



General Certificate of Education  
Advanced Subsidiary Examination  
June 2011

# Classical Civilisation

# CIV2B

## Unit 2B Homer *Odyssey*

Thursday 26 May 2011 1.30 pm to 3.00 pm

**For this paper you must have:**

- an AQA 12-page answer book.

**Time allowed**

- 1 hour 30 minutes

**Instructions**

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen. Do **not** use pencil or gel pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book.  
The **Paper Reference** for this paper is CIV2B.
- Answer questions from **two** options.  
Choose **one** option from Section One and **one** option from Section Two.  
Answer **all** questions from the options you have chosen.
- Do all rough work in your answer book. Cross through any work that you do not want to be marked.  
Do **not** tear out any part of the book. All work must be handed in.
- If you use more than one book, check that you have written the information required on each book.

**Information**

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 65.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
  - use good English
  - organise information clearly
  - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

## Section One

Choose **either** Option A **or** Option B.

Answer **all** questions from the option you have chosen.

### EITHER

#### Option A

Read the passage below and answer Questions 01 to 04 which follow. Odysseus is just returning to his ship from Circe's palace.

'I went to the ship and the sea-shore. I found my good companions by the ship, lamenting pitifully, with the tears streaming down their cheeks. But as soon as they caught sight of me they were all round me in a weeping throng. It was like the scene at a farm when cows in a drove come home full-fed from the pastures to the yard and are welcomed by all their frisking calves, who burst out from the pens to gambol round their mothers, lowing excitedly. My men were as deeply moved as if they had reached their homeland and were standing in their own town in rugged Ithaca, where they were born and bred. 5

"Favourite of Zeus," they said between their sobs, "we are as happy to see you back as we would be to set foot on our own island of Ithaca. But tell us how our comrades met their end." 10

'I gave them a soothing reply. "Our first business," I said, "is to drag up the ship on to dry land and stow our possessions and the tackle in a cave. Then you must get ready and all come with me and see your friends eating and drinking in Circe's enchanted palace, where they have enough to last them for ever." 15

*Odyssey, Book 10, lines 407-424*

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| 0 | 1 | How had Odysseus overcome Circe's attempts to use her magic on him? Give <b>three</b> details. (3 marks)                           |
| 0 | 2 | Later in Book 10, what does Circe tell Odysseus that he must do before he can return to Ithaca? Give <b>two</b> details. (2 marks) |
| 0 | 3 | How effectively in this passage does Homer convey the relationship between Odysseus and his men? (10 marks)                        |
| 0 | 4 | 'Odysseus and his crew get what they deserve for the way they behave to others during their wanderings in Books 9-12.'             |

To what extent do you agree? Give reasons for your answer.

You might include discussion of

- the visits to the Cicones and Polyphemus in Book 9
- the visits to Aeolus and the Laestrygonians in Book 10
- the visit to Circe in Book 10
- the visit to the island of the Sun-god in Book 12
- differences between Odysseus' behaviour and that of his crew. (20 marks)

OR

**Option B**

Read the passage below and answer Questions 05 to 08 which follow. The battle in the hall has just finished.

Odysseus looked round his house to see whether any survivors were hiding to escape black Death. But he found the whole company lying in heaps in the blood and dust, like fish that the fishermen have dragged out of the grey surf in the meshes of their net on to a curving beach, to lie in masses on the sand longing for the salt water, till the bright sun ends their lives. So there the Suitors lay in heaps, one upon another.

5

‘Telemachus,’ said the shrewd Odysseus to his son, ‘call the nurse Eurycleia here, so that I can tell her what I want.’

Telemachus obediently went off, rattled the door of the women’s quarters and called out to Eurycleia. ‘Get up, old woman, and come here. You’re in charge of the serving-women of the household. My father is calling for you. He has something to say.’

10

Eurycleia made no reply, but immediately opened the door of the apartments, came out and hurried along behind Telemachus. She found Odysseus among the corpses of the dead, spattered with blood and gore, like a lion when he comes from feeding on some farmer’s bullock, with the blood dripping from his breast and jaws on either side, a fearsome spectacle.

15

*Odyssey, Book 22, lines 381-405*

- |          |          |  |
|----------|----------|--|
| <b>0</b> | <b>5</b> | How do Odysseus and Telemachus deal with the serving-women in the scene which follows this passage? Give <b>three</b> details. <span style="float: right;">(3 marks)</span>      |
| <b>0</b> | <b>6</b> | How does Odysseus later convince Penelope that he is her husband? Give <b>two</b> details. <span style="float: right;">(2 marks)</span>  |
| <b>0</b> | <b>7</b> | How effectively in this passage does Homer convey the atmosphere in the palace straight after the battle? <span style="float: right;">(10 marks)</span>                          |
| <b>0</b> | <b>8</b> | How important is Telemachus to Odysseus from the time they are reunited on Ithaca? Give reasons for your answer and refer to Books 16, 19, 21, 22 and 23 of the <i>Odyssey</i> . |

You might include discussion of

- their meeting in Eumaeus’ hut
- Telemachus’ role in the build-up to the battle in the hall
- the part Telemachus plays in the battle
- Telemachus’ words and actions after the battle.

(20 marks)

**Turn over ►**

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**Section Two**

Choose **either** Option C **or** Option D and answer the question below.

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**EITHER****Option C**

0	9
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To what extent would removing the immortals from the *Odyssey* improve or weaken the poem? Give reasons for your answer and refer to the books of the *Odyssey* you have read.

You might include discussion of

- the parts individual immortals play in the story
- relationships between individual mortals and immortals
- relationships between immortals and other immortals
- the powers of Zeus and Fate over humans
- the nature of human responsibility.

(30 marks)

**OR****Option D**

1	0
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To what extent do all the Suitors deserve what happens to them? Give reasons for your answer and refer to the books of the *Odyssey* you have read.

You might include discussion of

- the introduction of the Suitors in Book 1
- differences between the Suitors
- the views of Athene and Eumaeus about the Suitors in Books 13 and 14
- the Suitors' attitudes to Penelope and Telemachus in Book 16
- their treatment of the disguised Odysseus in Book 21
- the events of Book 22.

(30 marks)

**END OF QUESTIONS****ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COPYRIGHT-HOLDERS AND PUBLISHERS**

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