

Markscheme

May 2023

Classical Greek

Higher level

Paper 1

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The translation is assessed in its basic units of clause and sentence. To this end, the original text is chunked in a fixed number of sections (or “sense units”), 15 at SL and 30 at HL. Every section is awarded two separate marks according to the two descriptors outlined below.

Each section is awarded 0 to 3 marks for descriptor A (Meaning) and 0 to 3 marks for descriptor B (Vocabulary & Grammar).

The range of marks for each section is therefore 0 to 6, while the maximum number of marks for the whole text is 180 at HL (30 sections × 6 marks).

Criterion A (Meaning) assesses how well the meaning of each sense unit has been communicated.

Criterion B (Vocabulary & Grammar) assesses how correctly vocabulary and grammar have been rendered in relation to each sense unit. The term “grammar” here includes syntax and accidence.

As a guideline, criterion A tends to look at the translation as a whole (eg stylistic, literal and idiomatic meanings conveyed), while criterion B tends to assess the conformity of the single section with the original text (eg grammatical accuracy of translation, apparent understanding of source language syntax and vocabulary).

While it may not always be possible to give the full range of marks for a single sense unit, the range of marks necessary for differentiation is present over the whole exam.

By way of example, the marking of different translations of the sense unit ἐπεὶ δὲ σπονδαί τε ἐγένοντο found in a Xenophon passage (HL specimen papers), would be as follows:

- “When both the libations occurred”: A=3, B=3.
- “After religious activities happened”: A=2 (the meaning has been partially communicated; errors impair the translation), B=3 (most grammar is rendered accurately).
- “When they were libation makers”: A=3, B=2 (some vocabulary and grammar are rendered appropriately).
- “There were religious rites”: A=2 (the meaning has been partially communicated; errors impair the translation), B=1 (the meaning has been partially communicated; limited grammar is rendered accurately).
- “When pouring out was being”: A=1 (the translation conveys some meaning), B=2 (some vocabulary and some grammar are rendered appropriately).

Square brackets [] indicate that the words in the sense unit have been inserted out of the order of the text.

(A) Meaning	
How well has the student communicated the meaning of each sense unit?	
Marks	Level descriptors
0	The work does not reach a standard described by the descriptors below.
1	The meaning has not been communicated adequately. The translation conveys some meaning; errors impair the translation significantly.
2	The meaning has been partially communicated. The translation is mostly logical; errors impair the translation.
3	The meaning has been fully communicated. The translation is logical; errors do not impair the translation.

(B) Vocabulary & Grammar	
How correctly has the student rendered vocabulary and grammar in relation to each sense unit?	
Marks	Level descriptors
0	The work does not reach a standard described by the descriptors below.
1	Vocabulary and grammar are not rendered adequately. Limited vocabulary is rendered appropriately for the context. Limited grammar is rendered accurately.
2	Vocabulary and grammar are rendered adequately despite inaccuracies. Some vocabulary is rendered appropriately for the context. Some grammar is rendered accurately and effectively.
3	Vocabulary and grammar are rendered correctly. Most vocabulary is rendered appropriately for the context. Most grammar is rendered accurately and effectively.

Text	A	B
1. βουλεύσας γάρ ποτε		
2. καὶ τὸν βουλευτικὸν ὄρκον ὁμόσας,		
3. ἐν ᾧ ἦν ... βουλεύσειν		
4. κατὰ τοὺς νόμους		
5. ἐπιστάτης ... γενόμενος		
6. ἐν τῷ δήμῳ		
7. ἐπιθυμήσαντος τοῦ δήμου		
8. παρὰ τοὺς νόμους		
9. ἐννέα στρατηγούς ... ἀποκτεῖναι πάντας		
10. μιᾷ ψήφῳ		
11. τοὺς ἀμφὶ Θράσυλλον καὶ Ἑρασινίδην		
12. οὐκ ἠθέλησεν ἐπιψηφίσει,		
13. ὀργιζομένου μὲν αὐτῷ τοῦ δήμου,		
14. πολλῶν δὲ καὶ δυνατῶν ἀπειλούντων:		
15. ἀλλὰ περὶ πλείονος ἐποίησατο		
16. εὐορκεῖν ἢ χαρίσασθαι τῷ δήμῳ		
17. παρὰ τὸ δίκαιον		
18. καὶ φυλάξασθαι τοὺς ἀπειλοῦντας		
19. καὶ γὰρ ἐπιμελεῖσθαι θεοὺς ἐνόμιζεν ἀνθρώπων		
20. οὐχ ὃν τρόπον οἱ πολλοὶ νομίζουσιν:		
21. οὗτοι μὲν γὰρ οἴονται		
22. τοὺς θεοὺς τὰ μὲν εἰδέναι,		
23. τὰ δ' οὐκ εἰδέναι:		
24. Σωκράτης δὲ ... ἡγεῖτο		
25. πάντα μὲν ... θεοὺς εἰδέναι,		
26. τὰ τε λεγόμενα καὶ πραττόμενα		
27. καὶ τὰ σιγῇ βουλευόμενα,		
28. πανταχοῦ δὲ παρεῖναι		
29. καὶ σημαίνειν τοῖς ἀνθρώποις		
30. περὶ τῶν ἀνθρωπείων πάντων.		

	90	90
Total	180	