

CLASSICS PART IB EXAMINATION UPDATE

Key points follow:

1) All papers will be examined online, without exception.

- There will be a 6-hour window for each paper.
- That is: when a paper "goes live", you will have 6 hours to download the paper, write your answers, and upload your script.
- Papers will be downloaded and scripts uploaded through Moodle.
- 7 days ahead of time, you will be provided with the information detailing how to find the appropriate page for your paper on Moodle. You will of course not have access to the paper before it "goes live", but you will know exactly where to go to find it, and what to do to gain access. Large Faculties have used this system last year, and students had no difficulty finding their papers and uploading their scripts.
- When you download your paper, it will appear as a PDF file. Your answer will have to be written on a different document.
- The default option, which most, if not all of you will use, will be to write your answers on Microsoft Word. If you write your answers with a word processor, such as Microsoft Word, please make sure to write all your answers on the same document. Make sure you use a Unicode font, such as Calibri or Times New Roman (which can be used for Greek as well). Please use font size 12.
- For candidates who choose to provide hand-written answers: candidates who do not write legibly may find themselves at a grave disadvantage. If you choose to provide hand-written answers, you should upload, on Moodle, a scan of your answers or a clear photograph. We ask candidates who choose to provide hand-written answers to also mail their hand-written script to their DoS on the day of the examination.
- For candidates submitting photographs of your hand-written answers: you might like to make use of a scanning app on your phone to improve legibility. Free versions of these exist for various platforms, such as Genius Scan.
- Some further points to note: clearly identify each question and write the question number before each answer. Write your candidate number (not your name) on the front page of the document you upload. It is important to write in good English. All such relevant instructions will be clearly indicated on the front page of each paper.
- Documents will be anonymised before they reach the examiners.

2) Papers are based on the templates of papers from previous years (details on where they might differ from previous years are indicated below). That is, they are conceived as 3-hour papers, as in previous years. 3 hours should be plenty of time to complete the examination. Note that there are word limits of 2000 words for essays, but further specific requirements are in place for Question 1 in both Papers 7 and Paper 9 (see below). You are given a 6-hour window to make sure you have maximum flexibility to manage your time. No one will be expected to spend more than 3 hours on a paper, but you will be free to organise your time as you see fit within the 6-hour window.

3) There is no change to the Undergraduate Handbook marking criteria for essays and critical discussions. Essays and critical discussions will be marked exactly as they would have been in previous on-site examinations. You are expected to produce examination essays and critical discussions, not supervision essays and practical criticisms.

- There is, notably, no expectation for you to provide footnotes or bibliographical references. You are free to refer to an author or individual piece of work in your answers, but do note that every word counts towards the word limit. Our advice is to keep such references to the bare minimum. Focus on your own ideas and arguments.
- You can (if you wish) consult lecture notes or individual items of scholarship. Do make sure you do not reproduce any text or sustained argument without attribution. This will be easily detectable (notably via the software TurnItIN), and might be identified as plagiarism. The Faculty's advice on plagiarism can be found here:

<https://www.classics.cam.ac.uk/student-information/plagiarism>

- Note that you are not assessed for depth and range of bibliographical coverage. Quotes and references to scholarship should be used sparingly, as they will count towards the word count, and will only be useful if they contribute to the case *you* are making. Again: focus on your own ideas and arguments in your answers.
- The same is true for quotes of ancient texts. Avoid quoting large blocks of text, as they will contribute to the word count, and quotes will only add to the quality of your answer if used judiciously.
- You will be responsible for providing a word count for every essay or critical discussion. Note that this is also true for those candidates who choose to provide hand-written answers.

4) Translation questions, needless to say, cannot ask you to translate passages, either "seen" or "unseen", whose translations are available online. Passages for translation have consequently been chosen from Greek and Latin texts for which there are no published translations, in print or online. The Greek and Latin texts we have chosen for translation are

written in the standard Greek and Latin you know from the texts you have been reading and studying. We will, in other words, not set things like inscriptions or obscure technical passages for you to translate. You will be examined on the kind of Greek and Latin you have been taught. You are welcome to use dictionaries and grammars in your translation.

