



National Certificate of Educational Achievement
TAUMATA MĀTAURANGA Ā-MOTU KUA TAEA

Exemplar for Internal Achievement Standard

Classical Studies Level 2

This exemplar supports assessment against:

Achievement Standard 91202

Demonstrate understanding of a significant event in the classical world

An annotated exemplar is an extract of student evidence, with a commentary, to explain key aspects of the standard. It assists teachers to make assessment judgements at the grade boundaries.

New Zealand Qualifications Authority

To support internal assessment

	Grade Boundary: Low Excellence
1.	<p>For Excellence, the student needs to demonstrate perceptive understanding of a significant event in the classical world.</p> <p>This involves giving an explanation that shows insight into why the event was important. This could be through explaining reasons for similarities and differences, cultural expectations and codes of behaviour, and/or recognising limitations of sources of evidence.</p> <p>In this extract the student demonstrates perceptive understanding by showing insight into why the event of the Battle of Marathon was important. Primary source evidence of specific relevance has been used in their explanation (1). They have explained a range of aspects/factors: leadership, cultural significance, social significance (2) and reasons for similarities and differences (3). Throughout their explanation, the student makes links to the wider cultural context (4).</p> <p>For a more secure Excellence, the student could recognise the limitations of sources of evidence, and explain cultural expectations and codes of behaviour in greater depth.</p>

Excerpt where the student places the event in context:

The plain of Marathon was backed by two ranges of mountain which the Greeks used to their advantage. At their arrival they set up camp between those two ranges. This followed by a five day wait between the two armies. Miltiades, having received charge, sent some brave warriors to charge at the Persians who seem them arrive were ready yet surprised at their boldness *"It seemed to them that the Athenians were bereft of their senses, and bent upon their own destruction"* (Herodotus). (1)

Excerpt where the student explains the significance of the event:

The Battle of Marathon was just the first of the Greco-Persian encounters. Xerxes succeeded Darius and in 480 BC, with the aim of crushing the Greeks, he led the army to Greece. The events of the first Persian wars led to the second Persian wars, particularly the Battle of Thermopylae (480 BC), this time led by the Spartans against a Persian army under the rule of Xerxes. *While the Spartans were of little support to the Athenians during the Battle of Marathon, their presence at the the "hot gates" revealed the extent to which this was a pan-Hellenic defense, rather than city-state by city-state* (2). This battle was lost by the Spartans but provided time for the Athenians to prepare for attack at the Battle of Salamis. The Athenians were successful here due to the *leadership of Themistocles* (2). He used his strategy of the "wooden wall of ships" to lure to Persian fleet up the strait of Salamis where they were defeated. Had the Battle of Marathon not been won it is fair to say that the battles that followed would not have been the same or maybe not even existed as Greece would have struggled to resist the Persian army any further and ended up as a part of the Persian empire.

After the Battle of Marathon, Athens was overjoyed at their victory against an army that was equal to no other. The odds having not been in their favour with the Spartans not being able to supply men, therefore outnumbering them to approximately 3 Persians to 1 Greek. The Athenians believed that the gods were on their side. The whole city was *filled with pride and self-confidence* (2), they had proved that the Persians were not invincible and had been successful, without the help of the military Sparta. This boost to confidence *reassured the Athenians that their recent political shifts under Kleisthenes resulted in a stronger city-state* (2). This victory brought them to *create many artefacts* (2) in glory of the event. In commemoration of the 192 dead a marble column and burial mound were built and still stand on the plain of Marathon. On the Acropolis a great temple, the Hekatompedon, had been started to show the splendour of Athens at their time of triumph. This "pre-Parthenon" was burnt down when the Persians ravaged the whole city in 480BC.

