

ATHENS AND ROME: LIFE AND CULTURE IN CLASSICAL ANTIQUITY

Gobbet Guide

CLCS4007

Dr Matthew Cobb

General Advice

- ❑ **Don't** simply describe or paraphrase what is said in the passage – or in the case of the images simply tell me what you see – **Analyse** its significance.
- ❑ **Don't** write a general essay about x or y, remember you are discussing the significance of the passage or image.
- ❑ Provide **context** – but be **concise** – who is the author of the source and what is its nature and tone, why was it written? Most importantly how does this impact on the detail given in the passage? – In the case of the images when and by whom might it have been produced/commissioned and for what purpose.

- **Critical Analysis** – what are the key themes or issues (and people) of the passage – can what is said in the passage be considered reliable? – In the case of the images, what are the significant features that can be noted and does this tell us anything important? In both cases explain the significance of what is read or shown.
- **Evaluation** - What problems or issues for are generated by the passage or image for historians. Does what the passage or image tells/shows us conform to what we might expect or is it atypical.

- ▣ **Comparison** – are there any **relevant** texts or objects which can be meaningfully compared with the Gobbet. Do they conform with or contradict what is in the Gobbet.
- ▣ What is your **own interpretation** of the passage or image – on what basis are you making that interpretation?
- ▣ What interpretations have been made by **modern scholars** about the passage or image? Don't simply quote them, engage with what they are arguing, do you agree or disagree with their interpretations and on what basis?

Style, Formatting and Proof-Reading

- ❑ **Proof-read** your work before submission – you will be marked on the basis of clarity, structure, comprehensibility, grammar etc.
- ❑ Don't forget to **reference** properly – i.e. includes footnotes and a bibliography – follow the School's guidelines on the style of referencing.
- ❑ **Submit before the deadline** – the first week after the deadline the work is capped at 40%, the following three weeks at 0%.