5) There will of course be no back-translation in Papers 11 or 12, whose format has been significantly changed (see below).

6) Most of you do not yet know where you will be at the time of the examinations in the Easter term. We are of course aware that some of you might be in different time zones, and mitigation measures will be in place to make sure this has no adverse effect on you. The relevant information will be sent in due time.

7) Mitigation measures: the Faculty will follow University guidance, yet to be announced, on what mitigation measures should be followed.

8) Rubrics and changes from previous years: paper-by-paper

Papers 1-4 (ALTERNATIVE) PASSAGES FOR TRANSLATION FROM GREEK/LATIN AUTHORS

Rubric:

Answer **both** Sections A and B.

The Examiners will give equal weight to each Section.

Both answers should be uploaded on the same document.

Write your **candidate number** (**not** your name) on the front page of the document you upload.

For candidates who choose to provide hand-written answers: **candidates who do not write legibly may find themselves at a grave disadvantage.**

Changes from previous years:

- Papers 1-4 will include two sections only, each featuring one passage for unseen translation: Section A (prose) and Section B (verse);
- there will be no Section C (translation of passages taken from the set texts).

Paper 5 GREEK LITERATURE

Rubric:

Candidates for the Classical Tripos offering **Paper 1** (Passages for Translation from Greek Authors) must answer **Sections A and B**.

Candidates for the Classical Tripos offering **Paper 2** (Alternative Passages for Translation from Greek Authors) must answer **Sections C and D**.

Candidates for the English Tripos must answer **Sections A and B**.

Candidates for the MML Tripos offering **Paper GL11** (Passages for Translation from Greek Authors) must answer **Sections A and B**.

Candidates for the MML Tripos offering **Paper GL12** (Alternative Passages for Translation from Greek Authors) must answer **Sections C and D**.

All questions carry equal marks.

All essays should be uploaded on the same document.

Clearly identify each question and write the question number before each answer.

Please provide a word count for each essay.

There is a word limit of 2000 words for each essay.

Write your **candidate number** (not your name) on the front page of the document you upload.

Irrelevance will be penalised.

For candidates who choose to provide hand-written answers: **candidates who do not write legibly may find themselves at a grave disadvantage.**

Changes from previous years:

None.

Paper 6 LATIN LITERATURE

Rubric:

Candidates for the Classical Tripos offering **Paper 3** (Passages for Translation from Latin Authors) must answer **Sections A and B**.

Candidates for the Classical Tripos offering **Paper 4** (Alternative Passages for Translation from Latin Authors) must answer **Sections C and D**.

Candidates for the English Tripos must answer **Sections A and B**.

Candidates for the MML Tripos offering **Paper GL13** (Passages for Translation from Latin Authors) must answer **Sections A and B**.

All questions carry equal marks.

All essays should be uploaded on the same document.

Clearly identify each question and write the question number before each answer.

Please provide a word count for each essay.

There is a word limit of 2000 words for each essay.

Write your **candidate number** (**not** your name) on the front page of the document you upload.

Irrelevance will be penalised.

For candidates who choose to provide hand-written answers: **candidates who do not write legibly may find themselves at a grave disadvantage.**

Changes from previous years:

None.

Paper 7 GREEK AND ROMAN HISTORY

Rubric:

Candidates must answer **Question 1** and **two** other questions from **more than** one of sections A, B and C.

All questions carry equal marks.

All essays should be uploaded on the same document.

Clearly identify each question and write the question number before each answer.

Please provide a word count for each essay.

There is a word limit of 2000 words for each essay, but the three answers pertaining to Question 1 will be considered to form just one essay and their cumulative word count should not exceed 2,000 words.

