



SAMPLE

THE AMERICAN SCHOOL OF CLASSICAL STUDIES AT ATHENS

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Instructions for candidates

As a Regular Member applicant you are expected to take three examinations (a total of five and a half hours of examination). All candidates must take the Greek Translation examination (90 minutes) and the Greek History exam (two hours), and either Greek Art and Archaeology (two hours) or Greek Literature (two hours). Though you stated on your application whether you intended to take the literature or the art and archaeology exam, we have sent a full set to your proctor to allow for error or last minute change of mind.

All examinations, including the Greek Translation, are to be taken without the use of dictionaries, notes, or other outside help. We do give partial credit on the Greek, so write down everything you know, even if you have not completed the passages perfectly. On the Greek Translation exam, candidates translate two of four passages. The exam includes poetry and prose from all periods, from no fixed reading list, and, in fact, tend to be passages students will not have read. The purpose of the Greek exam is to evaluate reading proficiency. No dictionaries or other aids are permitted, but unusual words or constructions have sometimes been glossed.

The other three exams are set up with two sections. Part I (value, 25 points) asks candidates to identify, in a sentence or two, seven of twelve items. In Part II (value, 75 points) candidates choose three of seven essay topics. Please read the whole exam and allocate your time carefully in order to complete all parts of the exams.

The Committee on Admissions and Fellowships is requesting that all candidates write their examinations as Word files on a computer, if possible. (Exceptions will be made for broken arms and other problems.) When you make arrangements with your proctor about time and place for the exams, you will also need to arrange for use of a computer that has neither files useful for writing the exams nor access to the Internet; given 21st century technology, the latter may simply be your promise not to log on to the Internet during each exam, but you will need to work this out with the proctor ahead of time. We also ask that you not have a mobile phone with you in the examination room.

At the end of each exam, you should have a Word file for that exam; preferably the file name will be a combination of your name or its abbreviation and the exam, e.g., Schliemann's history exam would be "SchlieHist", Jones' Greek translation would be "JonesGrk", etc. Give a copy of the file to your proctor, before beginning the next exam. After completion of the three exams, the proctor will make a hard copy of the three files and send the Word files to "application@ascsa.org" as attachments to an e-mail.

If, for some reason, you are not able to write the exam on a computer, please be in contact ahead of time with Mary Darlington (med@ascsa.org) who will send out alternate instructions.

Your exams will be read and graded anonymously. Therefore your name should appear only at the top of the first page or on a cover sheet for each exam, along with the title of the exam and your university. All names of candidates and other identifying information will be removed from the files before they are distributed to the members of the Committee.

Best of luck!

Sincerely,

Timothy F. Winters

Chair, Committee on Admissions and Fellowships

winterst@apsu.edu

January 24, 2016

**American School of Classical Studies at Athens
Examination in Greek Translation 2014**

Time: 1 and ½ hours (90 minutes)

Instructions: Translate two (2) of the following passages, one poetry and one prose. (50 points each)

Poetry, Passage 1:

Euripides, Alcestis II. 1008-124. Herakles addresses Admetus.

Ἡρακλῆς

φίλον πρὸς ἄνδρα χρὴ λέγειν ἐλευθέρως,
Ἄδμητε, μομφὰς δ' οὐχ ὑπὸ σπλάγχνοις ἔχειν
σιγῶντ'. ἐγὼ δὲ σοῖς κακοῖσιν ἠξίουν 1010

ἐγγὺς παρεστῶς ἐξετάζεσθαι φίλος:
σὺ δ' οὐκ ἔφραζες σῆς προκείμενον νέκυν
γυναικός, ἀλλὰ μ' ἐξένιζες ἐν δόμοις,
ὡς δὴ θυραίου πῆματος σπουδὴν ἔχων.
κᾶστεψα κρᾶτα καὶ θεοῖς ἐλειψάμην 1015

σπονδὰς ἐν οἴκοις δυστυχοῦσι τοῖσι σοῖς.
καὶ μέμφομαι μὲν, μέμφομαι, παθῶν τάδε:
οὐ μὴν σε λυπεῖν <γ> ἐν κακοῖσι βούλομαι.
ὦν δ' οὐνεχ' ἦκω δεῦρ' ὑποστρέψας πάλιν
λέξω: γυναῖκα τήνδε μοι σῶσον λαβῶν, 1020
ἕως ἂν ἵππους δεῦρο Θρηκίας ἄγων
ἔλθω, τύραννον Βιστόνων κατακτανῶν.
πράξας δ' ὁ μὴ τύχοιμι (νοστήσαιμι γάρ)
δίδωμι τήνδε σοῖσι προσπολεῖν δόμοις.

