

# **National Certificate of Educational Achievement**

## **2013 Assessment Report**

### **Classical Studies Level 2**

- 91200 Examine ideas and values of the classical world**
- 91201 Examine the significance of features of work(s) of art in the classical world**
- 91203 Examine socio-political life in the classical world**

## COMMENTARY

In 2013 candidates were required to respond to one of four questions in each paper and they were advised to support their answers with relevant primary evidence.

Successful candidates chose questions that best suited their learning and responded to all parts of the question. Their answers showed excellent knowledge and understanding of the classical world and included a wide range of relevant and well-explained primary evidence. They were also able to draw developed and insightful conclusions and used technical terms and Greek / Latin words correctly and confidently.

In addition, successful candidates took the time to think carefully about the question and planned their answers in the space provided for them. They then approached the question systematically and wrote extended paragraphs that included a key idea, a wide range of specific primary evidence and thorough explanations.

It is important for candidates to understand that they are not expected to write an essay, therefore lengthy and often irrelevant introductions are unnecessary.

In order to achieve, candidates must respond to the question with answers which are relevant. Candidates writing everything they have learnt or producing a pre-prepared response often results in answers that do not address the question.

Candidates whose answers, do not respond to all parts of a question and fail to provide specific and well-explained evidence consistently, are unlikely to meet the requirements for achievement with merit or achievement with excellence.

It is therefore important for candidates to focus on the key words of the question and respond accordingly. Also, they must pay attention to the footnotes provided by the examiner.

## STANDARD REPORTS

### 91200 Examine ideas and values of the classical world

#### ACHIEVEMENT

**Candidates who were awarded Achievement for this standard demonstrated the required skills and knowledge. They typically:**

- made general links to the ideas and values of the classical world but their answers were plot heavy
- had some knowledge of their chosen text, shown in the use of general examples
- provided some supporting evidence, but their examples were very general or briefly explained and did not support their answer adequately.
- answered only one part of the question
- struggled with the terms in the question (for example, in response to question one, motivation and/or the concept of outside forces).

## **NOT ACHIEVED**

**Candidates who were assessed as Not Achieved for this standard lacked some or all of the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement. They typically:**

- did not show good knowledge of their chosen text
- showed little or no understanding of the ideas and values of the classical society
- outlined the plot without addressing the question
- did not draw conclusions
- did not respond to the question
- produced a rote learned response that did not address the question.

## **ACHIEVEMENT WITH MERIT**

**In addition to the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement, candidates who were awarded Achievement with Merit typically:**

- explained the idea(s) or value(s) in detail
- responded successfully to the question and addressed all parts of the question, provided specific supporting evidence and explained it
- gave a clearly defined conclusion that showed analysis of the text and understanding of the ideas and values of the classical world
- their answers showed more breadth of knowledge than depth.

## **ACHIEVEMENT WITH EXCELLENCE**

**In addition to the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement with Merit, candidates who were awarded Achievement with Excellence typically:**

- addressed all parts of the question in depth and their answers were relevant, accurate and analytical
- showed both breadth and depth of knowledge
- made clear links to the ideas and values of the classical world
- provided a wide range of specific evidence from the literary text to support their ideas throughout the response, and explained their evidence thoroughly
- gave conclusions that both summarised their response and gave further analysis to show greater perception in their understanding of the classical world.

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

### **ACHIEVEMENT**

**Candidates who were awarded Achievement for this standard demonstrated the required skills and knowledge. They typically:**

- selected art work(s)/classical building(s) appropriate to the question
- demonstrated straightforward knowledge of the artwork(s)/classical building(s)
- responded to a part(s) of the question
- provided some supporting evidence but their explanations lacked depth
- gave simple conclusions.

## **NOT ACHIEVED**

**Candidates who were assessed as Not Achieved for this standard lacked some or all of the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement. They typically:**

- selected an inappropriate artwork / classical building for the question
- demonstrated a lack of knowledge of their chosen art work
- wrote responses- sometimes at length- that did not address the question
- provided irrelevant and/or incorrect information
- misinterpreted the question
- provided limited conclusions or none at all.

## **ACHIEVEMENT WITH MERIT**

**In addition to the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement, candidates who were awarded Achievement with Merit typically:**

- demonstrated an informed knowledge of appropriately selected artwork(s)/classical building(s) across most parts of the question
- addressed all parts of the question
- supported their answers with specific and relevant evidence and provided good explanations
- gave detailed conclusions.

## **ACHIEVEMENT WITH EXCELLENCE**

**In addition to the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement with Merit, candidates who were awarded Achievement with Excellence typically:**

- wrote detailed and perceptive responses that addressed all parts of the question
- demonstrated a perceptive insight into the society (Greek or Roman) of the classical world
- used specific and relevant evidence consistently to support their answers and explained their evidence
- drew developed conclusions.

## **91203 Examine socio-political life in the classical world**

### **ACHIEVEMENT**

**Candidates who were awarded Achievement for this standard demonstrated the required skills and knowledge. They typically:**

- included some information that addressed parts of the question appropriately
- showed general knowledge and understanding
- answers tended to be descriptive and not tailored to the question
- provided some supporting evidence
- misinterpreted parts of the question or misunderstood some key terms
- included extraneous and/or irrelevant information.

## **NOT ACHIEVED**

**Candidates who were assessed as Not Achieved for this standard lacked some or all of the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement. They typically:**

- misunderstood or misinterpreted key terms/words in the question and wrote on irrelevant topics or used inappropriate content
- wrote a response that did not allow them to address the question in sufficient detail
- used unsuitable information in their response that did not address the question
- wrote extremely vague responses, lacking any detail
- provided brief bullet-pointed lists lacking detail or depth
- confused Greek and Roman civilisations
- described content that was unrelated to the question
- provided vague or erroneous opinions rather than facts
- attempted to describe content in their response with no reference to the question
- incorrectly identified appropriate content to use to answer the chosen question.

## **ACHIEVEMENT WITH MERIT**

**In addition to the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement, candidates who were awarded Achievement with Merit typically:**

- attempted all parts of the question
- identified what the question required and provided detailed and relevant answers although their responses were unbalanced
- used appropriate Greek and Latin terms
- were able to incorporate primary source evidence into their response to enhance explanations and demonstrate awareness of purpose
- gave solid conclusions about the content that they had used to answer the question but conclusions were often not as consistently detailed as the body of the work.

## **ACHIEVEMENT WITH EXCELLENCE**

**In addition to the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement with Merit, candidates who were awarded Achievement with Excellence typically:**

- identified what the question required and wrote with consistent relevance
- discussed all parts of the question correctly, analytically and with detail
- used multiple appropriate Greek and Latin terms
- were able to integrate ideas, perceptive statements and primary sources to create a substantial answer
- provided supporting evidence throughout their response and explained it effectively
- were able to relate content used in their response to other relevant ideas and situations in the classical world to provide context and show deeper understanding and perception
- gave insightful conclusions about the content they had used to answer the question
- conclusions were detailed and referred back to previous statements and sources.