
AN ROINN OIDEACHAIS AGUS EOLAÍOCHTA

LEAVING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION, 2000

CLASSICAL STUDIES — HIGHER LEVEL
(400 marks)

WEDNESDAY, 21 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.
- There are one hundred marks for each topic.
- Photographs required for answering questions on Topics 8 and 10 are provided on an accompanying paper marked **X**.

GROUP I: Topics 1 to 4

Topic 1. Athens at War. [100]

Answer **any two** of the following questions. (Each question is worth fifty marks):-

- (i) From your reading of Thucydides' *History of the Peloponnesian War*, what is your opinion of the Athenian leader, Pericles? (50)
- (ii) (a) Give an account of the Athenian capture of Delium and of the subsequent defeat of the Athenians at the battle of Oropus. (35)
- (b) Would you consider this Athenian action a departure from the strategy laid down by Pericles for the conduct of the war?
Give reasons for your answer. (15)
- (iii) Assess the importance of the Spartan general Gylippus in the defeat of the Athenians at Syracuse. (50)
- (iv) In 415 BC, in the Assembly at Athens, Nicias spoke against the sending of an expedition to Sicily and attacked the character of Alcibiades. Alcibiades defended himself and spoke in favour of the expedition.
Summarise the arguments of **both** men. (50)
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Topic 2. Alexander the Great. [100]

Answer **any two** of the following questions. (Each question is worth fifty marks):-

- (i) The Persian leaders, including Memnon of Rhodes, met to decide how to deal with Alexander shortly after his arrival in Asia Minor.
- (a) What options did they discuss, and why did they decide to meet Alexander in battle at the river Granicus? (20)
- (b) Give a brief outline of the course of this battle. (30)
- (ii) (a) Discuss the importance of Parmenio in the campaigns of Alexander. (35)
- (b) What is your assessment of the relations between the two men? (15)
- (iii) (a) Describe how Alexander became fatally ill and died. (20)
- (b) What do we learn about Alexander from his behaviour during his final illness? (20)
- (c) How do Arrian and Plutarch treat the rumours that Aristotle was involved in Alexander's death? (10)
- (iv) Over the centuries since his death, the character of Alexander has been much admired and much criticised.
From your reading of both Arrian and Plutarch, what is your judgement of his character? (50)
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Topic 3. Life and Thought in the Late Roman Republic.

[100]

Answer **any two** of the following questions. (Each question is worth fifty marks):-

- (i) Discuss the view that the most important figure in the early careers of Pompey and Caesar was the dictator Sulla. (50)
- (ii) ‘... what really attached Cicero to young Caesar was, firstly, his hatred of Antony.’ (Plutarch, *Cicero*)
- (a) Why did Cicero hate Antony? (20)
- (b) Describe Cicero’s support for the young Caesar (Octavius), and explain how that support showed very poor judgement on Cicero’s part. (30)
- (iii) ‘I will firstly, citizens, reveal to you the different groups that make up Catiline’s forces.’ (Cicero, quoted in *Lactor 7*)
- (a) Describe the groups mentioned above. (30)
- (b) What does the composition of these groups tell us about the Rome of that time? (20)
- (iv) From your reading of the prescribed material, what do you consider to have been the most important factors in gaining power in the Rome of the Late Republic? (50)
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Topic 4. Roman Historians.

[100]

Answer **any two** of the following questions. (Each question is worth fifty marks):-

- (i) (a) Give an account of the life of Julia, the only child of the Emperor Augustus. (40)
- (b) What is your opinion of the way Augustus treated her? (10)
- (ii) Tacitus claimed to be writing without bias or hatred. From your reading of his treatment of the Emperor Tiberius, do you consider that he has lived up to this claim? (50)
- (iii) (a) Describe the great fire of Rome, and Nero’s behaviour during and after it. (40)
- (b) What is your opinion of Tacitus’ remarks about the Christians in his account of this episode? (10)
- (iv) (a) Discuss the role of freedmen in the reign of the Emperor Claudius (40)
- (b) Why did Claudius give so much power to freedmen rather than to members of the senatorial class? (10)
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GROUP II: Topics 5 to 7

Topic 5. Greek Drama.