Poetry, Passage 2:

Homer, 18.97-116. Achilles mourns the loss of Patroclus.

τὴν δὲ μέγ' ὀχθήσας προσέφη πόδας ὠκὺς Ἀχιλλεύς·
'αὐτίκα τεθναίνῃ, ἐπεὶ οὐκ ἄρ' ἔμελλον ἑταίρω
κτεινομένῳ ἐπαμῦναι: ὁ μὲν μάλα τηλόθι πάτρης
ἔφθιτ', ἐμεῖο δὲ δῆσεν ἀρῆς ἀλκτῆρα γενέσθαι. 100
νῦν δ' ἐπεὶ οὐ νέομαι γε φίλην ἐς πατρίδα γαῖαν,
οὐδέ τι Πατρόκλω γενόμεν φάος οὐδ' ἑτάροισι
τοῖς ἄλλοις, οἳ δὴ πολέες δάμεν Ἐκτορι δῖω,

ἀλλ' ἦμαι παρὰ νηυσὶν ἐτώσιον ἄχθος ἀρούρης,
 τοῖος ἐὼν οἶος οὐ τις Ἀχαιῶν χαλκοχιτώνων 105
 ἐν πολέμῳ: ἀγορῇ δέ τ' ἀμείνονές εἰσι καὶ ἄλλοι.
 ὡς ἕρις ἔκ τε θεῶν ἔκ τ' ἀνθρώπων ἀπόλοιτο
 καὶ χόλος, ὅς τ' ἐφέηκε πολύφρονά περ χαλεπῆναι,
 ὅς τε πολὺ γλυκίων μέλιτος καταλειβομένοιο
 ἀνδρῶν ἐν στήθεσσι ἀέξεται ἠὔτε καπνός· 110
 ὡς ἐμὲ νῦν ἐχόλωσεν ἄναξ ἀνδρῶν Ἀγαμέμνων.
 ἀλλὰ τὰ μὲν προτετύχθαι ἐάσομεν ἀχνύμενοί περ,
 θυμὸν ἐνὶ στήθεσσι φίλον δαμάσαντες ἀνάγκη·
 νῦν δ' εἴμ' ὄφρα φίλης κεφαλῆς ὀλετῆρα κιχείω
 Ἔκτορα· κῆρα δ' ἐγὼ τότε δέξομαι ὀππότε κεν δῆ 115
 Ζεὺς ἐθέλη τελέσαι ἠδ' ἀθάνατοι θεοὶ ἄλλοι.

Prose, Passage 3:

Isocrates, Panegyricus 23-26

Ὁμολογεῖται μὲν γὰρ τὴν πόλιν ἡμῶν ἀρχαιοτάτην εἶναι καὶ μεγίστην καὶ
 παρὰ πᾶσιν ἀνθρώποις ὀνομαστοτάτην· οὕτω δὲ καλῆς τῆς ὑποθέσεως
 οὔσης, ἐπὶ τοῖς ἐχομένοις τούτων ἔτι μᾶλλον ἡμᾶς προσήκει
 τιμᾶσθαι. (24.) Ταύτην γὰρ οἰκοῦμεν οὐχ ἑτέρους ἐκβαλόντες οὐδ' ἐρήμην
 καταλαβόντες οὐδ' ἐκ πολλῶν ἐθνῶν μιγάδες συλλεγέντες, ἀλλ' οὕτω καλῶς
 καὶ γνησίως γεγόναμεν ὥστ' ἐξ ἧσπερ ἔφυμεν, ταύτην ἔχοντες ἅπαντα τὸν
 χρόνον διατελοῦμεν, αὐτόχθονες ὄντες καὶ τῶν ὀνομάτων τοῖς αὐτοῖς οἷσπερ
 τοὺς οἰκειοτάτους τὴν πόλιν ἔχοντες προσειπεῖν. (25.) Μόνοις γὰρ ἡμῖν τῶν
 Ἑλλήνων τὴν αὐτὴν τροφὸν καὶ πατριδα καὶ μητέρα καλέσαι προσήκει.
 Καίτοι χρὴ τοὺς εὐλόγως μέγα φρονοῦντας καὶ περὶ τῆς ἡγεμονίας δικαίως
 ἀμφισβητοῦντας καὶ τῶν πατρίων πολλάκις μεμνημένους τοιαύτην τὴν
 ἀρχὴν τοῦ γένους ἔχοντας φαίνεσθαι. (26.) Τὰ μὲν οὖν ἐξ ἀρχῆς ὑπάραξαντα
 καὶ παρὰ τῆς τύχης δωρηθέντα τηλικαῦθ' ἡμῖν τὸ μέγεθος ἐστίν·

