1. How have Marxist approaches informed the study of ancient economies? Has the influence of these approaches been a help or a hindrance to our understanding?

2. Analyse the stereotypes perpetrated by television and film in their representations of the ancient classical world. What is the best way to address the problems raised by such stereotyping?

3. Can Tacitus’ account of the death of Germanicus and the trial of Piso be considered accurate and credible in the light of the Senatus Consultum Gnaeus Piso patre?

4. What are the problems and benefits of using papyrological evidence in the study of ancient history?

5. Discuss, with reference to two Greek historians, how they negotiate their relationship to previous writers.

6. What kinds of information can we derive from Greek inscriptions, besides simply reading the words of the text? Consider themes including, but not limited to, context, display, monumentality, authorship and audience.

7. ‘Roman literature is the self-interested scribbling of an out-of-touch élite. Roman epigraphy is a window on the ancient world.’ Is this a fair assessment?

8. In what ways have feminist thought changed (or distorted) our views of the ancient world?