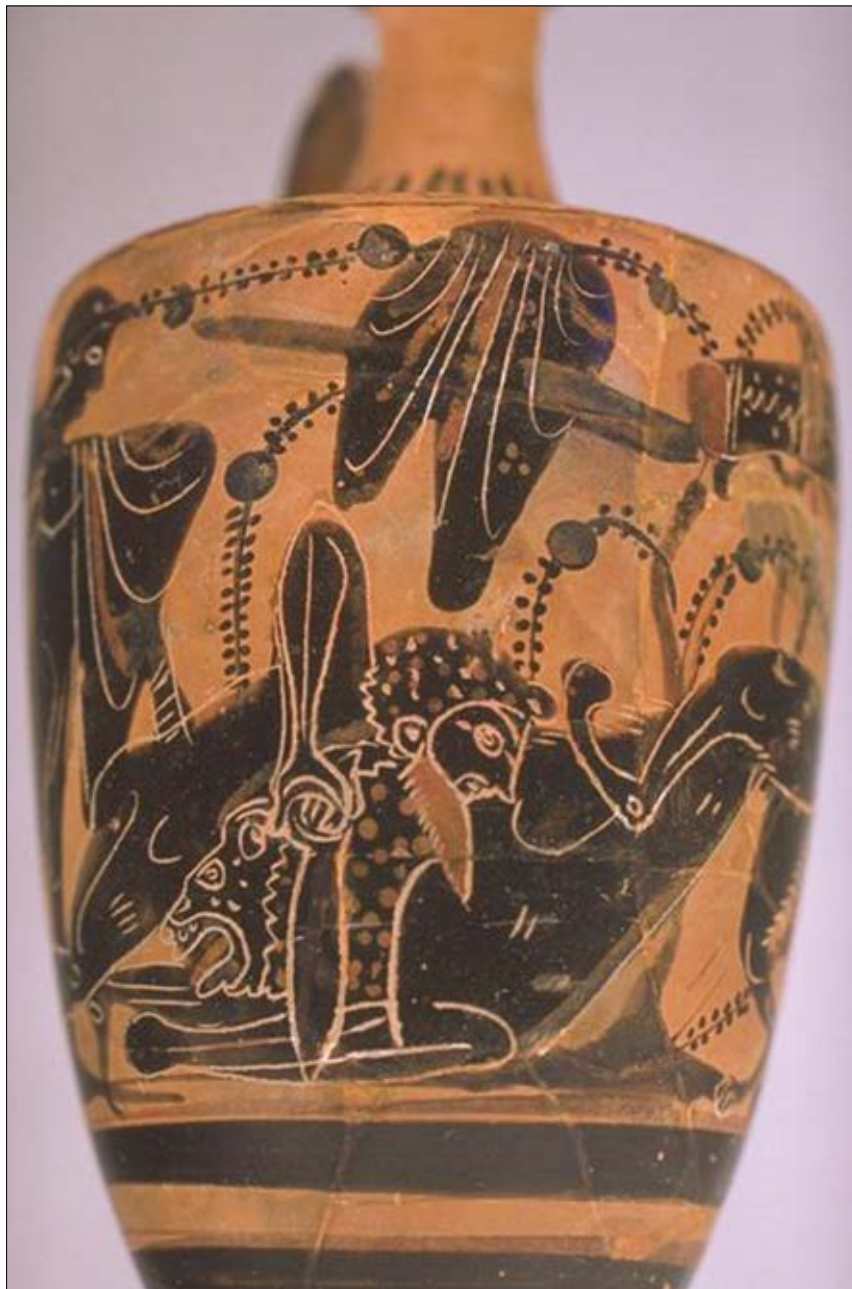
- a. Describe the events that have led to this scene. 4 marks
- b. Identify and explain how the poet creates horror in this extract. 6 marks
- c. Using evidence, analyse the significance of this extract to the work as a whole. 10 marks