	Grade Boundary: High Merit
2.	<p>For Merit, the student needs to demonstrate in-depth understanding of a significant event in the classical world.</p> <p>This involves placing the event in context to give an informed explanation of why the event was important. This could be through using primary source evidence of specific relevance to the context and/or explaining a range of aspects and/or factors.</p> <p>In this extract the student gives an informed understanding of why the event of the Battle of Marathon was important, using primary source evidence of specific relevance to support their explanation (1). This explanation covers a range of aspects related to the event: leadership, cultural significance and political significance (2).</p> <p>To reach Excellence, the student could link the event more closely to the shifts in cultural expectations, i.e. how the battle directly linked to the development of democratic systems of government.</p>

Excerpt where the student places the event in context:

The battle occurred in the narrow straits of Salamis near the city of Athens in 480BC. It was between the Athenians and the Persians. The intention of the Salamis battle was so the Persians could get revenge on the Athenians from the damage they caused in the past battle of Marathon. This was a key factor that led to the battle of Salamis. The Athenians were led by an Athenian statesman, Themistocles, who thought of the plan to defeat the Persians but a Spartan commander, Eurybiades led them into battle. Compared to the Persians who were led by their King, Xerxes (2), he had great confidence as the Persian had more ships than the Greeks, he had so much confidence he watched from a hill his army fight. *"Xerxes watched the course of the battle from the base of Mt Aegaleos, across the strait from Salamis"* (1). When the battle took place, the Greeks were well prepared as the Persians - *"Forward, sons of the Greeks, liberate the fatherland, liberate your children, your women, the temples of your ancestral gods, the graves of your forebears: this is the battle for everything"* (1) – The battle cry of the Greeks as they charged into battle. The Greeks used their power and their knowledge of the waters to get the speed and power they needed. With the Persians in the wrong position to attack the Athenians barged the ships and destroyed the majority of them. *"Our ships were jammed in the hundreds; none could help another. They rammed each other with their prows of bronze; and some were stripped of every oar."* (1) – From the play *The Persians*, *"The Greek fleet worked together as a whole, while the Persians had lost formation and were no longer fighting on any plan. None the less they (the Persians) fought well that day - far better than in the actions off Euboea. Every man of them did his best for fear of Xerxes, feeling that the king's eye was on him"* (1) –Herodotus.

Excerpt where the student explains the significance of the event:

The Battle had a huge effect on the future of Athens. With the Persians being defeated again, this meant the Athenians gained power as they continued to take over and free the western seaboard (2) of Asia Minor. With the development of the Delian League, the Athenian empire flourished. At its highest point in time, Athens had large amounts of land and money under its control. Pericles, a leading statesman, knew that the citizens of Athens wanted a more pleasing city, he planned to rebuild the city and rebuild the buildings that had been damaged during the battles using money from the Delian league (2). Pericles persuaded the city to spend massive amounts of money on reconstructing the city. Today the Parthenon can be seen, which took 15 years to build. Due to Athens' golden age, understanding of the world became more sophisticated. This included scientific discoveries such as Anaxagoras, a scientist that discovered why the moon lit up. Also the first historical work by Herodotus was recorded (2). He wrote about the Persian wars. These outcomes are extremely significant as it helped form the future of Greece that led to many things in modern times. As the Battle was a naval battle, many lower classed Athenians went to fight; they were needed to row, and give power to the ships. As a result of this it led to a reward to them and the top two social classes were reduced and not as powerful. Athens also became a democratic state, which was not quite developed under the reforms of Kleisthenes (2).

	Grade Boundary: Low Merit
3.	<p>For Merit, the student needs to demonstrate in-depth understanding of a significant event in the classical world.</p> <p>This involves placing the event in context to give an informed explanation of why the event was important. This could be through using primary source evidence of specific relevance to the context and/or explaining a range of aspects and/or factors.</p> <p>In this extract, the student has provided an informed understanding of the event of the Trojan War, using primary source evidence which is specifically relevant to the points made (1). A range of aspects/factors are covered to explain why this event was significant: timing, location, causes, and cultural significance (2).</p> <p>For a more secure Merit, the student could respond in a more balanced manner by explaining why the event was important in the classical world, rather than the emphasis on placing the event in context.</p>

Excerpt where the student places the event in context:

The Trojan war and the tale of Troy was set in the bronze age (3300 - 1200 BC). The supposed site of Troy was in the Northwest of modern Turkey. In the Bronze age often the main reason for the war declaration was because of land, wealth and/or resources. In the case of Troy, the "Trojan War" was declared because Troy was very wealthy, and has a lot of bronze and copper which would be very valuable assets to the Greeks - as seen through the **discovery of copper ingots as part of the Uluburun shipwreck (left) (1).**



Hittite tablets (right) provide evidence of the location of a significant war between the Trojans and Greeks (1) around 1295 - 1272 BC - which aligns to the mythological context of the war. Therefore, this was the conclusive reason in the historical context for the Trojan war. There is no real proof that the Trojan War as described in mythological and literary sources happened but there is source evidence that suggests that aspects could be true.

