



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit State Examinations Commission

LEAVING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION, 2012

CLASSICAL STUDIES – ORDINARY LEVEL (300 marks)

FRIDAY, 15 JUNE – AFTERNOON 2.00 to 5.00

- There are questions on **TEN TOPICS**.
- The topics are divided into three groups as follows:
 - Group I : Topics 1 to 4.
 - Group II : Topics 5 to 7.
 - Group III : Topics 8 to 10.
- Candidates are required to answer questions on **FOUR TOPICS** as follows:
One topic must be chosen from *each* of the three groups and the *fourth* topic may be chosen from *any one* of the three groups.
- Candidates are required to answer **SIX QUESTIONS** drawn from the **FOUR** chosen topics as follows:
Candidates must answer **two** questions from two of their chosen topics and **one** question from **each** of the remaining two of their chosen topics.
- There are fifty marks for each question. The total marks for the paper are 300.
- Photographs required for answering questions on Topics 8 and 10 are provided on an accompanying paper marked **X**.

GROUP 1: Topics 1 to 4

Topic 1. Athens at War.

- (i) (a) What advice did Pericles give the Athenians about the conduct of the war against Sparta? (30)
- (b) In your opinion, was Pericles a good leader of Athens? Give reasons for your answer. (20)
- (ii) In June 415 BC, just before the departure of the Sicilian Expedition, the people of Athens awoke to find that the Hermae had been mutilated.
- (a) What were the Hermae? (10)
- (b) Explain how the mutilation of the Hermae led to Alcibiades abandoning the Sicilian Expedition. (40)
- (iii) In 416 BC, the Athenians called on the people of the island of Melos to surrender.
- (a) Outline the arguments made by the Athenians. (20)
- (b) How did the Melians answer the Athenians? (20)
- (c) What happened to the Melians in the end? (10)
- (iv) Write notes on **any two** of the following:
- Demosthenes, the Athenian general; Brasidas, the Spartan general; Archidamus, the Spartan king. (25, 25)
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Topic 2. Alexander the Great.

- (i) (a) What was the Gordian Knot? (15)
- (b) Describe how Alexander solved the puzzle of the Gordian Knot. (25)
- (c) What does this incident tell us about the character of Alexander? (10)
- (ii) (a) How did Alexander trick the Indian king Porus in order to cross the Hydaspes river? (20)
- (b) What were the major problems Alexander encountered in crossing the river and in the battle itself? (20)
- (c) How did Alexander treat Porus after the battle? (10)
- (iii) Do you agree that Alexander's temper and behaviour got worse as he became more powerful? Discuss this view with reference to the prescribed text. (50)
- (iv) At Opis in 324 BC, Alexander's Macedonian troops staged a mutiny against him.
- (a) What was the cause of this mutiny? (15)
- (b) According to Alexander in his speech to the troops, why should the Macedonian soldiers be grateful to him and to his father Philip? (35)
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Topic 3. Life and Thought in the Late Roman Republic.

- (i) “Meanwhile there hung over Rome like a cloud the menace of Sertorius.” (Plutarch, *Life of Pompey*)
- (a) Who was Sertorius? (10)
 - (b) Describe Pompey’s campaign against Sertorius. (30)
 - (c) How did Sertorius meet his death? (10)
- (ii) (a) According to Cicero in *Rome’s Natural Advantages*, why is it better for cities not to be located on the sea? (30)
- (b) In Cicero’s view, what other natural advantages does Rome have? (20)
- (iii) What does Julius Caesar tell us about Britain and the Britons under any **two** of the following headings:
- a) methods of warfare
 - b) geography
 - c) physical appearance and clothing? (25, 25)
- (iv) (a) What did you learn of Catullus’ love affair with Lesbia from the poems on your course? (40)
- (b) Do you sympathise with Catullus? Explain your answer. (10)
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Topic 4. Roman Historians.

- (i) (a) Give an account of the life and death of Julia, Augustus’ only daughter. (35)
- (b) What is your opinion of Augustus’ treatment of Julia? (15)
- (ii) According to Suetonius in his *Life of Augustus*, Augustus used to wake up shouting: “Varus, give me back my legions!”
- (a) Give an account of the disasters suffered by the Roman legions under Varus in Germany. (40)
 - (b) What effect did this disaster have on Augustus’ plan to conquer Germany? (10)
- (iii) (a) What measures did the emperor Augustus take to encourage Romans to marry and to have large families? (35)
- (b) Write a note on Livia, the wife of Augustus. (15)
- (iv) Outline the career of Tiberius up to the death of Augustus. (50)
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GROUP II: Topics 5 to 7

Topic 5. Greek Drama.

- (i) In Sophocles' play *Oedipus the King*, when the prophet Tiresias is summoned to speak to Oedipus, he refuses to say what he knows.
- (a) What is Oedipus' reaction and what does he accuse Tiresias of when the prophet refuses to speak? (25)
- (b) What does Tiresias eventually tell Oedipus when he is forced to speak? (25)
- (ii) (a) In Euripides' play *Medea*, give an account of the meeting between Medea and King Aegeus. (30)
- (b) What is the importance of this scene in Medea's plans for revenge? (20)
- (iii) (a) In Sophocles' play *Oedipus the King*, what reasons does Oedipus give for blinding himself and not committing suicide? (30)
- (b) What future does Oedipus predict for his two daughters after his departure? (20)
- (iv) Show the ways in which children are important to the characters in Euripides' play *Medea*. (50)
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Topic 6. Ancient Epic.

