Sixth Form Entrance Examination

MARK SCHEME

CLASSICAL GREEK

Time allowed: 1 hour

There are 65 marks available in total.
SECTION 1: COMPREHENSION AND TRANSLATION (35 MARKS)

Comprehension (15 marks)

a. (i) The wisest (1) of the Athenians (1)
   (ii) All the citizens (1) and some barbarians (1)

b. (i) A (certain) Scythian (1)
   (ii) Sailed (1) to Athens (1)
   (iii) To converse (1) with Solon (1)

c. Knocked on the door (1) and said that he had come (1) to form a friendship with Solon (1)

d. ‘It is better (1) to form friendships at home (1)’

e. Since Solon was at home (1)

Translation (20 marks)

Marked per section:

5 - Perfectly accurate with no errors or omissions, or one inconsequential error
4 - Essentially correct but two inconsequential errors or one more serious error.
3 - Overall meaning clear, but more serious errors or omissions.
2 - Part correct but with overall sense lacking/unclear.
1 - No continuous sense; isolated knowledge of vocabulary only.

(i) Solon then managed the affairs of the city, and wrote new laws for the Athenians. (5)

(ii) But when Anacharsis found out what he was doing, he laughed at Solon, because he hoped that in this way he would prevent the citizens from acting unjustly. (5)

(iii) ‘These laws,’ said the Scythian, ‘are no stronger than spiders’ webs. (5)

(iv) For they will restrain the weak and the poor well, but they will be destroyed by the powerful and rich.’ (5)
SECTION 2: TRANSLATION FROM ENGLISH INTO GREEK [15 MARKS]

Marked per sentence:
5 - Accurate translation with one slight error allowed
4 - Mostly correct
3 - More than half right
2 - Less than half right
1 - Little recognisable relation or meaning to the English

Any correct version is acceptable.

SECTION 3: LITERARY CRITICISM (15 MARKS)

Marked with a ‘best fit’ approach, in accordance with the following:

13–15
- Very good engagement with the question
- Expresses a range of perceptive points, with very good development, leading to convincing conclusions, based on a range of well selected, accurate and precise examples
- The response is logically structured, with a well-developed, sustained and coherent line of reasoning.

10–12
- Good engagement with the question
- Expresses a range of relevant points, with good development, leading to sound conclusions, based on well selected examples from the passage.
- The response is logically structured, with a well-developed and clear line of reasoning.

7–9
- Some engagement with the question
- Expresses reasonable points, with some development, leading to tenable conclusions, based on a selection of some examples.
- The response presents a line of reasoning which is mostly relevant and has some structure.

4–6
- Limited engagement with the question
- Expresses limited points, with little development, leading to a weak conclusion, which is occasionally supported by examples.
- The response presents a line of reasoning but may lack structure.

1–3
- Very limited engagement with the question
- Expresses points which are of little relevance and supported with little evidence.
- The information is communicated in an unstructured way.
Possible areas for comment are highlighted below, but any sensible points, supported by the text, will be credited.

Ἐν δὲ τῷ πόνῳ τούτῳ ἀπέθανε μὲν ὁ στρατηγὸς Ἀριαβίγνης ὁ Δαρείου, Ξέρξου ἀδελφός, ἀπέθανον δὲ ἄλλοι πολλοὶ τε καὶ ὄνομαστοι Περσῶν τε καὶ Μηδῶν καὶ τῶν ἄλλων συμμάχων, ὁλίγοι δὲ τινὲς Ἑλλήνων• ἀτε γὰρ νεῖν ἐπιστάμενοι, εἰς τὴν Σαλαμίνα διένεον, εἰ τίσιν αἱ νῆες διεφθείροντο• τῶν δὲ βαρβάρων οἱ πολλοὶ ἐν τῇ θαλάττῃ διεφθαρμένοι, νεῖν οὐκ ἐπιστάμενοι. ἔπει δὲ αἱ πρῶται νῆες εἰς φυγὴν ἐτράποντο, ἐνταῦθα αἱ πλείσται διεφθείροντο• οἱ γὰρ ὁπισθε τεταγμένοι, εἰς τὸ πρὸσθεν παριέναι ταῖς ναυσὶ πειρώμενοι ὡς ἀποδειξόμενοι ἐργὸν τι καὶ αὐτοὶ βασιλεῖ, ταῖς ἄλλαις ναυσὶ ταῖς φευγούσαις περιέπιπτον.

In this struggle the general Ariabignes died, son of Darius and the brother of Xerxes. Many other famous men of the Persians and Medes and other allies also died, but only a few Hellenes, since they knew how to swim. Those whose ships were sunk swam across to Salamis, unless they were killed in action, but many of the barbarians drowned in the sea since they did not know how to swim. Most of the ships were sunk when those in the front turned to flee, since those marshalled in the rear, as they tried to go forward with their ships so they too could display some feat to the king, ran afool of their own side’s ships in flight.

Herodotus, Hist. 8.89