



PRIFYSGOL CYMRU
Y Drindod Dewi Sant
UNIVERSITY OF WALES
Trinity Saint David

**UNIVERSITY OF WALES:
TRINITY SAINT DAVID
LOCATION: LAMPETER**

**PRIFYSGOL CYMRU:
Y DRINDOD DEWI SANT
LLEOLIAD: LLANBED**

LEVEL 4

LEFEL 4

EXAMINATION PERIOD MAY 2011

CYFNOD ARHOLIADAU MAI 2011

**CLAH4002
THE ROMAN EMPIRE**

TIME: 1 HOUR

**ANSWER 1 QUESTION IN SECTION A AND 1 QUESTION IN
SECTION B**

Equipment or materials required – None

Adnoddau neu ddefnyddiau sydd eu hangen - Dim

ANSWER BOTH SECTION A AND SECTION B

SECTION A IS WORTH 1/3 OF THE MARKS, SECTION B IS WORTH 2/3 OF THE MARKS: DIVIDE YOUR TIME ACCORDINGLY

Candidates should ensure that they avoid repetition of material in their answers to different questions, and between their answers and their coursework essays.

SECTION A

Comment on the context and content of **one** of the following four passages:

1.

Titus during his reign put no senator to death, nor, indeed, was anyone else slain by him during his rule. Cases based on the charge of *maiestas* he would never entertain himself nor allow others to entertain; for he declared: "It is impossible for me to be insulted or abused in any way. For I do naught that deserves censure, and I care not for what is reported falsely. As for the emperors who are dead and gone, they will avenge themselves in case anyone does them a wrong, if in very truth they are demigods and possess any power." In his reign also the False Nero appeared, who was an Asiatic named Terentius Maximus. He resembled Nero both in appearance and in voice (for he too sang to the accompaniment of the lyre). He gained a few followers in Asia, and in his advance to the Euphrates attached a far greater number, and finally sought refuge with Artabanus, the Parthian leader, who, because of his anger against Titus, both received him and set about making preparations to restore him to Rome.

Cassius Dio, 66.19

2.

Trajan constructed over the Ister a stone bridge for which I cannot sufficiently admire him. Brilliant, indeed, as are his other achievements, yet this surpasses them. For it has twenty piers of squared stone one hundred and fifty feet in height above the foundations and sixty in width, and these, standing at a distance of one hundred and seventy feet from one another, are connected by arches. How, then, could one fail to be astonished at the expenditure made upon them, or at the way in which each of them was placed in a river so deep, in water so full of eddies, and on a bottom so muddy? For it was impossible, of course, to divert the stream anywhere... This, too, then, is one of the achievements that show the magnitude of Trajan's designs, though the bridge is of no use to us; for merely the piers are standing, affording no means of crossing, as if they had been erected for the sole purpose of demonstrating that there is nothing which human ingenuity cannot accomplish. Trajan built the bridge because he feared that some time when the Ister was frozen over war might be made upon the Romans on the further side, and he wished to facilitate access to them by this means. Hadrian, on the contrary, was afraid that it might also make it easy for the barbarians, once they had overpowered the guard at the bridge, to cross into Moesia, and so he removed the superstructure.

Cassius Dio, 68.13

3.

The body of Commodus was buried during the night, after Livius Laurensis, the steward of the imperial estate, had surrendered it at the bidding of Pertinax to Fabius Cilo, the consul elect. At this the senate cried out: "With whose authority have they buried him? The buried murderer, let him be dug up, let him be dragged in the dust." Cincius Severus said: "Wrongfully has he been buried. And I speak as pontifex, so speaks the college of the pontifices. And now, having recounted what is joyful, I shall proceed to what is needful: I give it as my opinion that the statues should be overthrown which this man, who lived but for the destruction of his fellow-citizens and for his own shame, forced us to decree in his honour; wherever they are, they should be cast down. His name, moreover, should be erased from all public and private records, and the months should be once more called by the names whereby they were called when this scourge first fell upon the state."

Historia Augusta, Commodus, 20

4.

His sons, who were now young men, quarrelled continually on the return journey to Rome with their mother. They did not use the same lodgings or even dine together, since they were extremely suspicious of all they ate and drank; each feared that the other would secretly get prior access to the kitchens and bribe the servants to use poison. This fear led the youths to complete the journey with even greater haste; for they believed that they would be safer in Rome where, by dividing the palace between them, each could manage his own affairs as he pleased in the most spacious dwelling in the entire city. When they arrived in Rome, the people welcomed them with laurel branches and the senate, too, came out to greet them. The two youths headed the procession, wearing the imperial purple; the consuls for that year followed, carrying the urn which held the ashes of Severus. Then those who had come out to greet the young emperors passed by the urn and paid their respects to the emperor. The procession escorted the urn to the mausoleum where the remains of Marcus and his imperial predecessors are to be seen. After performing the rites prescribed for new emperors, the youths entered the imperial palace. Each brother now took up residence in his half of the palace. Barricading the inner doors, they used in common only the public outer doors. Caracalla and Geta stationed their own private guards and were never seen together except briefly during their infrequent public appearances. But before doing anything else, the emperors performed the funeral rites for their father.

Herodian, 4.1

SECTION B

Write an essay on **one** of the following titles. You must ensure that you do not choose questions which will involve your repeating a significant amount of material from any of your questions in Section A.

1. How good was Augustus' advice to his successors 'to keep the empire within its boundary-stones'?
2. How did emperors seek to influence who would rule after them?
3. Was philhellenism an opportunity or a pitfall for Roman emperors?
4. To what extent was Nerva 'a second Galba'?

END