



AET2 Asian and Middle Eastern Studies Tripos, Part II

---

Thursday 01 June 2017 09.00-12.00

---

**Paper MES41**

**Comparative Semitic Linguistics**

Answer **three** questions. All questions carry **equal** marks.

Write your number **not** your name on the cover sheet of **each** answer booklet.

**STATIONERY REQUIREMENTS**

*20 page answer booklet*

*Rough Work Pad*

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS TO BE SUPPLIED FOR THIS EXAMINATION**

*None*

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

1. Describe the ways in which the genetic tree model and the wave model have been applied to the classification of Semitic languages.
2. Discuss the relationship of Arabic to Hebrew within the classification of Semitic?
3. Describe the historical development of the Semitic velar and pharyngeal consonants.
4. Describe the historical development of Semitic sibilant consonants.
5. Discuss the historical development of nominal inflection and external plural markers in Semitic.
6. Describe the various forms of definite article that developed in Semitic languages.
7. What is the historical background of the suffix conjugation and prefix conjugation verbal forms in Arabic and Hebrew?
8. Discuss the concept of morphological root in Semitic languages.

**END OF PAPER**