



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

A Level Ancient History

H407/23 Emperors and Empire

Practice Paper

Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes

You must have:

- the OCR 12-page Answer Booklet (OCR12 sent with general stationery)

Other materials required:

- None

INSTRUCTIONS

- Use black ink.
- Complete the boxes on the front of the Answer Booklet.
- There are **two** sections in this paper: Section A and Section B. In Section A, answer Question 1 or 2 and Question 3. In Section B, answer Question 4 and Question 5 or 6.
- Write the number of each question clearly in the margin.
- Additional paper may be used if required but you must clearly show your candidate number, centre number and question number(s).
- Do **not** write in the barcodes.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is **98**.
- The marks for each question are shown in brackets [].
- Quality of extended response will be assessed in questions marked with an asterisk (*).
- This document consists of **4** pages.

SECTION A: The Julio-Claudian Emperors, 31 BC–AD 68

Answer **either** question 1 **or** question 2 **and** then question 3.

Answer **either** question 1 **or** question 2.

- 1* How successful were the Julio-Claudians in gaining and maintaining the support of the upper classes?

You must use and analyse the ancient sources you have studied as well as your own knowledge to support your answer. **[30]**

- 2* To what extent do the sources support the view that the emperors of this period provided effective administration of the city of Rome?

You must use and analyse the ancient sources you have studied as well as your own knowledge to support your answer. **[30]**

Answer question 3.

- 3 Read the interpretation below.

Many (*of Sejanus' supporters*) were tried and condemned. Even two years later Tiberius ordered a mass execution of 'all those who were being held in prison accused of association with Sejanus' (*Annals* vi 19).

Sometime before Sejanus' fall, but when Tiberius already suspected him, Agrippina's oldest son had been put to death. Not until 33 was his brother Drusus killed. Their mother committed suicide. The next years saw more trials and executions with Macro proving as ruthless in eliminating opposition as Sejanus had been. Attempts have been made to exonerate Tiberius, or at least to suggest that Tacitus exaggerates. Perhaps he does. And it is easy to forget when reading him that the circle affected by the executions and suicides was relatively limited. But two things are clear and indisputable: the demoralisation of the senatorial class, collectively and for the most part individually; and the fact that whenever Tiberius made his wishes clear, for leniency or the reverse, he was obeyed. In theory he could have stopped the denunciations, and the useless deaths; in practice, of course, isolated, scared, increasingly cynical, he lacked the will to do so. **5**
10
15

...His personality continues to puzzle historians, because Tacitus made it into an enigma.

C. Wells, *The Roman Empire* (adapted)

How convincing do you find Wells' interpretation of Tiberius' character and actions?

You must use your knowledge of the historical period and the ancient sources you have studied to analyse and evaluate Wells' interpretation. **[20]**

SECTION B: Ruling Roman Britain, AD 43–c.128

Answer question 4 **and** then **either** question 5 **or** question 6.

Answer question 4.

4 Read the passage below.

As a result of this dissension and the frequent rumours of the civil wars, the Britons revived their ambitions. The leader in this was Venutius, a man of barbarous spirit who hated the Roman power. In addition he had motives of personal hostility against queen Cartimandua. Cartimandua's rule over the Brigantes was based on her high birth. Her power had grown when she captured king Caratacus by treachery and handed him over to embellish the triumph of the emperor Claudius. The result was riches, and the self-indulgence which flowers in prosperity. Venutius had been her husband. Spurning him, she made his armour-bearer Vellocatius her husband, and her partner in government. The power of her house was immediately shaken to its foundations by this outrage. The people of the tribe declared for Venutius: only the passion and the savage temper of the queen supported the adulterer. Venutius therefore summoned his supporters. The Brigantes rallied to him, reducing Cartimandua to the last extremity. She besought Roman protection. Our *alae* and cohorts fought indecisive battles, but at length rescued the queen from danger. The kingdom went to Venutius; we were left with a war to fight.

5

10

Tacitus, *Histories* 3.45

How useful is this passage in helping us understand the benefits and dangers of using client rulers? [12]

Answer **either** question 5 **or** question 6.

5* How far does the evidence show that the British economy benefitted from the Roman occupation of Britain?

You must use and analyse the ancient sources you have studied as well as your own knowledge to support your answer. [36]

6* To what extent do the sources help us understand the causes of the Boudiccan Revolt?

You must use and analyse the ancient sources you have studied as well as your own knowledge to support your answer. [36]

END OF QUESTION PAPER

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