



WESTMINSTER  
SCHOOL

# The Challenge (Specialism)

Specimen Paper First Examination 2027

# GREEK

Time: 60 minutes

**Instructions to candidates:**

Answer all three sections. The paper rises in difficulty, both between and within sections. Attempt every part: credit is available throughout, and you are not expected to complete every question. A defined vocabulary list accompanies this paper; words outside it are glossed where they occur. Greek printed here carries breathings but not accents, except for on interrogatives.

Section	Time	Marks
A Error correction	10 mins	20
B Comprehension and translation	30 mins	40
C Translation into Greek	20 mins	30
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1 hour</b>	<b>90</b>

## Section A – Error correction [20 marks]

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Each Greek sentence below has an English translation beneath it. Each **Greek** sentence contains the number of mistakes shown in brackets.

**Underline each mistake and write the correct Greek in the space beside the sentence. There is one mark available for identifying a mistake and a second for writing the correct Greek.**

1. αἱ ἐν τῷ νησῷ εἰσὶν ἐτοιμαί. [1]  
*The women on the island are ready.*

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2. ὁ στρατιωτῆς πέμψει τὴν ἐπιστολὴν πρὸς τὴν βουλὴν. [1]  
*The general sent the letter to the council.*

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3. διώκομεν τὰς κορὰς εἰς τὸν δεσμωτήριον. [2]  
*We shall pursue the girls into the prison.*

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4. οὐ ἤκουσαμεν τὸ τῆς καλλίστης παιδὸς ὄνομα. [2]  
*We did not hear the name of the very beautiful girl.*

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5. τὰ δένδρα καλά ἐπέσον εἰς τὴν οἰκίαν. [2]  
*The pretty trees fell onto the house.*

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6. οἱ μὲν τὸν ἄγγελον πιστεύουσιν, οἱ δὲ παρῆσι ὡς αὐτὸ βλαψόντες. [2]  
*While some trust the messenger, others are here to harm him.*

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[10 x 2 = 20 marks]

## Section B – Comprehension and translation [40 marks]

Read the passage and answer the questions that follow. Take your answers from the Greek indicated in each question.

### *Medea helps Jason and the Argonauts to steal the golden fleece.*

ὁ δε Αἰήτης ἦν βασιλεὺς τῆς Κολχίδος· διότι κακὸς ἦν, ἀπέκτεινε ξένους· ἡ δε Μῆδεια, ἡ τοῦ Αἰήτου θυγατὴρ, αἶε ἠθέλεν αὐτοὺς σφάζειν. ὁ οὖν βασιλεὺς ἀπέπεμψεν αὐτὴν ἀπο τῆς πολέως.

ἐπεὶ δε ὁ Ἰάσων εἰσεπλευσεν εἰς τὴν Κολχίδα μετὰ τῶν Ἀργοναυτῶν, εὗρων τὴν Μῆδειαν ἐγγυς τῆς θαλάσσης, εἶπε, ‘πῶς οἴος τ’ εἶμι κλεπτεῖν το χρυσὸν δέρας; ἔμε ὠφελει καὶ σε γαμῶ.’ ἡ οὖν Μῆδεια ἠγάγεν τὸν τε Ἰάσωνα καὶ τοὺς Ἀργοναυτὰς πρὸς τὸ ἱερόν, οὐ ἦν τὸ δέρας. 5

ἐκεῖ δε τῶν Ἀργοναυτῶν τοὺς τοῦ ἱεροῦ φυλακὰς ἀποκτείναντων, ἡ Μῆδεια φαρμακοὺς διεφθειρε τὸν δρακόντα. οὕτως οὖν τὸ χρυσὸν δέρας ἔχοντες πάντες ἀσφαλῶς ἐξεφυγόν. 10

### Names

Αἰήτης, -ου ὁ	Aeetes
Κολχίς, -ίδος ἡ	Colchis (a city on the Black Sea)
Μῆδεια, -ας ἡ	Medea
Ἰάσων, -ονος ὁ	Jason
Ἀργοναυταί, -ῶν οἱ	the Argonauts

### Words

διότι	because
εἰσπλεω, εἰσεπλευσα	I sail into
ἐγγυς (+ gen.)	near
χρυσούς, -ῆ, -ῶν	golden
δέρας, -ους τὸ	fleece
ὠφελει	help (imperative)
γαμῶ (fut. γαμῶ)	I marry
ἱερόν, -ου, τὸ	temple
οὐ	where
φαρμακόν, -ου τὸ	drug, poison
διαφθειρω, διεφθειρα	I destroy
δρακῶν, -όντος ὁ	serpent, dragon
οὕτως	thus
ἀσφαλῶς	safely

1. ὁ δε Αἰητης... ξενους (line 1):

a) what are we told about the character of Aeetes here? [1]

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b) What evidence is given for it? [2]

.....

.....

2. ἡ δε Μηδεια... της πολεως (lines 1–3)

a) Who was Medea? [2]

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b) What did the king do to her? [2]

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.....

c) Why did the king take this action? [4]

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.....

3. μετα των Αργοναυτων (line 4): the Greek word **ναυτης** means 'sailor'. Suggest why Jason's companions are called the 'Argonauts'. [1]

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4. ἐπει δε ... εἶπε (lines 4–5): when and where did Jason come across Medea? [2]

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5. πῶς ... σε γαμῶ (lines 5–6):

a) what question does Jason put to Medea? [3]

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.....

b) How does he try to persuade her to do what he asks? [1]

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6. ἡ οὖν Μηδεια... το δερας (lines 6–7): how does Medea demonstrate that she accepts Jason's request? [4]

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7. ἐκει δε ... ἐξεφυγον (lines 8–10): translate the final paragraph into good English. [10]

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8. Give an English word derived from each of these Greek words, and state the meaning of the English word: [2]

(a) πολεως (line 3) .....

(b) παντες (line 10) .....

9. From the passage, write down one example of each of the following. State the line in which it occurs. [6]

(a) a strong aorist participle .....

(b) a weak aorist participle .....

(c) noun in the genitive case as part of a genitive absolute .....

(d) a verb in the imperfect tense .....

(e) a 3<sup>rd</sup> declension noun in the accusative case .....

(f) a preposition followed by the accusative case .....

## Section C – Translation into Greek [30 marks]

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Translate the following sentences into Greek. The sentences rise in difficulty. The later sentences include constructions beyond the syllabus: attempt them using the knowledge you have, since you cannot reduce your mark by trying. **If you wish, you may instead join the sentences into a single connected Greek narrative; additional credit is available for fluent continuous prose, but you will not be penalised for translating the sentences separately.**

1. On the first day the soldiers remained in the camp. [4]

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2. When the enemy came from the countryside, the wise general led the soldiers out. [4]

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3. The enemy were many, but the Athenians were all braver. [4]

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4. Because the general trusted the gods, he ordered his army to remain and fight during the day. [5]

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5. Having heard the general's command, some fought well, but others fled towards the ships. [6]

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6. At last, when the enemy king fell in the battle, the Athenians knew that they had saved their city and that a very great victory was theirs. [7]

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END OF PAPER