Prose, Passage 4:

Plutarch, Life of Titus Flamininus, 8.1-2. Plutarch discusses the Battle of
 Kynoskephalai. ζόφος, ου, ό = extreme darkness

τῇ δ' ὑστεραία περὶ τὸν ὄρθρον, ἐκ μαλακῆς καὶ νοτίου νυκτός, εἰς ὀμίχλην
 τῶν νεφῶν τρεπομένων, ἀνεπίπλατο ζόφου βαθέος πᾶν τὸ πεδῖον, καὶ
 κατῆει παχύς ἐκ τῶν ἄκρων ἀῆρ εἰς τὸ μεταξὺ τῶν στρατοπέδων, εὐθύς

ἀρχομένης ἡμέρας ἀποκρύπτων τοὺς τόπους, οἱ δὲ ὑπ' ἀμφοτέρων ἀποσταλέντες ἐφεδρείας ἔνεκα καὶ κατασκοπῆς ἐν πάνυ βραχεῖ περιπεσόντες ἀλλήλοις ἐμάχοντο περὶ τὰς καλουμένας Κυνὸς κεφαλᾶς, αἱ λόφων οὔσαι πυκνῶν καὶ παραλλήλων ἄκραι λεπταὶ δι' ὁμοιότητα τὸν σχήματος οὕτως ὠνομάσθησαν. γενομένων δὲ οἷον εἰκὸς ἐν τόποις σκληροῖς μεταβολῶν κατὰ τὰς φυγὰς καὶ διώξεις, ἑκάτεροι τοῖς πονοῦσιν ἀεὶ καὶ ὑποχωροῦσιν ἐπιπέμποντες βοήθειαν ἐκ τῶν στρατοπέδων, καὶ ἤδη τοῦ ἀέρος ἀνακαθαιρομένου καθορῶντες τὰ γινόμενα πανστρατιᾶ συνέβαλον. τῷ μὲν οὖν δεξιῷ περιῆν ὁ Φίλιππος, ἐκ τόπων καταφερῶν ὅλην ἐπερείσας τὴν φάλαγγα τοῖς Ῥωμαίοις, τὸ βάρος τὸν συνασπισμοῦ καὶ τὴν τραχύτητα τῆς προβολῆς τῶν σαρισῶν οὐχ ὑπομεινάντων.

**American School of Classical Studies at Athens
Examination in Greek History 2014**

Time: 2 hours

Directions: Complete Part I by identifying seven terms and then answer three questions from Part II. In choosing questions to answer, try to show as broad a range of knowledge (chronological, geographical, and by subject matter) as possible.

Part I: Identifications [value, 25 points]. In one or two sentences, identify seven (7) of the following terms, being sure to give their chief significance.

Terms:

1. Decree of Aristoteles
2. Gylippus
3. Kleon of Athens
4. Ptolemy Philadelphos
5. Ephorus
6. Periander
7. *Antidosis* (as a legal term)
8. Ctesias
9. Hierapytna
10. Kleisthenes of Sikyon
11. Pydna
12. Dekeleia

Part II: Essays. [value, 75 points]. Answer three (3) of the following seven (7) questions.

1. When and how did the Greeks develop a sense of Greek identity? What criteria were important in this discussion?
2. What is the "Spartan mirage," and how has it affected our understanding of ancient Sparta?
3. Discuss the development of ruler cult in the Greek world.
4. Explain what was the *polis* in its institutional structure and how does it compare to other historical city-state political orders. Be mindful of recent work on the nature of the *polis*.
5. Who were the Atthidographers? What do we know about them and how do we know it? Discuss briefly two or three of their contributions to our knowledge of Athenian history. OR Our written sources for the history of Greek cities outside of Athens are somewhat thin. Choose two or three cities

and show how inscriptions and coinage have contributed to our knowledge of those cities.

