

## Revising A2 Classical Civilisation

The A2 Classical Civilisation exam consists of the following **two papers**:

- Art and Architecture in the Greek World      2 hours                      50% of the final A2 mark
- Virgil and the World of the Hero              2 hours                              50% of the final A2 mark

### SET TOPICS FOR THE ART AND ARCHITECTURE PAPER

- Free-standing sculpture
- Architectural sculpture
- Vase-painting
- Temple architecture

### SET TEXTS FOR THE VIRGIL PAPER

- Homer *Iliad* 6, 18, 22 and 24
- Virgil *Aeneid* 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 10 and 12

## HOW SHOULD YOU REVISE?

- Be organised, and sort out your revision materials **now**. If you need further copies of translations and notes, ask us in the Classics Department Room.
- Read your texts and notes very carefully. Remember, though, that your notes may not have all the 'right answers' on the passage or visual source that comes up in the exam. You will need to give a detailed response to some aspect of it, but applying sound principles of literary or artistic criticism is as important as making the 'correct points'.
- Revise the prescribed material gradually over a period of time. Start early to avoid the need to have a 'prescribed material weekend' just before the exams.
- Practise answering exam questions under timed conditions.

## CHOOSING AND ANSWERING QUESTIONS IN THE EXAM

- You will be given two sources/context questions and two essay questions. You must choose **one** sources/context question and **one** essay question.
- The **sources/context question** has two sub-questions, each worth 25 marks. In the Virgil paper, one of these will refer to the set passage, whereas the other will refer to the texts as a whole. You will have the opportunity to show knowledge of *both* epics.
- Don't choose a sources/context question simply because you like the look of the set material. Make sure that you like the questions as well.
- The **essay question** is worth 50 marks.
- Choose the essay title which will allow you to use your knowledge of the relevant material confidently. An essay title may look easy, but if you cannot illustrate your points from a range of sources, your answer will be thin. In the Virgil paper, you will have the opportunity to show knowledge of *both* epics.