- (i) (a) In Virgil's *Aeneid*, what advice did the priest Laocoon give the Trojans about the Wooden Horse? (15)
- (b) Describe how Laocoon met his death. (25)
- (c) What effect did Laocoon's death have on the Trojans? (10)
- (ii) (a) In Homer's *Odyssey*, what trick does Penelope use to avoid having to choose any of the Suitors as her husband? (15)
- (b) Describe the scene at the end of the *Odyssey* in which Penelope and Odysseus are finally reunited. (25)
- (c) What is your opinion of Penelope? Explain your answer. (10)
- (iii) (a) Tell the story of Odysseus' encounter with the Cyclops in Homer's *Odyssey*. (40)
- (b) Do you think that Odysseus was in any way to blame for what happened in this encounter? Give a reason for your answer. (10)
- (iv) In Book 6 of Virgil's *Aeneid*, Aeneas descends into the Underworld.
- (a) Describe the scene that greets Aeneas when he reaches the bank of the River Styx. (15)
- (b) How does the Sybil explain this scene to Aeneas? (10)
- (c) What information about his future and that of his descendants does Anchises give to his son, Aeneas? (25)
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Topic 7. Writers of the Augustan Age.

- (i) (a) From your reading of Livy's *The Sabine Women*, describe how Romulus and the other Roman men gained wives. (35)
- (b) From your reading of *The Sabine Women*, what did you learn about the early Roman attitude to wives and women in general? (15)
- (ii) (a) In Virgil's *Orpheus and Eurydice*, describe how Orpheus loses his wife twice. (30)
- (b) According to Virgil, how does Orpheus die? (10)
- (c) Did you find this poem moving? Explain your answer with reference to the poem. (10)
- (iii) From your reading of the poems of Propertius on your course, how would you describe the poet's attitude to women in general and to Cynthia in particular? (50)
- (iv) What attitudes to life and death do you find in the poems of Horace on your course? (50)
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GROUP III: Topics 8 to 10

Topic 8. Art and Architecture in Greek Society.

- (i) **Photograph A on Paper X** shows the Temple of Hera at Paestum.
- (a) In which order of Greek Architecture is this temple built? (10)
- (b) What evidence is there that this temple is earlier in date than the Parthenon in Athens? (25)
- (c) Identify the features marked **a**, **b** and **c** on **Photograph A**. (15)
- (ii) Look at **Photograph B on Paper X**.
- (a) What name is given to this type of statue? (10)
- (b) To which period of Greek sculpture does it belong? (10)
- (c) What features of the statue are typical of this period? (30)
- (iii) Look at **Photograph C on Paper X**.
- (a) Which two gods are shown in this sculpture? (10)
- (b) Who created this sculpture? (10)
- (c) To which period of Greek sculpture does it belong? (10)
- (d) What features of this sculpture are typical of this period? (20)
- (iv) Look at **Photograph D on Paper X**.
- (a) What scene is shown in this sculpture? (15)
- (b) In what ways is this sculpture typical of Hellenistic sculpture? (25)
- (c) Does this sculpture appeal to you? Explain your answer. (10)
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Topic 9. The Philosopher in Society: A Study of Socrates and Plato.

- (i) Plato divided the citizens of his ideal state into three classes.
- (a) What story or ‘Magnificent Myth’ would he tell the citizens to get them to accept this division? (25)
 - (b) Explain the role of **each** of the three classes. (15)
 - (c) Imagine you were living in Plato’s ideal state. To which of the three classes would you wish to belong? Give a reason for your answer. (10)
- (ii) (a) What rules does Socrates lay down for his Guardians about food, housing and private property? (40)
- (b) Why does Socrates insist on these rules? (10)
- (iii) (a) Write an account of Plato’s Simile of the Cave. (35)
- (b) In your opinion, what is the meaning of this simile? (15)
- (iv) (a) How does Socrates explain the origin of society? (25)
- (b) How does Socrates go on to show how this primitive society develops into a civilized society? (25)
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Topic 10. Roman Art and Architecture.

- (i) (a) Identify the aqueduct shown in **Photograph E** on **Paper X**. (10)
- (b) Give a full description of this aqueduct. (30)
- (c) Why does Wheeler describe it as an example of “functional good taste”? (10)
- (ii) (a) Identify the monument shown in **Photograph F** on **Paper X**. (10)
- (b) What campaign is commemorated by this monument? (10)
- (c) Give a description of the monument showing how, in Wheeler’s words, “the continuous style works.” (30)
- (iii) **Photograph G** on **Paper X** shows a wall-painting from Pompeii.
- (a) Name the two main figures in this painting. (10)
 - (b) Describe what is happening in this painting. (20)
 - (c) How has the artist captured the drama and the tension of the scene? (20)
- (iv) **Photograph H** on **Paper X** shows the Roman theatre at Orange in Southern France.
- (a) Give a description of the overall design of this theatre. (20)
 - (b) Describe the *scaenae frons* (the back scene) of this theatre. (20)
 - (c) How were the spectators protected from the sun and rain in a theatre like this? (10)

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