CONTINUES OVER PAGE

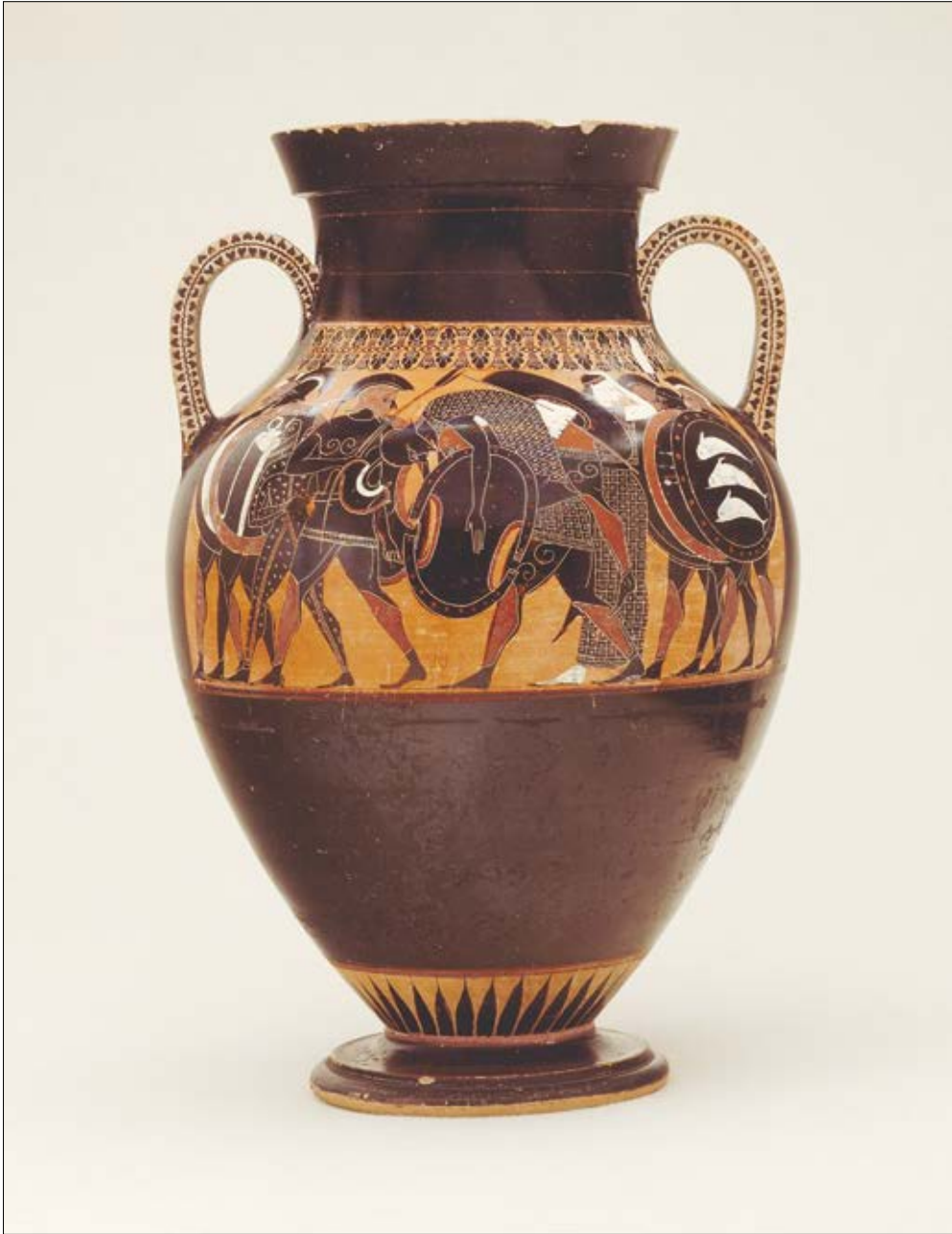
Question 4 (20 marks)

Greek vases

Image A



Source: Ian Potter Museum of Art, Melbourne;
The University of Melbourne Art Collection, Classics and Archaeology Collection,
John Hugh Sutton Memorial Bequest, 1929

Image B

Source: National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne;
Felton Bequest, 1957; © public domain

- a. Compare the techniques used to create the images on these two vases. 4 marks
- b. Identify the event depicted on each vase in Image A and Image B, and explain the ideas each depiction presents. 6 marks
- c. Analyse the portrayal of masculinity on Greek vases. Refer to the vases presented in Image A and Image B, and to **two** other vases prescribed for study this year. 10 marks

Question 5 (20 marks)**Virgil, *The Aeneid*, Book 10**

translated and with an introduction by David West, Penguin Classics, 2003 (revised edition)

Aeneas, enraged, kept

[...]

of the great Aeneas.’

Due to copyright restrictions,
this material is not supplied.

