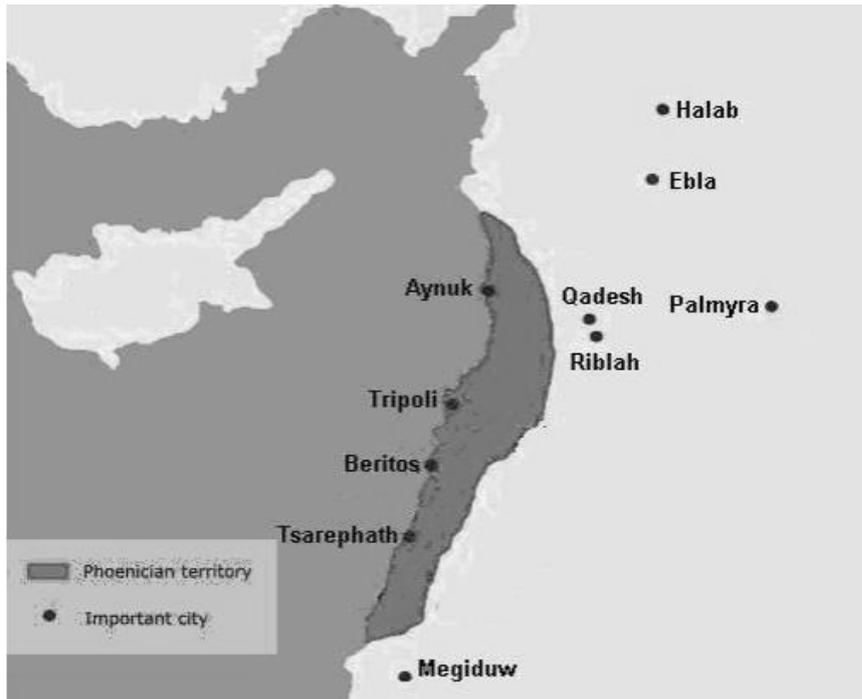


7 Phoenician (20 marks)

The Phoenician script can be dated at around 1050 BCE, and from it the Arabic, Hebrew and by extension Greek, Roman and Cyrillic scripts evolved. The Phoenician civilization was centred along the Mediterranean coast in an area known as Canaan. The map below shows ten Phoenician cities and nearby cities that were important trading partners. Most of the spellings reflect their pronunciation in Phoenician. However, two of the cities on the map are shown with their modern names which are very different from what they were called in Phoenician times.



The following table lists ten city names written in Phoenician script, including eight of the names on the map:

A	⊕74*	F	✕59<
B	47B	G	740
C	≡744	H	4⊕<
D	Y41*	I	W4⊕
E	4*4⊕	J	✕+44

Questions

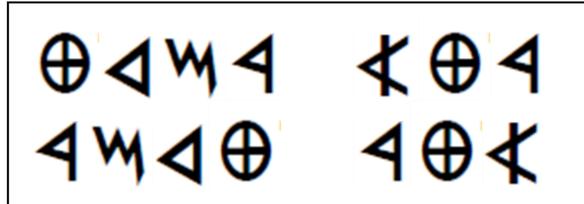
7.1. Match up the Phoenician names in the list above with the names on the map, which are repeated in the table on the answer sheet. Remember, two of the names will not match, so you should have two names left over; these names should both be labelled 'X'.

7.2. Give the Phoenician pronunciations for the cities you named X in question 7.1. Limit yourself to what you can be sure of, and write ' _ ' where you think there may be another sound that you can't work out.

7 Phoenician [20 marks]

15 points:

- 7.1: 1 point per name.
- 7.2: 2 points per name for correct consonants and vowel blanks
 - just 1 point per name for at least half the consonants right
 - + 1 point for **no** initial blank and **no** vowels except initial 'A'.
 - accept names in either order
 - ignore extra information e.g. 'Palmyra'.
 - accept full Phoenician spellings, either left-right or right-left, as here:



7.1. Aynuk	Beritos	Ebla	Halab	Megiduw
F	J	G	B	D
Palmyra	Qadesh	Riblah	Tripoli	Tsarephath
X	I	C	X	A
7.2.	Th_d_m_r_		Ath_r_	

Comment

Phoenician was by far the hardest question in the paper - and in fact it turned out to be even harder than Q8 and Q9, on the Advanced paper. It turns on two general principles: that Phoenician was written right-left, and that it only represents consonants (except at the start of the word!). You can discover those two things by looking at word length. Four of the Phoenician spellings have just three characters, but none of the map names do, so the P letters can't correspond to our letters. But two of the map names do have just three consonant sounds (sh is one sound, so Halab and Qadesh), so maybe it's just consonants; and though Ebla has just two consonants, it starts with a vowel so maybe initial vowels are given a character. Moreover, the three-character words B and G are a give-away because they both contain the same two letters, but in reverse order; so we look for that in the short map names, and find Halab and Ebla, so the characters must be l and b. But that doesn't make sense if the writing is left-right, because then lb/bl would be at the start of both words, but the l and b are at the end of Halab and in the middle of Ebla; so it must be right-left. But which of the two letters is l and which is b? Well, we know that our alphabet is derived from Phoenician, so let's guess that the one that looks a bit like L is, in fact, 'l'; and the other is a fairly plausible ancestor for b. So B = Halab and G = Ebla. Once again, one thing leads to another and you work out the other words partly by length and partly by repeated characters.