6. Briefly describe the political developments in Greece in 490-480 and what changes emerged in the subsequent decade.
7. Discuss the Ath. Pol. as a historical source with particular reference to the elements of democracy.

**American School of Classical Studies at Athens
Examination in Greek Art and Archaeology 2014**

Time: 2 hours

Directions: Complete Part I by identifying seven terms and then answer three questions from Part II. In choosing questions to answer, try to show as broad a range of knowledge (chronological, geographical, and by subject matter) as possible.

Part I: Identifications [value, 25 points]. In one or two sentences, identify seven (7) of the following terms, being sure to give their chief significance.

Terms:

1. Iktinos
2. Carl Blegen
3. Kommos
4. Franchthi Cave
5. Siphnian Treasury
6. Kritias Boy
7. Derveni Krater
8. Achilles Painter
9. Contrapposto
10. Thermon
11. Stoa Poikile
12. Herodes Atticus

Part II: Essays. [value, 75 points]. Answer three (3) of the following seven (7) questions.

1. Pick one methodology of archaeological science (such as radiocarbon, ceramic petrography, palaeobotany, etc.) and give two or three specific examples of how it has contributed to our understanding of the ancient Greek world.
2. Discuss three examples in architecture where at least two of the orders have been used in the same building, and explain the treatment of these orders and overall appearance of the building.
3. The Amazonomachy is a popular subject in wall painting, vase painting and architectural sculpture in the Archaic and Classical periods. Discuss one example from each medium and provide a context and interpretation for its appearance.

4. What are the advantages and disadvantages of open area, single-context excavation versus trench-and-baulk systems?
5. Discuss how the spatial organization of houses reflects (or not) gender relations in the ancient Greek world, from the Archaic to Hellenistic period. Use specific examples.
6. Is it true that “the role which the palaces played in the economy of Mycenaean states was not merely significant, but central and dominant”?
7. Discuss the developments on Euboea in the Early Iron Age (1100-750 BC), and assess how representative they are of contemporary developments elsewhere in the Greek world.

**American School of Classical Studies at Athens
Examination in Greek Literature 2014**

Time: 2 hours

Directions: Complete Part I by identifying seven terms and then answer three questions from Part II. In choosing questions to answer, try to show as broad a range of knowledge (chronological, geographical, and by subject matter) as possible.

Part I: Identifications [value, 25 points]. In one or two sentences, identify seven (7) of the following terms, being sure to give their chief significance.

Terms:

1. *Ehoiai*
2. satyr play
3. *pnigos*
4. Timaeus of Tauromenium
5. *ekkuklema*
6. Simonides
7. *pinakes*
8. Theognis
9. Polybius
10. *hemiepes*
11. Hecataeus
12. Aristophanes of Byzantium

Part II: Essays. [value, 75 points]. Answer three (3) of the following seven (7) questions.

1. Scholars have suggested that Old Comedy had an educative function in addition to its value as entertainment, even that it had “a normative thrust, albeit often in a reversed and transformed manner.” Choose two plays of Aristophanes and use them to explore the extent to which you agree or disagree with the preceding characterization of Old Comedy.
2. *Eros* was acknowledged as a mighty force in the Greek imaginary. Choose at least two (and not more than three) literary genres and assess the role played by *eros* in each.
3. Writing on tragedy, Dio Chrysostom says that Aeschylus’ treatment of the chorus is “more tragic and simpler,” while that of Euripides is “more political and more precise.” What do you think he means, and where might Sophocles fit into this picture?

4. Thucydides famously asserts that his history lacks the “mythical element” (*to muthodes*). What does he mean by this and how does he compare to Herodotus in this respect?
5. Although the *Iliad* is generally seen as a war poem and the *Odyssey* a poem about family, family relations have much to do with the *Iliad*. Choose two or three characters and show some of the ways that family relations affect the action of the *Iliad*.
6. The careful specification by Greek writers of the Second Sophistic of their relationship to the Roman present has been identified as one of the defining characteristics of of the Greek literature of this period. What was the nature of this relationship and how was it expressed?
7. Greek lyric poetry of the Archaic and early Classical period often oscillates between the mythological past and ritual present. Choose at least two lyric poets and write an essay in which you examine the nature and purpose of this oscillation.