



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit State Examinations Commission

LEAVING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION, 2011

HISTORY - HIGHER LEVEL

FIELD OF STUDY: EARLY MODERN, 1492 – 1815

Written examination: 400 marks
Pre-submitted Research Study Report: 100 marks

WEDNESDAY, 15 JUNE, AFTERNOON, 2.00 – 4.50

Instructions to candidates:

Attempt Sections 1, 2 and 3 inside.

- **Section 1 (100 marks)**

Documents-based question (Early Modern Ireland: Topic 1)

Answer all parts of this section.

- **Section 2 (100 marks)**

Ireland: Topics 2, 3, 4, 5, 6.

Answer one question from one topic.

- **Section 3 (200 marks)**

Europe and the wider world: Topics 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6.

Answer one question from each of two topics.

SECTION 1: DOCUMENTS-BASED QUESTION

Ireland: Topic 1

Reform and Reformation in Tudor Ireland, 1494-1558

Case study to which documents relate:

The Bardic Schools

Study the documents opposite and answer the questions below.

1.
 - (a) How was Maurice O'Mulconry qualified to run a bardic school, according to document A?
 - (b) What did Maurice O'Mulconry achieve during his life, according to document A?
 - (c) Why were people careful not to offend bardic poets, according to document B?
 - (d) What subjects, chosen by bardic poets for their verses, were disapproved of by Spenser, according to document B?

(20)

2.
 - (a) Do the documents agree that the bardic poet was an influential figure in Gaelic Ireland? Refer to both documents in your answer.
 - (b) Do the writers of documents A and B approve of the role of bardic poets in Ireland? Refer to both documents in your answer.

(20)

3.
 - (a) Which document, A or B, is more valuable as a source about bardic schools and poets? Give reasons for your choice and refer to both documents in your answer.
 - (b) What evidence can be found in Document B about Spenser's preoccupations as a poet and as a colonist?

(20)

4. What was the importance of bards, annalists and brehons in fifteenth and sixteenth-century Ireland?

(40)

- Document A -

An entry (translated) from the Annals of the Four Masters, 1543.

Maurice, the son of Paidin O'Mulconry, was a master of history and poetry and a man of wealth and affluence. He was a learned scribe who made copies of many books and who composed many poems and verses.

He had many schools of students studying and learning. He kept many of them in his own house.

He died [in 1543] having gained victory over the Devil and the world.

- Document B -

An edited extract from *A View of the present State of Ireland* by the poet and colonist, Edmund Spenser, describing the state of Ireland in the sixteenth century.

There is among the Irish a certain kind of people called bards, which are their poets. Their profession is to set forth the praises and dispraises of men in their poems and rhymes. They are held in such high regard that none dare displease them. Their verses are taken up with general applause, and usually sung at all feasts and meetings.

These Irish bards are so far from instructing young men in moral discipline that they themselves deserve to be sharply disciplined. They seldom choose the doings of good men as subjects for their poems. But whoever they find to be most bold and lawless in his doings, most dangerous in disobedience and rebellion, him they set up and glorify in their rhymes, him they praise to the people, and to young men make an example to follow.

I have caused many of their poems to be translated unto me, that I might understand them. They showed sweet wit and good invention, but not skill in the ornaments of poetry.

It is a great pity to see poetry abused to praise wickedness and vice which could be used to adorn and beautify virtue. This evil custom therefore needs reformation.

SECTION 2: IRELAND
Answer one question from one of the topics below.

Ireland: Topic 2
Rebellion and conquest in Elizabethan Ireland, 1558-1603

Answer **one** of the following questions:

1. What led to the 1579 Desmond rebellion and what were its consequences? (100)
2. What were the strengths and weaknesses of the lordship of Tír Eoghain? (100)
3. What were the key social and economic developments in Elizabethan Dublin? (100)
4. Why did the Protestant Reformation fail in Ireland? (100)

Ireland: Topic 3
Kingdom v. colony - the struggle for mastery in Ireland, 1603-1660

Answer **one** of the following questions:

