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2

91201



912010

Draw a cross through the box (☒) if you have NOT written in this booklet

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Mana Tohu Mātauranga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Qualifications Authority

Level 2 Classical Studies 2024

91201 Examine the significance of features of work(s) of art in the classical world

Credits: Four

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
Examine the significance of features of work(s) of art in the classical world.	Examine, in-depth, the significance of features of work(s) of art in the classical world.	Examine, with perception, the significance of features of work(s) of art in the classical world.

Check that the National Student Number (NSN) on your admission slip is the same as the number at the top of this page.

You should answer ONE of the questions in this booklet.

If you need more room for any answer, use the extra space provided at the back of this booklet.

Check that this booklet has pages 2–11 in the correct order and that none of these pages is blank.

Do not write in the margins (//////). This area will be cut off when the booklet is marked.

YOU MUST HAND THIS BOOKLET TO THE SUPERVISOR AT THE END OF THE EXAMINATION.

Achievement

TOTAL 03

Page 1

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer ONE of the questions below with reference to one or more **classical art works or buildings**.
You must answer using paragraphs.

QUESTIONS (Choose ONE)

1. Explain how a classical artist depicted figures to convey messages.
2. Explain how a classical artist created a sense of action in an art work.
3. How did features of a classical building reflect the artistic ability and / or skill of its creators?
4. In what ways was a classical art work and / or building influenced by the context in which it was created?

SELECTED QUESTION

Copy and paste the question you have chosen into the space below.

In what ways was a classical art work and / or building influenced by the context in which it was created?

CLASSICAL ART WORK(S) OR BUILDING(S)

Death of Pentheus - House of the Vettii

PLANNING

Basic info

*Name of the painting

*date

*style

*size

the myth

*little quick summary of how the story goes

composition

*Chiaroscuro

*Apex

*Symmetry

*all eyes on him!!!

Depth

*useage of background and foreground

conclusion if you have time

*go over the religious message behind it all again

ANSWER

Type your answer in the space below. You should aim to write a concise answer of no more than 750–800 words. (The counter will change colour when you reach the recommended word count.) The quality of your writing is more important than the length of your answer.

Support your answer with evidence from one or more classical art works or buildings.

B *I* U     

Death of Pentheus, a fourth style, or fantastic style mosaic 1.04m x 1.04m, created in 62-79AD. The Death of Pentheus is a religious story that depicts Pentheus, King of Thebes's, last moments alive until his ultimate demise, the mosaic is located in the Triclinium of House of the Vettii, a domas owned by brothers Aulus Vettii Conviva and Aulus Vettii Respitutus. The Death of Pentheus Mosaic was painted in fourth style due to how expressive and detailed it is, because of this it is also the most expensive. A mosaic is multiple layers of plaster, from there the painting is painted on the plaster whilst wet, the more layers of plaster, the richer you are, the Death of Pentheus painting had 6 layers all together. Alongside the Death of Pentheus painting is two others known as Dirke and infant Hercules, all linking back to the same message, show the gods obedience or you will be punished. The room is painted in yellow to tie everything together along with well painted windows that are known as architectural illusions, this was used to make the room seem bigger then what it was.

This story is about Pentheus and Dionysus, they were cousins and grandchildren to the King of Thebes. Pentheus is heir to the throne whilst Dionysus is dislikes mostly by his cousin. Once Pentheus is crowned, unaware of the fact that his cousin Dionysus is a god, he bans the worship of Dionysus in his kingdom, as Dionysus encouraged only the women to do things Pentheus deemed as immature and inappropriate for woman to be doing. Dionysus isn't happy with being disrespected the way he had and makes the women of Thebes go crazy, guiding them up the mountains. Once Pentheus had learnt of this, he set out to retrieve the women, many of which were his aunties, and even his own mother, his intentions being to bring them back to the safety of the kingdom. Dionysus however, tricked Pentheus into thinking he was on his side, even going as far as to offer him a hiding spot from which he could spy on the women. Ultimately, this ends in Pentheus's demise as he is spotted by the women who, in their high state of mind, mistake him for a lion, and thinking they're stronger then what they actually are, they kill him. It wasn't until Pentheus's own mother, Agave, placed his head on a tray and carried it back down to Thebes had the madness left the women and they had realised their mistake. This story is to show that no mortal man, not even a great king like Pentheus is greater than a god, and that if you do not obey them you will pay, also known as the fall of mortal men.

There are a few compositions in this painting, the first being the Chiastic. The Chiastic is shown through the arms of the women and the legs being in the shape of a cross, weapons aimed, with Pentheus's chest or head being directly in the middle, this is done to specifically draw attention to Pentheus, as this is most likely his very last moments alive. The Apex is the second composition, the apex is created through the first two women either side of Pentheus and the one behind him creating a triangle, this once more draws attention to Pentheus and his final moments, not only this but all eyes on are on Pentheus, besides Pentheus who's seen looking up at one of the women, finally symmetry is shown, if you're to split the image in half you would find both sides of the paintings are nearly identical besides the women in the back.

Depth is shown in this painting through its usage of foreground and background, Pentheus and the two women either side of him, about to strike are the foreground, then behind him sit the women just behind the rocks with their arms reaching forwards, the women behind Pentheus and the other two women being the ones in the background, this is to give the painting that depth, its 2D, made to look 3D.

In conclusion, the Death of Pentheus Mosaic depicts Pentheus, King of Thebes, last moments alive, killed by those he was close to because he has unknowingly banned the worship of a god, Dionysus in his kingdom. It was made because the brothers wanted to show that disobedience towards the gods was not something tolerable, this gives us an insight into how religion had worked back in Ancient times, and how much more intense it was.

763 WORDS / 800 RECOMMENDED

Achievement

Subject: Classical Studies

Standard: 91201

Total score: 03

Q	Grade score	Marker commentary
Four	A3	This response represents a low Achieved grade. Despite having a good knowledge of the art work, the candidate has not engaged with the question sufficiently to draw sound conclusions about how the context has influenced the work. Some context and influence are taken as implied through the description of its location and the narrative of the myth which, as is typical of lower quality responses, dominates the response. There is a limited focus on the examination question, which is only explicitly addressed in the conclusion.