



UNIVERSITY OF PERADENIYA
CENTER FOR DISTANCE AND CONTINUING EDUCATION



1st Year (100 LEVEL) EXAMINATION IN BACHELOR OF ARTS (EXTERNAL – NEW SYLLABUS) APRIL 2017

GREEK AND ROMAN STUDIES

GRS E 101

Epic and Theatre

Answer question ONE and THREE other questions, selecting at least ONE from each Part

The total number of questions in this paper is five

(Three hours)

1. Comment on the subject matter of **all five** of the following, referring them to their contexts.

(a) You are no longer a child: you must put childish thoughts away.

(b) At once she recognized the scar...

(c) EITHER

(i) Hear, Zeus, and set our fallen laws upright
And may my song to Perses tell the truth.

OR

(ii) He does not pierce the soft-skinned girl who stays
Indoors at home with mother, innocent
Of golden Aphrodite's works.

P.T.O

(d) EITHER

- (i) Chance rules our lives, and the future is all unknown.
Best live as best we may, from day today.

OR

- (ii) If you won't speak willingly, we must make you speak.

(e) Gorgias, to complete the pattern, take my sister for your wife.

PART 1 –EPIC POETRY

2. EITHER

- (i) "None but humans are responsible for their sad plight." Discuss this statement with reference to the character of Odysseus in Homer's epic poem the *Odyssey*.

OR

- (ii) Discuss with examples the contemporary socio-cultural conditions in Greece as presented in Homer's *Odyssey*.

3. EITHER

- (i) "Hesiod's *Works and Days* is not a simple farmer's diary, but a treatise rich in information of his contemporary society." Do you agree with this statement? Give your reasons.

OR

- (ii) Would you consider Hesiod to be a hater of women (a misogynist)? Give your reasons.

P.T.O

PART II – THEATRE

4. 'Sophocles' play the *King Oedipus*, was a fine dramatization of the power of destiny and necessity.' Evaluate Sophocles' play the *king Oedipus* in the light of this observation.
5. "Menander's *The Bad Tempered Man* is a play that exposes the decadence of social values in ancient Greece." Examine the validity of this statement.

(25 marks each)