Write your **candidate number** (not your name) on the front page of the document you upload.

Irrelevance will be penalised.

For candidates who choose to provide hand-written answers: **candidates who do not write legibly may find themselves at a grave disadvantage.**

Changes from previous years:

None.

Paper 8 GREEK AND ROMAN PHILOSOPHY

Rubric:

Answer **three** questions, at least **one** from each Section.

All questions carry equal marks.

All essays should be uploaded on the same document.

Clearly identify each question and write the question number before each answer.

Please provide a word count for each essay.

There is a word limit of 2000 words for each essay.

Write your **candidate number** (not your name) on the front page of the document you upload.

Irrelevance will be penalised.

For candidates who choose to provide hand-written answers: **candidates who do not write legibly may find themselves at a grave disadvantage.**

Changes from previous years:

None.

Paper 9 GREEK AND ROMAN ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY

Candidates must answer **Question 1** and **two** other questions.

All questions carry equal marks.

All essays should be uploaded on the same document.

Clearly identify each question and write the question number before each answer.

Please provide a word count for each essay.

There is a word limit of 2000 words for each essay, but the three answers pertaining to Question 1 will be considered to form just one essay and their cumulative word count should not exceed 2,000 words.

Write your **candidate number** (**not** your name) on the front page of the document you upload.

Irrelevance will be penalised.

For candidates who choose to provide hand-written answers: **candidates who do not write legibly may find themselves at a grave disadvantage.**

Changes from previous years:

None.

Paper 10 CLASSICAL PHILOLOGY AND LINGUISTICS

Candidates for the Classical Tripos must answer **three** questions from **three** different sections.

Candidates for the Modern and Medieval Languages Tripos must answer **three** questions from not fewer than **two** sections.

All questions carry equal marks.

All essays should be uploaded on the same document.

Clearly identify each question and write the question number before each answer.

Please provide a word count for each essay.

There is a word limit of 2000 words for each essay.

Write your **candidate number** (**not** your name) on the front page of the document you upload.

Irrelevance will be penalised.

For candidates who choose to provide hand-written answers: **candidates who do not write legibly may find themselves at a grave disadvantage.**

Changes from previous years:

None.

Paper 11 TRANSLATION FROM ENGLISH INTO GREEK PROSE AND VERSE

Of the two sections, attempt only **one**.

Section B may be attempted only by candidates who are offering **Classical Tripos Part IB Paper 2** (Alternative Passages for Translation from Greek Authors).

All translations should be uploaded on the same document.

Write your **candidate number** (**not** your name) on the front page of the document you upload.

For candidates who choose to provide hand-written answers: **candidates who do not write legibly may find themselves at a grave disadvantage.**

Changes from previous years:

- it will include only two sections: Section A and Section B. Candidates will be required to attempt one Section only.
- Section A will contain two passages of English for translation into Greek (candidates should attempt only one): (1) a 'freestyle' prose passage from any prose author and (2) a 'freestyle' verse passage from any verse author.
- Section B will contain only one 'freestyle' passage of English prose for translation into Greek.

Paper 12 TRANSLATION FROM ENGLISH INTO LATIN PROSE AND VERSE

Of the **two** Sections, attempt **one** only.

Section B may be attempted only by candidates who are offering **Classical Tripos Part IB Paper 4** (Alternative Passages for Translation from Latin Authors).

All translations should be uploaded on the same document.

Write your **candidate number** (**not** your name) on the front page of the document you upload.

For candidates who choose to provide hand-written answers: **candidates who do not write legibly may find themselves at a grave disadvantage.**

Changes from previous years:

- it will include only two sections: Section A and Section B. Candidates will be required to attempt one Section only.
- Section A will contain two passages of English for translation into Latin (candidates should attempt only one): (1) a 'freestyle' prose passage from any prose author and (2) a 'freestyle' verse passage from any verse author.
- Section B will contain only one 'freestyle' passage of English prose for translation into Latin.

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