1. What were the social and economic effects of the plantation of Ulster? (100)
2. Why was there widespread opposition to Sir Thomas Wentworth, Earl of Strafford, in Ireland? (100)
3. What was the impact on Ireland of the Cromwellian experiment in radical political change? (100)
4. What was the religious and cultural impact on Ireland of the Irish colleges in Europe? (100)

Ireland: Topic 4
Establishing a colonial ascendancy, 1660-1715

Answer **one** of the following questions:

1. Why did Charles II's Irish policy please neither Catholics nor Protestants? (100)
2. How decisive were the Williamite wars in Irish history up to 1715? (100)
3. What events led to the trial and execution of Oliver Plunkett, the Catholic Archbishop of Armagh? (100)
4. What was the political and cultural vision of the Jacobite poets? (100)

Ireland: Topic 5
Colony versus kingdom – tensions in mid-18th century Ireland, 1715-1770

Answer **one** of the following questions:

1. What was meant by the “Protestant Nation” and how did it function? (100)
2. What were the grievances of the Whiteboys and how did they seek to redress them? (100)
3. What was the purpose of the Penal Laws and how effectively were they enforced? (100)
4. What was the contribution of the Conolly family and/or Arthur Guinness to Irish life in this period? (100)

Ireland: Topic 6
The end of the Irish kingdom and the establishment of the Union, 1770-1815

Answer **one** of the following questions:

1. How well did Grattan’s Parliament represent the people of Ireland, 1782-1800? (100)
2. What were the causes of the 1798 rebellion? (100)
3. How did Belfast become an industrial city with serious sectarian problems? (100)
4. Why was Maynooth College founded and what effect did it have on religion in Ireland? (100)

SECTION 3: EUROPE AND THE WIDER WORLD
Answer one question from each of two of the topics below.

Europe and the wider world: Topic 1
Europe from Renaissance to Reformation, 1492-1567

Answer **one** of the following questions:

1. What was the importance of the reigns of Ferdinand and Isabella for Spain? (100)
2. How did the discovery of the New World affect Europe, socially and economically? (100)
3. What was distinctive about Calvin's Geneva? (100)
4. What threat did Turkish expansion pose to Europe and how did European powers deal with it? (100)

Europe and the wider world: Topic 2
Religion and power: politics in the later 16th century, 1567-1609

Answer **one** of the following questions:

1. Why did Philip II launch an Armada against England and why did it fail? (100)
2. What did Matteo Ricci contribute to the Jesuit mission in China? (100)
3. What caused the French Wars of Religion? (100)
4. What were the achievements of Elizabeth I of England? (100)

Europe and the wider world: Topic 3
The eclipse of Old Europe, 1609-1660

Answer **one** of the following questions:

1. What were the aims and policies of Cardinal Richelieu? (100)
2. How did the Dutch gain an empire in Asia and how did they profit from it? (100)
3. What was the impact of the Thirty Years war on Germany? (100)
4. What new ideas about politics and international relations were promoted by Hugo Grotius? (100)

Europe and the wider world: Topic 4
Europe in the age of Louis XIV, 1660-1715

Answer **one** of the following questions:

1. What were the key features of the absolute monarchy of Louis XIV? (100)
2. What was the effect of John Sobieski on Poland? (100)
3. During the period 1660-1715, what was the importance of developments in banking, markets and trading companies? (100)
4. During the period 1660-1715, what religious issues arose in one or more of the following countries: England; France; Russia? (100)

Europe and the wider world: Topic 5
Establishing empires, 1715-1775

Answer **one** of the following questions:

1. What were the causes of the American Revolution? (100)
2. How did the Enlightenment affect the way people thought about politics, religion and society? (100)
3. What were the aims and achievements of Catherine the Great? (100)
4. How did one or more of the following contribute to communications in Europe: road and canal building; the spread of literacy; the newspaper? (100)

Europe and the wider world: Topic 6
Empires in revolution, 1775-1815

Answer **one** of the following questions:

1. Why did the revolution in France result in the Reign of Terror? (100)
2. Why did the industrial revolution happen first in England? (100)
3. What stimulated cultural nationalism during the period 1775-1815, and what forms did it take? (100)
4. What was the contribution of Napoleon to the creation of modern France? (100)

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