

Eton College King's Scholarship Examination 2014
GENERAL I – SOURCES FOR QUESTION 1

SOURCE A



The image above is a drawing for a stage design for an 1867 production of Wagner's opera *The Valkyrie*, composed in 1856. In this scene Siegmund (he's the one with the beard) has taken refuge from his pursuers in what turns out to be the home of Hunding and Hunding's wife Sieglinde. Hunding has been drugged by Sieglinde and is now asleep, but has told Siegmund they must fight the next morning. Siegmund recognises Sieglinde as his long-lost twin sister. He has lost his weapons but she points out a sword which had been thrust into the tree by a mysterious guest at her wedding. Until now nobody has been able to remove it. Siegmund pulls the sword from the tree and the pair rush out into the spring night.

[Please turn over for Source B]

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SOURCE B



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The image above is a photograph from a 2007 production of Handel's opera *Agrippina*, composed in 1709. Agrippina is married to Claudius, the Emperor of Rome. She is plotting to have Nero, her son by a previous marriage, named as the next Emperor. Claudius however feels that Nero is unsuitable and wants the General Otho to be the next Emperor. In this scene Nero (on the left, sung by Christine Rice) is with Poppea (sung by Lucy Crowe). Claudius, Nero and Otho all want to marry Poppea.

**[Please turn over for Source A]
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