- a. Describe the circumstances that led to this scene. 4 marks
- b. Identify and explain how the poet creates sympathy (pathos) in this extract. 6 marks
- c. Using evidence, evaluate the significance of this extract for the characterisation of Aeneas in Book 10. 10 marks

Question 6 (20 marks)**Cicero, 'On Duties', Book 3**

from *Selected Works*, translated and with an introduction by Michael Grant, Penguin Classics, 1971
(reprinted with revisions)

An answer to the query about Phalaris can very easily be given.

[...]

has any probability at all.

Due to copyright restrictions,
this material is not supplied.

- a. Describe the sociohistorical context of this extract. 4 marks
- b. Identify and explain the persuasive techniques used in this extract. 6 marks
- c. Using evidence from Book 3, evaluate the ideas presented in this extract. 10 marks

Question 7 (20 marks)**Ovid, *Metamorphoses***

translated and with an introduction by Mary M Innes, Penguin Classics, 1955

The god grew as pale as the boy himself:

[...]

with this flower, and his name will be read on these same petals.”

Due to copyright restrictions,
this material is not supplied.

- a. Describe in detail how Hyacinthus was mortally wounded. 4 marks
- b. Identify and explain how the poet creates sympathy (pathos) in this extract. 6 marks
- c. Using evidence, evaluate the depiction of love in this extract and elsewhere in the work prescribed for study this year. 10 marks

CONTINUES OVER PAGE

Question 8 (20 marks)

Roman reliefs

Image A



Source: image © The Trustees of the British Museum; licensed CC-BY-NC-SA 4.0 International
<<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/>>

Image B

Source: the Great Ludovisi sarcophagus (Roman National Museum, Palazzo Altemps, Rome, Inv. No. 8574); image from <http://ancientrome.ru/artworken/img.htm?id=6597>; © 2015 Ilya Shurygin

- a. Compare the techniques used to create the images on these two reliefs. 4 marks
- b. Describe the activities depicted on each relief in Image A and Image B, and explain the ideas each depiction presents. 6 marks
- c. Analyse how the reliefs reflect the beliefs and values of Roman society. Refer to the reliefs presented in Image A and Image B, and to **two** other reliefs prescribed for study this year. 10 marks

**END OF SECTION A
TURN OVER**

SECTION B – Comparative study**Instructions for Section B**

Write an essay on **one** of the following questions. All questions in Section B are worth 40 marks. Clearly number your response in the answer book(s) provided.

Assessment criteria

The essay will be assessed against all four of the following criteria:

- knowledge of the classical works and their relationships with their sociohistorical contexts
- analysis of the ideas and the techniques used to express these ideas in the classical works
- comparison and evaluation of the ideas and techniques used in the classical works
- construction of an argument based on relevant evidence

Question 1 (40 marks)**Aeschylus, ‘The Persians’ and Herodotus, *The Histories***

‘Entertainment is the only aim for Aeschylus and Herodotus.’

Evaluate this statement using evidence from both works.

Question 2 (40 marks)**Aristophanes, ‘The Clouds’ and Plato, ‘Crito’**

“‘The Clouds’ and ‘Crito’ have very little in common.”

Evaluate this statement using evidence from both works.

Question 3 (40 marks)**Sophocles, ‘Antigone’ and Euripides, ‘Electra’**

‘Loyalty is the main motivation for the characters in both plays.’

Evaluate this statement using evidence from both works.

Question 4 (40 marks)**Cicero, ‘First and Second Catilinarians’ and Sallust, ‘Catiline’s War’**

‘For Cicero and Sallust, Catiline exposed the weakness of the Roman political system.’

Evaluate this statement using evidence from both works.

Question 5 (40 marks)**Livy, *The Rise of Rome* and Tacitus, *The Annals of Imperial Rome***

‘Livy and Tacitus provided a warning for the people of Rome.’

Evaluate this statement using evidence from both works.

Question 6 (40 marks)**Suetonius, ‘Claudius’ and Seneca, ‘Apocolocyntosis’**

‘Claudius should never have become emperor.’

Evaluate this statement using evidence from both works.

Question 7 (40 marks)**Pergamon Altar and Trajan's Column**

'Both the Pergamon Altar and Trajan's Column serve merely to glorify violence.'

Evaluate this statement using evidence from both works.

Question 8 (40 marks)**Aristophanes, 'The Acharnians' and Plautus, 'The Swaggering Soldier' ('Miles Gloriosus')**

'There is no serious message in either of these comedies.'

Evaluate this statement using evidence from both works.