

# **6AH 2020 Assessment**

## **Instructions**

You have 1 hour to answer both sections, so you should apportion your time appropriately:

- 15 mins for each source and its questions [20 marks]
- 30 mins for your chosen essay [20+5 marks]

In Section B, there is a choice between two essays. Only answer one!

**Answer within the google-doc.**

***When you are ready, scroll down for the questions.***

# Section A

***Please read the following sources and answer ALL the questions below***

## Alexander the Great

Some say that for the greater part of that day he flung himself down beside the body of his friend groaning and did not wish to be separated from him, until he was forcibly removed by his companions; in other accounts, he lay beside the body all day and all night; other writers say he strung up the doctor Glaucias, either because of the wrong drug being given or because he saw Hephaestion drinking heavily and allowed him to continue. I think it is likely that Alexander cut his hair over the body, especially because he had been eager to emulate Achilles ever since boyhood. Some accounts add that Alexander himself for some time drove the chariot on which the body was carried, though this does not seem credible to me. There are others who write that he ordered the Temple of Asclepius at Ecbatana to be utterly destroyed, a barbarian act in no way appropriate for Alexander, but more in keeping with the arrogance of Xerxes in divine matters and the chains which it is said he hurled into the Hellespont to punish it.

*Arrian, Anabasis 7.14*

- 1) What can we learn from this passage about Alexander's reaction to the death of Hephaestion? [5]
  
- 2) Using details from the passage, evaluate how accurate you think Arrian's account of these events is. [5]

## Hannibal and the Second Punic War

He certainly had a poor reputation in his own army, but the Carthaginians went further, despising him as an insignificant coward. Only one man saw it differently – and that was Hannibal himself. He alone understood his opponent's strategy and realised how intelligently he applied it. He realised that he must use every possible tactical device to bring him to battle. Otherwise the Carthaginians would be done for, unable to use the weaponry in which they were superior, while steadily losing their already inferior manpower and wasting their inadequate resources with nothing to show for it. He turned to all kinds of military tactics and devices, striving like a skilled wrestler to get to grips with his opponent. Sometimes he would make a direct assault, sometimes diversionary attacks, sometimes he tried to draw him out in almost any direction, always trying to persuade Fabius to abandon his safe, defensive strategy.

*Plutarch, Life of Fabius Maximus 5.3*

- 3) What can we learn from this passage about Hannibal's reaction to Fabian tactics? [5]
  
- 4) Using details from the passage, evaluate how accurate you think Plutarch's account of these events is. [5]

## Section B

Answer one essay question.

**Option 1:** How far would you agree that in the early years of the Republic (510 -445 BC) Rome was a better place for all classes than under the Kings? [20+5]

**Option 2:** “It was only through conquest and brute force that the Persian empire developed.” Is this a fair summary of the period from Cyrus to Xerxes? [20+5]