	Universiteit van Johannesburg University of Johannesburg
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November-Eksamen 2014

November Examination 2014

KURSUS/	KLASSIEKE KULTUUR 1B	PUNTE/	
COURSE:	CLASSICAL CULTURE 1B (KLK1B21)	MARKS:	100
VRAESTEL/		TYD/	3 UUR
PAPER:	1	TIME:	3 HOURS

EKSAMINATORE/	1. N. CHHIBA
EXAMINERS:	2. PROF. A. H. DOYLE

HIERDIE VRAESTEL BESTAAN UIT 8 (AGT) BLADSYE.

THIS PAPER CONSISTS OF 8 (EIGHT) PAGES.

Section 1

Essays:

Choose TWO essays out of the four topics **20 marks each**

1. Rimbaud's poem portrays an ambiguous Helen; here she is depicted as both attractive and harsh. She becomes sweet poison, both dreadful and delicious. Consider this poem and discuss Helen's character in both the *Iliad* and *Odyssey*.

*I sat beauty on my lap
I found her bitter and
I insulted her.*

Rimbaud (1873)

2. Theseus and Heracles inherit a divided nature, half-human and half-divine. Yet the two halves never come together for these heroes as they did for Perseus. Compare and discuss these heroes, not forgetting to mention their tasks and labours.

3. Discuss and compare Achilles and Hektor in terms of the Heroic Pattern and the Heroic Values which dominate the Iliad. How is each hero representative of the respective Greek and Trojan positions, both morally and in terms of their relationship with the gods?

4. Discuss the importance of the role of the feminine principle in the Odyssey and how it impacts on the hero Odysseus. Specify what the hero learns from Athena, Circe, Calypso, Nausicaa, the Sirens and Penelope. Explain how Freudian and Jungian motifs may be operating in Odysseus' relationship with women, including his mother, aged nurse, and wife.

\ **Total marks 40**

Section 2

Passages for comment:

Choose TWO out of the five passages.

20 marks each

Identify each passage (Author and Title) and place it in context, commenting on how it relates to the text as a whole in terms of theme, character and plot. Do not forget to use the theories of myth interpretation.

1. *With these words the Interpreter scattered the lots among them all. Each took up the lot which fell to his feet and showed what number he had drawn; only Er himself was forbidden to take one. Then the Interpreter laid on the ground before them the sample lives, many more than the persons there. They were of every sort: lives of despots, some continuing in power to the end, others ruined in mid-course and ending in poverty, exile or beggary. There were lives of men renowned for beauty of form*

and for strength and prowess, or for distinguished birth and ancestry; also lives of unknown men; and women likewise. All these qualities were variously combined with one another and with wealth or poverty, health of sickness, or intermediate conditions; but in none of these lives was there anything to determine the condition of the soul.

2. *But once offshore as far as a man's shout can carry, I called back to the Cyclops, stinging taunts: "so, Cyclops, no weak coward it was whose crew you bent to devour there in your vaulted cave- you with your brute force! Your filthy crimes came down on your head, you shameless cannibal, daring to eat your guests in your own house- so Zeus and the other gods have paid you back"- I called back with another burst of anger, "Cyclops- if any man on the face of the earth should ask you who blinded you, shamed you so- say Odysseus, rider of cities, he gouged out your eye, Laertes' son who makes his home in Ithaca!"*

3. *Remember your own father, great godlike Achilles- as old as I am, past the threshold of deadly old age! No doubt the countrymen round about him plague him now, with no one there to defend him, beat away disaster. No one- but at least he hears you're alive and his old heart rejoices, hoes rising day by day, to see his beloved son come sailing home from Troy. But I- dear God, my life so cursed by fate.... I fathered hero sons in the wide realm of Troy and now not a single one is left, I tell you. Fifty sons I had when the sons of Achaea came, nineteen born to me from a single mother's womb and the rest by other women in the palace. Many, most of them violent Ares cut the knees from under. But one, one was left for me, to guard my walls, my people- the one you killed the other day, defending his fatherland, my Hector! It's all for him I've come to the ships now, to win him back from you- I bring a priceless ransom. Revere the gods, Achilles! Pity me in my own right, remember your own father! I deserve more pity....*

I have endured what no one on earth has ever done before-

4. *With that thought*

*Penelope started down from here lofty room, her heart in turmoil,
torn... should she keep her distance, probe her husband?
Or rush up to the man at once and kiss his head and cling to both his
hands?*

*As soon as she stepped across the stone threshold, slipping in, she took a
seat at the closest wall and radiant in the firelight, faced Odysseus now.
There he sat, leaning against the great central column, eyes fixed on the
ground, waiting, poised for whatever words his hardly wife might say
when she caught sight of him. A long while she sat in silence.... numbing
wonder filled her heart s her eyes explored his face. One moment he
seemed ...Odysseus, to the life- the next, no, he was not the man she
knew, huddled mass of rags was all she saw.*

5. *But Achilles rounded on Agamemnon once again*

lashing out at him, not relaxing his anger for a moment:

*“Staggering drunk, with you dog’s eyes, your fawn’s heart!
Never once did you arm with the troops and go to the battle
or risk an ambush packed with Achaea’s picked men-
you lack the courage, you can see death coming.
Safer by far, you find, to foray all through camp,
commandeering the prize of any man who speaks against you.
King who devours his people! Worthless husks, the men you rule-
if not, Atrides, this outrage would have been your last.
I tell you this, and I swear a mighty oath upon it.....
by this, this sceptre, look,
that never again will put forth crown and branches
now it’s left its stump on the mountain ridge forever,
nor will it sprout new green again, now the brazen axe
has stripped its bark and leaves, and now the sons of Achaea
pass it back and forth as they hand their judgements down,
upholding the honoured customs whenever Zeus commands-*

Total marks 40.

Section 3

Visuals for comment

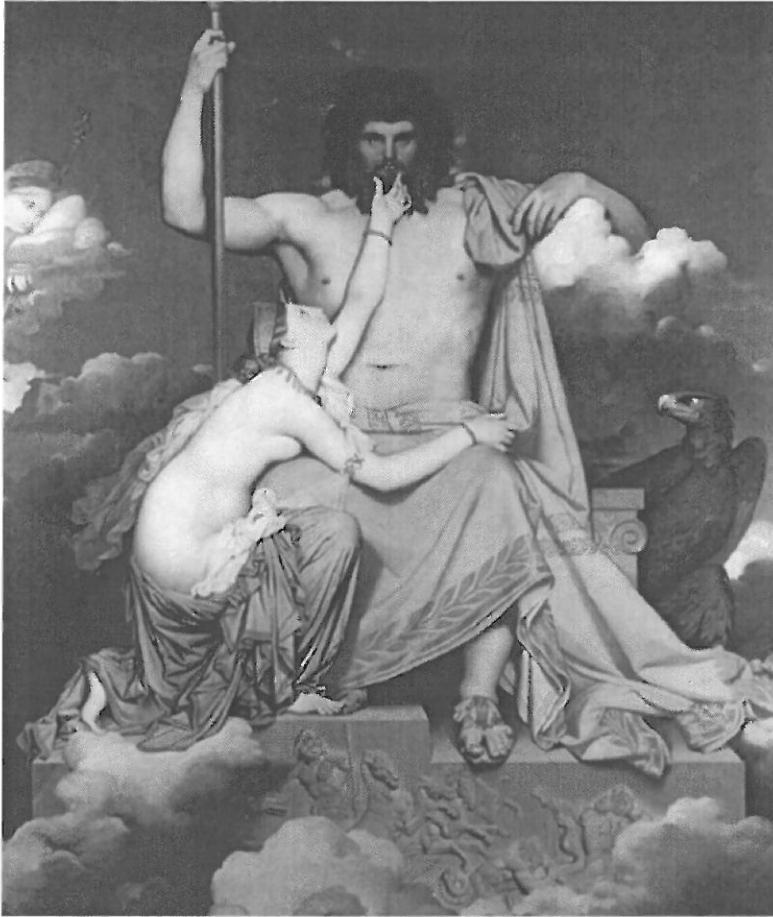
Choose **FOUR** out of the six pictures

5 marks each

Identify and write a brief commentary



1.



2.



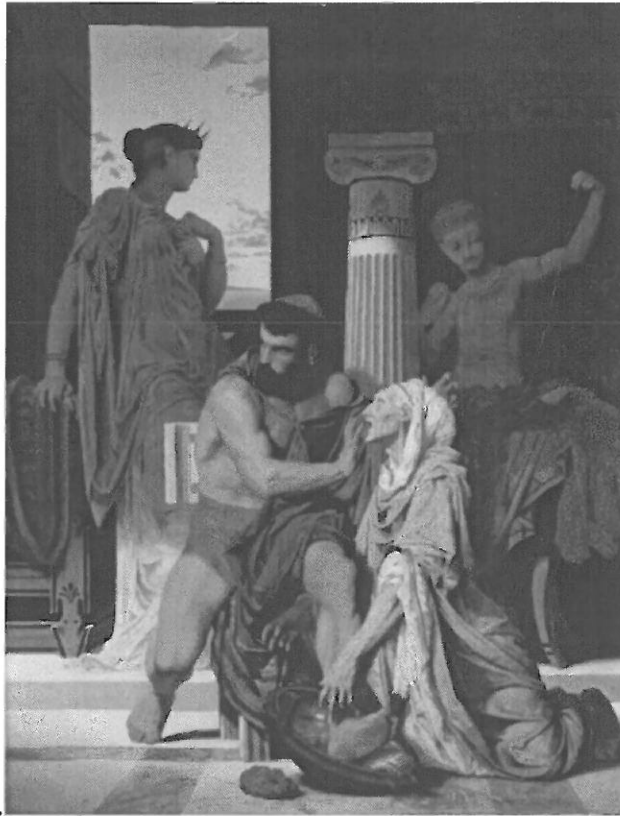
3.



4.



5.



6.

Total marks 20