[100]

Answer **any two** of the following questions. (Each question is worth fifty marks):-

- (i) ‘Oedipus is clearly a very great man.’
- What makes Oedipus ‘a very great man’ in Sophocles’ *King Oedipus*? (50)
- (ii) Analyse the different types of humour to be found in Aristophanes’ *Frogs*. (50)
- (iii) Compare the attitude of Prometheus to humans with the attitude of the other immortals to humans in Aeschylus’ *Prometheus Bound*. (50)
- (iv) ‘There can be no doubt ... that the *Medea* is very much concerned with the problems of women’s place in human society.’
- Discuss this comment with reference to the play. (50)
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Topic 6. Ancient Epic.**[100]**Answer **any two** of the following questions. (Each question is worth fifty marks):-

- (i) Discuss the view that the *Odyssey* gives a much more detailed picture of a range of lifestyles and characters than does the *Táin*. (50)
- (ii) During the *Odyssey*, Telemachus develops from an insecure and depressed young man into a confident and strong support to his father in the destruction of the Suitors.
Trace this development and explain what brought it about. (50)
- (iii) (a) Outline the part played by Juno in Virgil's *Aeneid*. (40)
(b) What impression do we get from her behaviour of the attitude of gods to humans? (10)
- (iv) 'It is true that he is going home, but he does not want to miss a thing — or a gift — on the way, and he wants to make sure that the people he meets remember that he is none other than Odysseus, hero of the battle of Troy.'
Discuss this statement with reference to Odysseus' adventures on his return to Ithaca. (50)

Topic 7. Writers of the Augustan Age.**[100]**Answer **any two** of the following questions. (Each question is worth fifty marks):-

- (i) (a) What evidence do you find in the prescribed poems of Virgil's feeling for farming and the countryside? (40)
(b) Do you think his view of rural life is realistic? (10)
- (ii) '... but what has captivated many generations is his glorious skill as a teller of tales.'
Discuss this comment with reference to Ovid's poem *Baucis and Philemon*. (50)
- (iii) What is your impression of Propertius from the poems on your course? (50)
- (iv) All of the prescribed authors wrote during the reign of the Emperor Augustus. What common themes do you find in these authors? (50)

GROUP III: Topics 8 to 10**Topic 8. Art and Architecture in Greek Society.****[100]**Answer **any two** of the following questions. (Each question is worth fifty marks):-

- (i) Study the vase shown in **Photograph A** on **Paper X**.
(a) What name is given to this shape of vase? (10)
(b) From which centre of pottery does it come? (10)
(c) Give a description of the decoration on the vase. (30)
- (ii) Study **Photograph B** on **Paper X**.
(a) Identify the building and name the architects. (15)
(b) Identify **one** Ionic feature of this temple. (10)
(c) 'Refinements were introduced to give life to the design and to correct optical illusions.' Explain this comment by Richter. (25)
- (iii) **Photographs C** and **D** on **Paper X** show *korai* from the Early and Late Archaic Periods, respectively.
(a) What features of **C** are typical of Early Archaic? (20)
(b) Give an account of the developments in female sculptures between **C** and **D**. (20)
(c) Mention **one** difference in the treatment of male (*kouroi*) and female (*korai*) statues in the Archaic Period. (10)
- (iv) **Photograph E** on **Paper X** shows a statue of the god Apollo.
(a) Name the sculptor of this statue. (10)
(b) What features of this statue are typical of this period? (20)
(c) What developments do you see in this statue from statues of the Classical Period? (20)

Topic 9. The Philosopher in Society: A Study of Socrates and Plato.

[100]

Answer **any two** of the following questions. (Each question is worth fifty marks):-

- (i) 'We just have to face the fact that Plato is too ready to move from the needs of the common good to the use of compulsion and manipulation.'
Discuss this statement with reference to Plato's *Republic*. (50)
- (ii) Outline how Socrates describes the origins of primitive society, the development into 'civilised' society, and the inevitability of war. (50)
- (iii) What is your opinion of Plato as we see him in Plutarch's *Life of Dion*? (50)
- (iv) (a) Summarise Socrates' discussion with Cephalus on the subject of old age. (35)
(b) Comment on Cephalus' answer to Socrates' question: 'Does wealth make old age easier to bear?' (15)
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Topic 10. Roman Art and Architecture.

