

EXAM PAPER ANT4700 Ancient literature in translation SPRING 2016

The paper consists of 4 pages.

Thursday June 16th (4 hours) **No reference works allowed**

All questions must be answered

1. Knowledge test and text recognition (multiple choice):

For each of the following questions or statements, there is *one* correct answer to choose from. (If you tick more than one box per question/statement, it does not count.)

1.1 Which of these Greek authors was *not* a lyric poet?

- Pindar
- Sappho
- Aeschylus
- Alcaeus

1.2 Which of the following is *not* a parameter of an epic proem?

- a sketch of the poem's content
- a rough indication as to where the story begins
- an invocation of the Muses
- a justification by the poet for writing such a long poem

1.3 Which three goddesses were involved in the judgement of Paris?

- Hera, Aphrodite, Helena
- Hera, Aphrodite, Athena
- Aphrodite, Athena, Hestia
- Athena, Hestia, Hera



PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY WITH PEN

1.4 Which of these statements about Homer is *not* correct?

- In antiquity, Homer was largely considered to have been a historical person.
- In antiquity, Homer's name was explained as "the one who cannot see".
- Today, most scholars believe that Homer was a historical person.
- Today, most scholars believe that Homer was not a historical person.

1.5 How many tragedies did Sophocles write, and how many are preserved?

- 46 written, 11 preserved
- 80 written, 7 preserved
- 80 written, 17 preserved
- 120 written, 7 preserved

1.6 Which of these statements about Attic drama (5th/4th century B.C.) is *not* correct?

- All performances were debut performances.
- All performances were open-air performances.
- Attic drama was very elitist, only a small group attended the performances.
- Attic drama was deeply rooted in religious and ritual contexts.

1.7 The core of Plato's philosophy is the so-called

- theory of ideals
- theory of idioms
- theory of ideas
- theory of idiosyncrasy

1.8 With which author does the history of Roman literature begin?

- Caesar
- Cicero
- Livius Catullus
- Livius Andronicus

1.9 Which of these authors is *not* an Augustan poet?

- Vergil
- Aristophanes
- Horace
- Ovid

1.10 In the *Aeneid*, Aeneas gets married twice. Who is his first, who is his second wife?

- o Camilla is his first, Diana his second wife.
- o Camilla is his first, Lavinia his second wife.
- o Lavinia is his first, Creüsa his second wife.
- o Creüsa is his first, Lavinia his second wife.

1.11 Where does this textual excerpt come from? “Nine whole days I was borne along by rough, deadly winds on the fish-infested sea. Then on the tenth our squadron reached the land of the Lotus-eaters, people who eat the lotus, mellow fruit and flower. We disembarked on the coast, drew water there and crewmen snatched a meal by the swift ships.”

- o Homer, *Odyssey*
- o Sophocles, *Antigone*
- o Vergil, *Aeneid*
- o Ovid, *Metamorphoses*

1.12 Where does this textual excerpt come from? ““There are two Gates of Sleep. One, they say, is horn, and offers easy exit for true shades. The other is finished with glimmering ivory, but through it the Spirits send false dreams to the world above.’ Anchises escorted his son as he talked, then sent him with the Sibyl through the Gate of Ivory.”

- o Homer, *Odyssey*
- o Sophocles, *Antigone*
- o Vergil, *Aeneid*
- o Ovid, *Metamorphoses*

2. Essays:

Please choose two from the three essay topics below. (If you write on all three, the last of your essays will be ignored.)

Each of your two essays should be 2-3 pages long. Both of your essays have to be discursive in nature, viz. you have to argue your point by way of an analytic and consistent argument. You are advised to use the analytic concepts, terms and tools as they were introduced, explained and demonstrated in class. You must write full sentences.

a) Write a short essay (2-3 pages) on fate and the 'tragic flaw' in Sophocles' *Oedipus the King*.

Explain and discuss the concept of fate as it is presented in Sophocles' *Oedipus the King*, and in which ways fate shapes the composition and nature of Sophocles' drama. In this context, also explain and discuss the Aristotelian concept of the 'tragic flaw'.

b) Write a short essay (2-3 pages) on humour and irony in Plato's *Symposium*.

Explain and discuss in which ways humour and irony play an important role in Plato's dialogue *The Symposium*, how Plato creates an atmosphere of humour and irony in his dialogue, and how humour and irony have an effect on the overall interpretation of the *Symposium*.

c) Write a short essay (2-3 pages) on the story of Echo and Narcissus in Ovid's *Metamorphoses*.

Analyse and discuss the structure and composition of the story of Echo and Narcissus in Ovid's *Metamorphoses* and explain, on the basis of this story, the narrative techniques that are typical of Ovid's *Metamorphoses*. It is important that your entire analysis is clearly based on the text (see text in translation attached)