The mythological reasoning for the cause of the war was provoked by Paris being selected by Zeus to judge the first recorded beauty contest with Hera, Aphrodite, and Athene as the contestants. Paris selected Aphrodite who awarded him the most beautiful, Helen, as his prize. Unfortunately, Helen was married to King Menelaus of Sparta. This aggravated Menelaus who asked Agamemnon to declare war on the Trojans.

Excerpt where student explains why the event was important

The story of the Trojan war is one of the most amazing myths there is. The war to this day is one of the most well-known myths ever. This is because it was retold by two amazing writers, Homer and Virgil, who told the tale through epic poetry. This helped the audience to **understand the cultural expectations of the Greeks, such as the importance of burial rites or arete (2).** Achilles allows Priam to take the body of Hector back to have full burial rites in the Iliad. Even though Achilles' rage led to Hector's death, he respects religious practices enough to ignore battlelines. **These two writers have inspired many other writers and artists. The Trojan War was a popular theme in Classical, Renaissance, Romantic and Modernist periods - in works of art such as The Judgement of Paris by Rubens and James Joyce's Ulysses (2).**

	Grade Boundary: High Achieved
4.	<p>For Achieved, the student needs to demonstrate understanding of a significant event in the classical world.</p> <p>This involves using primary source evidence and placing the event in context to explain why the event was important.</p> <p>Within the whole submission, the student uses supporting primary source evidence and explained points in more depth than what can be seen in this extract. Or with a level of depth that approaches Merit.</p> <p>In this extract, the student demonstrates understanding of the significance of the formation of the first triumvirate (1) through an explanation of the reasons it was established and the effect of its breakup. The student places the event in its historical context, and makes some comments explaining why the event was important.</p> <p>To reach Merit, the student could consider the implications of the significance of the triumvirate on a range of aspects, such as social implications on the higher classes, impact on lives of the Romans, expansion of the provinces, to give an informed explanation.</p>

The first triumvirate was a political alliance between three powerful men in Rome. Gaius Julius Caesar, Gnaeus Pompeius Magnus and Marcus Licinius. It was formed in 59 and it was formed to further their own ends in the face of opposition. The triumvirate was successful because each man bought something useful to the alliance, Caesar bought the Political power and the people power, Pompey bought the military and Crassus being the richest man in Rome at the time obviously bought the money, it was thought that they were jelous of each others successes though.

The triumvirate was formed to protect themselves and to further their own ends in the face of opposition from the Optimates including Cicero and Clodius. Even though the three had never really been on good terms, Caesars appeal for the three to work together was accepted, although at the time only Caesar saw the potential as it was thought the other two only saw a short term alliance. Each of them needed something and together they could accomplish it, Pompey needed land for his veteran soldiers, Crassuse needed rebate for the equestrian tax-formers and Casesar needed the political power and needed Pompeys military because he wanted to have a triumph and wanted to be Consul because if he did not have any he would be tried for his previous criminal acts. With these three together with the prestige, wealth and power of the plebeians, the support of equites and armed force they could be unstoppable.

The First Triumvirate lasted for so long because for a long time it was kept a secret. They also had everything they needed, popularity, money, military political status, everything they need to rule the empire, everything they needed to rule Rome and get what they needed, for examples Caesar getting his Consulship and his Triumph and in return Caesar did everything in his power, legal or illegal, to pass the legislation Pompey and Crassus wanted. They were also motivated by the dramatic repercussions that would occur if the alliance were to fail, Caesar would be tried for his criminal offences during his time. Pompey would have less military and have no land for his veterans, these are some of the reasons why the triumvirate was so succesful and lasted for so long.

...

As Cicero sadly noted, Pompey had been diminished by age, uncertainty, his fear of Caesar and the strain of being the chosen tool of optimates. The coming conflict seemed unavoidable. These law changes was a direct statement to Caesar that there alliance was all but over. It also started a war of words as Pompey stated he could 'defeat Caesar and raise armies merely by stamping his foot on the soil of Italy' which in turn turned to the civil war in 49. So I believe when Pompey became Sole-Consul and changed the laws against Caesar, this was the end of their power, it turned them against each other and was the start of violence, war and the death of the Roman Republic.

