

November 1996

Later Roman Archaeology

2759/6278

Time: two hours

In addition, candidates are allowed ten minutes, before the examination begins, to read the paper

Three questions should be answered

At least **one** must be from **Section A**, and **one** from **Section B**.

The third question may be chosen from either **A** or **B**.

SECTION A

1. Using examples, outline the ways in which the late Roman reliefs on public monuments changed in style and composition from the mid-second to fourth centuries A.D.
2. Compare the wall-paintings of both the synagogue and the Christian meeting-house at Dura-Europos with contemporary and fourth century wall-paintings in Rome.
3. Outline the major changes in the style and forms of Roman metalware and glassware from the second to fourth centuries A.D.

4. Either:

- a) Describe, using examples, the major changes in architecture in the Later Roman Empire.

or:

- b) Late Roman architecture, especially the fourth and fifth centuries, has been seen as largely inept or careless. To what extent is this justified by the evidence, and what are the possible explanations for it?

SECTION B

5. To what extent was early Christian art innovative? Use examples to support your argument.
6. To what extent can we speak of a 'Constantinian renaissance' and, if so, what were its characteristics? Include in your discussion examples from at least three different media.
7. *'In late antiquity everything changes. Rhetoric turns dark and expressionistic, and the style of politics becomes authoritarian and sublime ... For a long time, historians, misled by this, believed that the population of the Empire, urban life, production, the monetary economy, and the authority of the government all suffered a serious decline. Such is the power of style to deceive.'* Paul Veyne, *A History of Private Life*.

Discuss this in the light of the evolution of imperial portraiture **and** imperial monuments in Late Antiquity.

8. Discuss and compare the Romanisation of either Syro-Palestinian **or** Egyptian art with that of Roman Gaul.