



Cambridge International AS & A Level

BIBLICAL STUDIES

9484/03

Paper 3 Prophets of the Old Testament

For examination from 2023

SPECIMEN PAPER

1 hour 30 minutes



You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **four** questions in total:
 - Section A: answer **two** questions.
 - Section B: answer Question 4.
 - Section C: answer **one** question.
- Follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper, ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 50.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [].

This document has **4** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

Section A

Answer **two** of the following three questions.

Answers should refer to the context of the passage wherever possible. Answers should not retell the story from which the passage is taken.

- 1 Outline points of interest or difficulty in the following passage.

Amos 7:1–2, NRSVA

This is what the Lord GOD showed me: he was forming locusts at the time the latter growth began to sprout (it was the latter growth after the king's mowings). When they had finished eating the grass of the land, I said,
 'O Lord GOD, forgive, I beg you!
 How can Jacob stand?
 He is so small!' [5]

- 2 Outline points of interest or difficulty in the following passage.

Jeremiah 32:14–15, NRSVA

Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Take these deeds, both this sealed deed of purchase and this open deed, and put them in an earthenware jar, in order that they may last for a long time. For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Houses and fields and vineyards shall again be bought in this land. [5]

- 3 Outline points of interest or difficulty in the following passage.

1 Kings 22:27–28, NRSVA

and say, "Thus says the king: Put this fellow in prison, and feed him on reduced rations of bread and water until I come in peace." Micaiah said, 'If you return in peace, the LORD has not spoken by me.' And he said, 'Hear, you peoples, all of you!' [5]

[Total: 10]

Section B

Answer Question 4.

- 4 Read the following passage and then answer the question below:

2 Kings 2:1–3, NRSVA

Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, ‘Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel.’ But Elisha said, ‘As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.’ So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, ‘Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?’ And he said, ‘Yes, I know; keep silent.’

Discuss the extent to which the Elijah narratives can be accepted as historically reliable. Refer to the passage above and other passages you have studied in your answer. [15]

Section C

Answer **EITHER** Question 5 **OR** Question 6.

EITHER

- 5 ‘Samuel was more of a political leader than a prophet.’ Evaluate this statement. [25]

OR

- 6 ‘Jeremiah’s message was one of equal doom and hope.’ Assess this claim. [25]

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