



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit State Examinations Commission

LEAVING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION, 2004

CLASSICAL STUDIES – HIGHER LEVEL
(400 marks)

WEDNESDAY, 23 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 1: Topics 1 to 4

Topic 1. Athens at War.

[100]

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

- (i) Discuss Thucydides' use of speeches in his *History of the Peloponnesian War*. (50)
- (ii) (a) Outline the arguments put forward by Cleon and by Diodotus in the Mytilene Debate. (30)
- (b) What does the whole Mytilene affair tell us about democracy in Athens at that time? (20)
- (iii) (a) Write an essay on the importance of naval power in the Peloponnesian War. (40)
- (b) How did Sparta eventually overcome her deficiency in naval power? (10)
- (iv) The town of Plataea, an ally of Athens, successfully resisted a Theban attack but was finally captured by the Spartans and its inhabitants were put to death.

What is your opinion of the behaviour of the Thebans, the Plataeans, and the Athenians in these events? (50)

Topic 2. Alexander the Great.

[100]

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

- (i) When Alexander became king of Macedonia on the death of his father Philip in 336 BC, he led his army against a number of enemies (Triballians, Illyrians and Thebans).
- (a) Give a brief account of how Alexander dealt with **any two** of these enemies. (35)
- (b) What qualities that Alexander later showed in his Persian campaigns were already evident in these early successes? (15)
- (ii) The siege and capture of Tyre has been described as "perhaps the hardest task that Alexander's military genius ever encountered." (Bury and Meiggs)
- (a) What were the main challenges presented by Tyre and its defenders, and how did Alexander's genius overcome those challenges? (40)
- (b) What is your opinion of Alexander's treatment of the survivors after the capture of Tyre? (10)
- (iii) Alexander had a nearly fatal adventure at the fortress of the Mallians in India in 325 BC.
- (a) Describe how Alexander was seriously wounded at the fortress. (20)
- (b) How did Alexander later convince the army that he had not died there? (15)
- (c) Do you agree with those friends of Alexander who criticised him for his actions at this siege? Give reasons for your answer. (15)
- (iv) "In spite of his vehement and impulsive nature, he showed little interest in the pleasures of the senses and indulged in them only with great moderation..." (Plutarch, *Life of Alexander*)

Discuss this quotation with reference to what you have learnt about the behaviour of Alexander from your reading of the prescribed texts. (50)

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) (a) Give an account of Cicero's doubts and hesitations before he finally decided to join Pompey at the outbreak of the Civil War between Caesar and Pompey. (35)
- (b) When Cicero joined the Pompeian camp, how did he get on? (15)
- (ii) "Publius Clodius came from a patrician family and was distinguished both for his wealth and for his powers as an orator; but in his capacity for behaving quite outrageously he surpassed all the most notorious evil livers of his time." (Plutarch, *Life of Caesar*)
- Give an account of the part played by Clodius in the events of the Late Republic. (50)
- (iii) In Cicero's *On Government*, Scipio says: "I am speaking of these three forms of government – monarchy, oligarchy, democracy."
- (a) What are Scipio's objections to **each** of these forms of government? (35)
- (b) Do you agree with Scipio's criticisms of democracy? Give reasons for your answer. (15)
- (iv) Based on your reading of the prescribed poems, analyse Catullus' feelings about women in general and about Lesbia in particular. (50)

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 events which led to the death of Germanicus. (35)
- (b) Discuss the part played by Germanicus' widow Agrippina in the rift that developed between Tiberius on the one hand and Agrippina and her supporters on the other. (15)
- (ii) The first five years of Nero's reign are generally regarded as successful.
- (a) What factors made this period a happy one for Rome? (20)
- (b) What aspects of Nero's character contributed to the disastrous deterioration later in his reign? In your answer, refer to specific events. (30)
- (iii) The passage below is part of an inscription found at Pisa.
- News arrived on April 2nd that Gaius Caesar, son of Augustus (father of his country, pontifex maximus, guardian of the Roman empire and protector of the whole world), grandson of the deified Julius, after the successful completion of his consulship campaigning beyond the furthestmost territories of the Roman people, and doing noble service to the state in thoroughly conquering or winning over extremely large and warlike tribes, sustained wounds in the public service, and thanks to that misfortune was snatched by cruel fates from the Roman people, already marked out to be a princeps of the highest worth, most like his father in excellence, and the sole protector of our colony. The news renewed and multiplied for everybody, both individually and as a group, the grief which was still felt as a result of the death of Lucius Caesar, Gaius' brother, consul elect, augur, our patron, leader of the youth. (*Lactor 8*)
- (a) Explain the relationship of Gaius and Lucius to the Emperor Augustus. (10)
- (b) Outline the steps Augustus took after the deaths of Gaius and Lucius to secure a successor. (25)
- (c) Augustus claimed that he had restored the Roman Republic. What evidence is there in the inscription above that this was not so? (15)
- (iv) (a) Give an account of the rise and fall of Sejanus. (40)
- (b) Comment on Tiberius' dependence on Sejanus. (10)

