

ORIENTAL STUDIES TRIPOS Part II

Hebrew Studies

Tuesday 2 June 2009 09.00 – 12.00

**H.18 SPECIAL SUBJECT:
HISTORY OF THE HEBREW LANGUAGE**

*Candidates should answer **FOUR** questions.
All questions carry **equal** weight.*

*Write your number **not** your name on the cover sheet of **each** Answer Book.*

STATIONERY REQUIREMENTS

*20 Page Answer Book x 1
Rough Work Pad*

**You may not start to read the questions
printed on the subsequent pages of this
question paper until instructed that you may
do so by the Invigilator.**

Answer any **four** of the following questions:

1. What is the relationship of the Tiberian vocalization of the Hebrew Bible to the consonantal text?
2. Describe the features of the Babylonian vocalization tradition that are typologically more archaic than the corresponding features in the Tiberian tradition.
3. Discuss the background of the Samaritan reading tradition of Hebrew and its relationship to the Tiberian tradition.
4. Describe the Hebrew language situation in the Second Temple period.
5. Describe the sources for our knowledge of Rabbinic Hebrew.
6. What are the distinctive features of Payṭanic Hebrew?
7. What are the distinctive features of Hebrew in medieval Karaite sources?
8. Describe the background of Maskilic Hebrew and its relationship to Modern Hebrew.
9. Describe the sociolinguistic dimension of the revival of Hebrew in the modern period.
10. Describe the innovative, non-standard features of the spoken form of modern Israeli Hebrew.

END OF PAPER