



SHREWSBURY SCHOOL

SIXTH FORM ENTRANCE EXAMINATION 2021

CLASSICAL CIVILISATION (Time: 1 Hour)

Instructions to candidates:

- Answer QUESTION 1 and QUESTION 2.
- Answer on lined paper.

I. Read the following passage and answer the questions.

Antinous justifies the riotous behaviour of the Suitors:

'My friend,' the courteous Telemachus replied, 'you may well ask. There was a time when this house was by way of being prosperous and respectable, when Odysseus was still among us. But since then, the gods have had other and more sinister designs; and they have served him as they never served a man before: they have made him vanish. His death itself, if he had fallen among his men at Troy or died in friendly arms at home with all his fighting done, would have caused me less distress. For in that case the whole Achaean nation would have joined in building him a mound, and he would have left a great name for his son to inherit. But there was to be no famous end for him; the Storm-Fiends have snatched him away. He has gone where he cannot be seen or found and to me has left nothing but sorrow and tears. Nor is it only on his account that I am sighing and grieving, for the gods have gone on piling other troubles on my head. Of all the island-chieftains in Dulichium, in Samé, and in wooded Zacynthus, all the nobles in rocky Ithaca, there is not one that isn't courting my mother and wasting my property. As for her, though she hates the idea of remarrying, she cannot bring herself to take the final step of rejecting all the Suitors or accepting one of them. Meanwhile they are eating me out of house and home. And they will very soon destroy me too.'

Pallas Athene was moved. 'How disgraceful!' she cried.

HOMER, *Odyssey* I. 230-252

- a) *Telemachus* (line 1): what relation is this person to Odysseus? [1]
- b) *...this house...* (line 2): name the island where this is situated. [1]
- c) *...my mother...* (line 13) Name her. [1]
- d) *Pallas Athene* (line 18) Give **two** details about the goddess' disguise. [1+1]
- e) How effectively does Homer portray Telemachus' frustration and anger in this passage? Refer closely to the text in your answer. [20]

TOTAL: [25]

2 Read the following passage and answer the questions.

Plutarch describes the 'scorched earth' policy of the Spartans in Attica during the first year of the Peloponnesian War between Athens and Sparta, and its effect on the Athenians.

So the Spartans and their allies invaded Attica* with a great army under the leadership of Archidamus the King. They advanced, destroying the countryside as they went, as far as Acharnae, where they set up camp, assuming that the Athenians would not put up with it, but would fight with them because of anger and pride. But Pericles thought it was a bad idea to fight a battle against 60,000 Peloponnesian and Boeotian hoplites (the first invasion was that numerous), and risk Athens itself on the outcome. So he tried to calm the men who wanted to fight and those who were worried about what the enemy was doing by saying that trees cut and chopped grow quickly but men, once killed, are not easy to replace. He did not call the people together into an assembly because he was afraid that he would be pushed to act against his better judgement. Like the pilot of a ship when a stormy wind swoops down on it in the open sea fastens everything down, takes in the sails and uses his skill, ignoring the tears and pleas of the sea sick and frightened passengers, in the same way Pericles shut the city up tight, put all parts of it under guard and used his own judgement, not listening to complaints and outcries. But many of his friends begged him and many of his enemies threatened him and choruses sang rude songs mocking him and criticising him as a general for being a coward and giving everything to the enemy. Cleon** too was already annoying him, taking advantage of the anger the citizens had for Pericles to make his own way towards leading the people.

* *Attica was the area of Greece where Athens was situated.*

***Cleon was a political enemy of Pericles.*

Plutarch, *Life of Pericles* 33

a) Based on the passage, **briefly** evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of Pericles' policy of defence at this stage in the war. [5]

b) How effectively does Plutarch characterise Pericles? How far do you think he admires him? Refer closely to the text in your answer. [15]

TOTAL: [20]