

MODERN AND MEDIEVAL LANGUAGES TRIPOS Part II
HISTORY AND MODERN LANGUAGES TRIPOS Part II

This paper will be released at 9:00 on the 26th May 2022.

The exam will be scheduled to take place over three days and will be a take-home assessment: students will have access to resources during this time.

There is a series of staggered submission deadlines for scheduled papers. The order in which you submit your work is up to you.

Unless you have already been granted permission to skip a tranche:

- *Your first scheduled paper will be due for submission at 16:00 on the 30th May 2022 (the end of tranche 1).*
- *Your second scheduled paper will be due for submission at 16:00 on the 2nd June 2022 (the end of tranche 2).*
- *Your third (if any) scheduled paper will be due for submission at 16:00 on the 7th June 2022 (the end of tranche 3)*

For students who have been given permission to skip tranche(s) and need to use tranche 4, all remaining scheduled papers will be due for submission at 16:00 on the 10th June 2022 (the end of tranche 4).

Paper Ge. 8
GERMAN LITERATURE, THOUGHT, AND HISTORY, FROM 1700 TO
1815, INCLUDING GOETHE'S WORKS TO 1832

Answer **three** questions.

Each answer should be no longer than 1,500 words. In the case of overlong answers, examiners will stop reading at the word count + 10%.

*Candidates for this paper **may not** draw substantially on material from their dissertations or material which they have used or intend to use in another scheduled paper. Candidates **may not** draw substantially on the same material in more than one question on the same paper.*

The forms of feeling

1 Answer **one** of the following:

(a) 'The poetry of this period is at once bound up in the past and preoccupied with the future.'

Discuss with reference to **two or more** poets of the period 1700 to 1815.

(b) 'Form is a concern for all poets, but no two choose to exploit it in the same way.'

Discuss with reference to **two or more** poets of the period 1700 to 1815.

(c) 'Although the turbulence of Goethe's early years abates with time, a good deal of his later poetry remains unsettled.'

Discuss with reference to **one or more** poems written by Goethe **before** 1790, and **one or more** written **after** 1790.

Theatre, society and humanity

2 Answer **one** of the following:

(a) 'Most dramas of this period, whether they are tragedies or comedies, are concerned to understand and to alleviate human suffering.'

Discuss with reference to **two or more** dramas by **one or more** German writers of the period 1700-1815.

(b) 'Over the course of the long eighteenth century, the stage became an increasingly democratic space.'

Discuss with reference to **two or more** dramas by **one or more** German writers of the period 1700 to 1815.

(c) 'Goethe's protagonists are all faced with limitations, but they vary greatly in how effectively they deal with these limitations.'

Discuss with reference to **two or more** plays by Goethe.

Society and the subject

3 Answer **one** of the following:

(a) 'Prose writing of this period very often seems more concerned with some alternative reality than with the world in which the writers themselves moved.'

Discuss with reference to **two or more** prose narratives by **one or more** German writers of the period 1700 to 1815.

(b) 'Writers of this period exploit the human potential for excess, but they do not celebrate it.'

Discuss with reference to **two or more** prose narratives by **one or more** German writers of the period 1700 to 1815.

(c) 'Goethe's astute understanding of human psychology is particularly evident in his prose writing.'

Discuss with reference to **two or more** prose narratives by Goethe.

Women and writing

4 **Either** (a) 'It is impossible to understand properly the shifts in culture and society around 1800 without reading women's writing'.

Discuss with reference to **two or more** women writers of the period 1700 to 1815.

Or (b) 'The resistance to essentialisms is precisely what constitutes the essential concern of women's writing around 1800'.

Discuss with reference to **two or more** women writers of the period 1700 to 1815.

(TURN OVER)

Goethe's *Faust*

5 **Either** (a) 'Despair appears to be the predominant tone in Goethe's *Faust*, but there are also significant moments of hope.'

Discuss with reference to *Faust I* OR *Faust II* OR **both** parts of *Faust*.

Or (b) 'Faust's desire for total knowledge is reflected in the ambitious form of the drama.'

Discuss with reference to *Faust I* OR *Faust II* OR **both** parts of *Faust*.

Standard and Stigma: Shaping the German Language

6 **Either** (a) 'If Gottsched's "intolerance" is, as Blackall claims, the main reason for his success, this tells us a lot about the nature of standardization.'

Discuss.

Or (b) 'Adelung's work is a landmark of the scientific method, recording actual linguistic usage rather than legislating to change it.'

Discuss.

Jews and Germans in the Eighteenth Century

7 **Either** (a) 'For all the Enlightenment discourse of toleration, Jewish emancipation was still coterminous in the minds of many with conversion to Christianity.'

Discuss.

Or (b) 'The role of Moses Mendelssohn is unparalleled in the history of German-Jewish relations, but his contribution needs to be seen in the broader social, political, even economic context of the eighteenth century.'

Discuss.

Enlightenment and the Meaning of History

8 **Either** (a) 'Der Mensch will Eintracht; aber die Natur weiß besser, was für seine Gattung gut ist: sie will Zwietracht.' (KANT)

Discuss Kant's *Idee zu einer allgemeinen Geschichte in weltbürgerlicher Absicht* in the light of this statement.

Or (b) 'Herder's *Ideen zur Philosophie der Geschichte der Menschheit* are defined by his ambivalent relationship to the Enlightenment.'

Discuss.

The Romantic Revolution in Thought

9 **Either** (a) 'Wir sind auf einer Mißion: zur Bildung der Erde sind wir berufen.' (NOVALIS)

Discuss Novalis' philosophical writings in the light of this statement.

Or (b) 'Das Leben und die Kraft der Poesie besteht darin, daß sie aus sich herausgeht, ein Stück von der Religion losreißt, und dann in sich zurückgeht, indem sie es sich aneignet. Ebenso ist es auch mit der Philosophie.' (F. SCHLEGEL)

Discuss Schlegel's philosophical writings in the light of this statement.

END OF PAPER