

## A2 Greek Unseen Verse (Sophocles) Past Paper: 1997 (Orestes' Death is announced)

Translate the following passage into English. Please write your translation **on alternate lines**.

*A messenger tells Klytāimēstra and Elektra that Orestes is dead; they react in different ways.*

MESSENGER: Ladies, can you tell me if this is the palace of Aigisthos?

CHORUS: It is, stranger. Your guess is correct.

MESSENGER: Am I also right in guessing that this lady is the queen?

She certainly has a regal appearance.

CHORUS: You are absolutely right: this is she.

Αγ. ὦ χαῖρ', ἄνασσα. σοὶ φέρων ἤκω λόγους  
ἠδεῖς φίλου παρ' ἀνδρὸς Αἰγίσθω θ' ὁμοῦ.

Κλ. ἐδεξάμην τὸ ῥηθέν.<sup>1</sup> εἰδέναι δέ σου  
πρώτιστα χρήζω τίς σ' ἀπέστειλεν βροτῶν.

Αγ. Φανοτεὺς ὁ Φωκεύς, πρᾶγμα πορσύνων<sup>2</sup> μέγα.

Κλ. τὸ ποῖον, ὦ ξέν'; εἰπέ. παρὰ φίλου γὰρ ὦν  
ἀνδρός, σάφ' οἶδα, προσφιλεῖς λέξεις λόγους.

Αγ. τέθνηκ' Ὀρέστης· ἐν βραχεὶ ξυνηθῆς<sup>3</sup> λέγω.

Ηλ. οἱ γὰρ τάλαιν', ὄλωλα τῆδ' ἐν ἡμέρᾳ.

Κλ. τί φῆς, τί φῆς, ὦ ξεῖνε; μὴ ταύτης κλύε.

Αγ. θανόντ' Ὀρέστην νῦν τε καὶ πάλαι λέγω.

Ηλ. ἀπωλόμην δύστηνος, οὐδέν εἰμ' ἔτι.

Κλ. σὺ μὲν τὰ σαυτῆς πρᾶσσ', ἐμοὶ δέ σύ, ξένε,  
τάληθές εἰπέ, τῷ τρόπῳ διόλλυται;

SOPHOCLES, *Elektra*, 666ff.

<sup>1</sup>τὸ ῥηθέν 'what you say'

<sup>2</sup>πορσύνω I give; entrust

<sup>3</sup>ξυνηθῆμι I summarise

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Write out and scan the **first two** lines of the above passage.

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