A-Level Classical Civilisation

The World of the Hero Revision Checklist

Homer – *The Odyssey*

Literary Source: *Homer, 'Odyssey' translated by E. V. Rieu, revised translation by D. C. H. Rieu (Penguin)*

Prescribed Books	Revised?	RAG
Book 1		
Book 4		
Book 5		
Book 6		
Book 7		
Book 8		
Book 9		
Book 10		
Book 11		
Book 12		
Book 13		
Book 16		
Book 17		
Book 18		
Book 19		
Book 21		
Book 22		
Book 23		

Characters	Revised?	RAG
Odysseus: Resourcefulness		
Odysseus: As a leader		
Odysseus: As a Father		
Odysseus: As a husband		
Odysseus: His intelligence and oratorical skills		
Odysseus: Relationship with Athene		
Odysseus: His *kleos*		
Penelope		
Telemachus		
Laertes		
The Suitors including Antinous, Eurymachus and Amphinomus		
The Phaeacians		
Calypso		
Circe		
Polyphemus		
Odysseus' crew		
Odysseus Slaves including Eumaeus, Eurycleia, Eurynome, Melanthius and Melantho.		

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Topics	Themes	Revised?	RAG
Literary Techniques and Composition	• Structure and plot of the epic		

	• Language of the epic including narrative and descriptive techniques and their effects;
	   o Speeches
	   o Formulae
	   o Flashbacks
	   o similes		

	• Literary context in which the Odyssey was created and handed down including:
	   o oral tradition and context
	   o transmission of the text
	   o whether it was the work of one or more poets (the Homeric Question)		

The Heroic World: Characterisation and Themes	• Concept, values and behaviour of a hero, including the ideas of *timē* (honour) and *kleos* (reputation)		
	• The characterisation and portrayal of different societies.		
	• Nostos		
	• Disguise		
	• Recognition		
	• Fantasy and the supernatural		
The Social, Cultural and Religious Context	• Power of fate		
	• Roles of the immortals		
	• Relationship between immortals and mortals		
	• Justice and Revenge		
	• Xenia		
	• Family		
	• Relationships between men and women, parents and children		
	• Women in the epic and society		
	• The role of the slave		

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The World of the Hero Revision Checklist

Virgil – *The Aeneid*

<u>Literary source:</u> *Virgil, 'Aeneid' translated by D. West (Penguin)*

Prescribed Books	Revised?	RAG
Book 1		
Book 2		
Book 4		
Book 6		
Book 7		
Book 8		
Book 9		
Book 10		
Book 11		
Book 12		

Characters	Revised?	RAG
Aeneas: His Imperial Destiny		
Aeneas: As a leader		
Aeneas: Portrayal as a Roman hero (post-Homeric hero)		
Aeneas: Portrayal as a Homeric hero		
Aeneas: As a lover		
Aeneas: As a family man		
Aeneas: His *pietas*		
Ascanius/Iulus		
Anchises		
Dido		
Anna		
The Sibyl		
Latinus		
Amata		
Nisus		
Euryalus		
Turnus		
Mezentius		
Lausus		
Evander		
Pallas		
Drances		
Camila		
Juturna		

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Virgil – *The Aeneid*

Literary source: *Virgil, 'Aeneid' translated by D. West (Penguin)*

Key Topics	Themes	Revised?	RAG
Literary Techniques and Composition	• Composition of the epic		
	• Architecture (structure) of the epic		
	• Plot of the epic		

	• Language of the epic including the use of:
	   ○ Speeches
	   ○ Themes
	   ○ Flashback
	   ○ similes		

	• Homeric Influence		
The Heroic World: Characterisation and Themes	• Concept, values and behaviour of a Greek and Roman hero		
	• Characterisation of major and minor characters		
	• Role of Aeneas in Rome's Imperial Destiny		
	• Portrayal of War		

	• The portrayal of different nations;
	   ○ Trojans
	   ○ Greeks
	   ○ Carthaginians
	   ○ Italians		

The Social, Cultural and Religious Context	• Moral values implicit in the *Aeneid* including *pietas* (duty to gods, state and family) and its contrast with *furor*.		
	• Importance of fate and destiny.		
	• Role of the immortals and the relationship between mortals and immortals		
	• Family and Friendship		
	• Relationships between men and women, parents and children		
	• Part played by women in the epic and their position in society		

Historical and political background	• Augustan context in which the Aeneid was produced including:
	   ○ The political and historical background of the civil war
	   ○ Augustus' rise to power and consolidation of his rule		

	• Virgil's relationship to Augustus and his regime and the extent to which they are promoted within the epic		
	• Virgil's anti-Augustan voice within the epic.		
	• Promotion of the Roman Empire.		