[100]

Answer **any two** of the following questions. (Each question is worth fifty marks):-

- (i) **Photograph F on Paper X** shows the town-plan of Aosta (Augusta Praetoria).
(a) Identify features marked **d, e, ff, gg**. (12)
(b) Why was the town founded in this particular place, and who were its first inhabitants? (15)
(c) What does Wheeler mean when he writes of such towns: 'the Greek chessboard tradition had been in some measure stiffened by the Roman military mind'? (23)
- (ii) **Photograph G on Paper X** shows the plan of Hadrian's Baths at Lepcis Magna. **Photograph H on Paper X** is a reconstruction of the *frigidarium* from the same baths.
(a) Discuss Wheeler's statement that 'Hadrian's Baths at Lepcis Magna show a mature and formal plan.' In your answer you should show knowledge of the various parts of the baths. (30)
(b) Comment on the use of the arch and pillars in **Photograph H**. (10)
(c) Write a brief appreciation of the importance of baths in the life of Roman towns. (10)
- (iii) Study **Photograph I on Paper X**.
(a) Explain why the man is carrying these busts. (10)
(b) In what ways is this sculpture typically Roman? (25)
(c) Why do you think Roman portrait sculpture developed in this way? (15)
- (iv) **Photographs J and K on Paper X** show two examples of wall-paintings from the Pompeii region.
(a) To which of the Pompeian styles does **J** belong, and to which does **K** belong? (10)
(b) Give a detailed description and appreciation of **each** of these paintings. (40)
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PAPER X

A



B



C



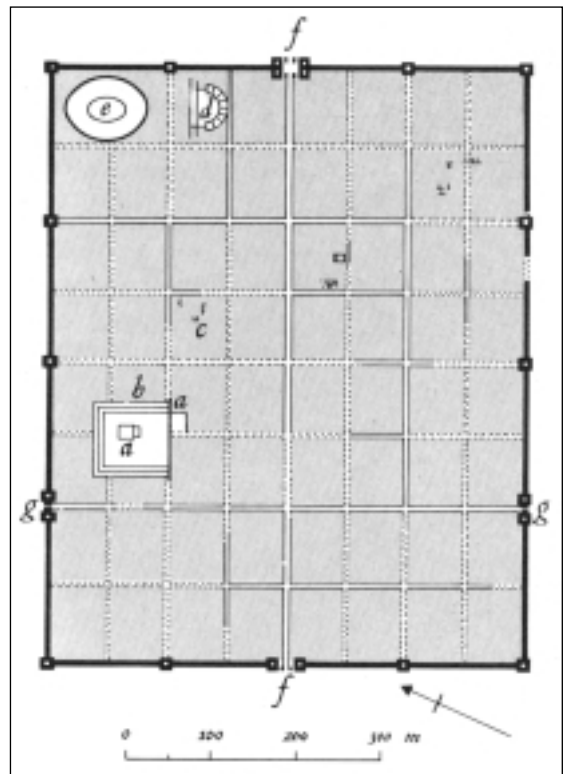
D



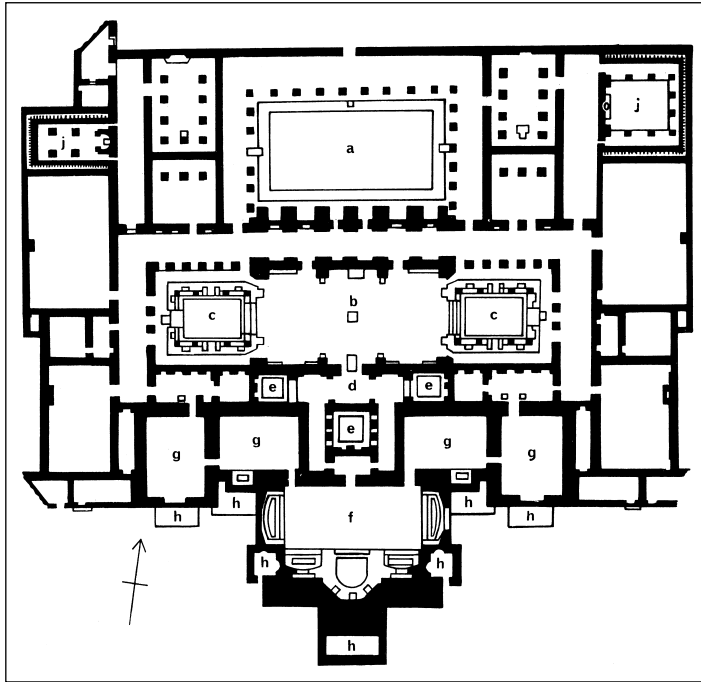
E



F



G



H



I



J



K

