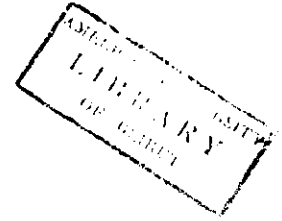




AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT



CIVILIZATION SEQUENCE 201

FINAL EXAMINATION

TIME: 2 HOURS

JANUARY 25, 2000
PROF. NASSAR

PART ONE: QUOTATIONS (30%)

In the following two quotations, (1) Identify the quotation. (2) Analyze it. (3) Link one of its ideas to another idea you have come across this semester.

1. Bear in mind that all is atoms and empty space, and you will immediately perceive that nature is free and runs the universe by herself without the aid of gods.
2. Her attendants caught her as she fainted and carried her to her bed in the marble chamber. But Aeneas was faithful to his duty. Much as he longed to soothe her and console her sorrow, to talk to her and take away her pain, with many a groan and with a heart shaken by his great love, he nevertheless carried out the commands of the gods and went back to his ships.

PART TWO: ESSAY (70%)

Choose one of the following topics and write an essay of argument. Please remember that in argument you give your opinion and then defend it. You should also consider ideas that are opposed to yours and show that they are wrong.

1. Is Plato's republic truly ideal? Why or why not? Would you, for instance, like to live in Plato's republic?
2. While Plato attributes wars to economic reasons and the desire for luxury, Thucydides attributes them to the corruption of human nature and argues that war is a permanent feature of human life. What is your position? Do you believe that world peace is possible, or will wars continue for ever?



3. Towards the end of Oedipus the King, the chorus laments:

CHORUS:

O the generations of men
The dying generations __ adding the total
Of all your lives I find they come to nothing.....

You are my great example, you, your life
Your destiny, Oedipus, man of misery ____
I count no man blest.

Both Aristotle and Lucretius, on the other hand, believed that human happiness is possible and gave definitions of it. Is it possible to achieve real happiness in this life? Argue for or against.