	Grade Boundary: Low Achieved
5.	<p>For Achieved, the student needs to demonstrate understanding of a significant event in the classical world.</p> <p>This involves using primary source evidence and placing the event in context to explain why the event was important.</p> <p>In this extract, the student has demonstrated understanding of the event of the battle of Thermopylae. Primary source evidence has been used in the explanation (1). The explanation places the event in context (2) and explains why the event was important (3).</p> <p>For a more secure Achieved, the student could provide a more considered response, rather than making generalisations.</p>

Excerpt where the student places the event in context (2):

The battle of Thermopylae was an extremely significant battle of the Persian wars in regards to Greek society. The battle was fought over 3 days between combined forces from Greek city-states and the Persian Empire who were proceeding to invade and conquer Athens and then the rest of Greece (2). The Greek side was led mainly by the Spartans and King Leonidas and were greatly outnumbered having a force of around 7000 men. This was of great contrast to the Persians whose numbers, according to Ancient sources including Herodotus, reached into the millions, but realistically was around 150000 men (1). Despite the obvious advantage the Persians still took three days of fighting to defeat the Greek forces and win the battle, were almost forced to retreat, and suffered heavy casualties. It was a near impossible feat that the Greeks achieved, and although they suffered defeat their bravery and strength were well respected and received after the battle and helped to boost the morale of Greek troops and citizens, giving them ideas that they did stand a chance against the greatly feared and powerful Persia.

Excerpt where the student explains the significance of the event (3):

As the battle effectively removed the Persian threat one of the differences between Greek and Persia following the battle of Thermopylae is that the Greeks won the Persian wars while the Persians lost. A major consequence of the Greeks winning the Persians Wars was that there was a great shift of power. Most of the Persian forces retreated after Salamis and this let the Greeks to be able to prosper, being able to regain the power they had previously lost and gain back land whilst the Persian Empire began to retreat back into Asia-Minor. In classical times it was common for the victors of wars to heavily document their wins and for the losers to have significantly less written about such events. This is the case for Thermopylae, which is talked about in ancient Greek history a great deal. Herodotus is often thought of as the first real historian as he wrote about the Persian wars. Herodotus's work is considered by many scholars to be exaggerated, which makes sense in relation to the fact that Greece would want to glorify its victories.

	Grade Boundary: High Not Achieved
6.	<p>For Achieved, the student needs to demonstrate understanding of a significant event in the classical world.</p> <p>This involves using primary source evidence and placing the event in context to explain why the event was important.</p> <p>In this extract the student does not deal with the event as an actual event, instead focuses on mythological context rather than treating the event as an occurrence.</p> <p>The student attempts to use primary source evidence to support their ideas. The response is generalised and lacks sophistication required at this curriculum level. The student does not explain why event was important, other than we learn about their society through the written/oral accounts of the event. This does not meet the requirements of the standard.</p> <p>To reach Achieved, the student could place the event in historical context (rather than mythological) to explain why it was important.</p>

Excerpt where the student places the event in context:

According to Homer's Iliad, in the Bronze Age there was a war called the Trojan War. It was a war fought between the Trojans and the Mycenaeans. The war happened because the prince of Troy, Paris, and the wife of Menelaus, Helen, fell in love. Helen was the most beautiful woman in Greece. She was married to Menelaus, who was the brother of Agamemnon, the king of Mycenae. When Menelaus found out that Helen went to Troy with the Trojans when they were going back to Troy, Menelaus got really mad and asked Agamemnon for help. When Menelaus and Agamemnon came to Troy with tens of thousands of men. The main reason for why the Trojan war started was because of Paris and Helen falling in love.

Excerpt where the student attempts to explain why the event was important:

The Trojan war was important because it showed us about Greek traditions. One of the important beliefs was the burning of a corpse after a funeral. When someone died, they would give them a respectful funeral. An example is shown when Achilles' cousin Patroclus dies (Iliad bk 23). If a proper funeral is not given, it is difficult for the soul to pass into the underworld.