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) Discuss the significance of the Io scene in Aeschylus' play *Prometheus Bound*. (50)
 - (ii) Discuss Oedipus' qualities as ruler of Thebes in Sophocles' play *Oedipus the King*. (50)
 - (iii) In Aristophanes' play, *Frogs*, as Dionysus proclaims Aeschylus the winner, he says: "In my heart of hearts, I have known all along."
 - (a) Discuss the way Aristophanes portrays Aeschylus in *Frogs*. (35)
 - (b) Why do you think Euripides was not chosen to save the city? (15)
 - (iv) (a) Analyse the final scene of Euripides' play *Medea* to show how Medea exacts the greatest possible revenge on Jason. (35)
 - (b) Discuss the significance of Medea being aloft on the sun-god's chariot in this scene. (15)
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Topic 6. Ancient Epic.

[100]

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

- (i) (a) Compare the Odysseus of Homer's *Odyssey* with the Ulysses of Virgil's *Aeneid*. (35)
 - (b) Why does Virgil present Ulysses in such a different light? (15)
 - (ii) In Homer's *Odyssey* Book 23, Penelope and Odysseus are finally reunited.
 - (a) Give an account of the scene in which they are reunited. (30)
 - (b) Do you agree that Homer shows great insight into human emotions in this scene? In your answer, refer to the events in the text. (20)
 - (iii) Discuss the importance of Aeneas' father Anchises in the events of Virgil's *Aeneid* Books 2 to 6. (50)
 - (iv) Compare the world of Homer's *Odyssey* with the world we meet in the Irish epic, *The Táin*. (50)
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Topic 7. Writers of the Augustan Age.**[100]**

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

- (i) (a) Among the writers on your course what evidence do you find of a desire to return to a simpler, more natural way of life? (40)
- (b) In your opinion, why did Augustan writers express such a desire? (10)
- (ii) Livy in his *Preface*, and in his treatment of the early Romans, tends to idealise the past at the expense of his own age.
- Discuss this comment with reference to the prescribed extracts from Livy. (50)
- (iii) Ovid's tale of Baucis and Philemon has been called "a delightful parable about humility and greed."
- (a) How does Ovid make the story so delightful? (40)
- (b) What is the moral of the story? (10)
- (iv) One of Virgil's characteristic qualities is his sympathy with those who suffer.
- What evidence do you find of this quality in the extracts *Orpheus and Eurydice* and *The Underworld*? (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) (a) Identify the building whose reconstruction is shown in **Photograph A** on **Paper X**, and state where it is situated. (10)
- (b) Give a full description of the design and decoration of the temple, and comment on Richter's statement that the plan is irregular. (30)
- (c) What materials were used in the building and decoration of this temple? (10)
- (ii) Study **Photograph B** on **Paper X**.
- (a) What name is given to this style of vase painting? (5)
- (b) What purpose did these vases serve? (10)
- (c) Comment on the way the human figures are painted on this vase. (15)
- (d) Write a note on the decoration on this vase. (20)
- (iii) Study **Photograph C** on **Paper X**.
- (a) Write an account of why this statue is regarded highly. (30)
- (b) Compare the treatment of gods in this statue with the way the gods are shown in the Classical period (e.g. on the Parthenon frieze). (20)
- (iv) **Photograph D** on **Paper X** shows a statue from the Hellenistic period.
- (a) Name the central figure in this sculpture. (5)
- (b) What event is shown in this sculpture? (10)
- (c) In what ways is the sculpture shown in **Photograph D** typical of Hellenistic sculpture? (20)
- (d) What is your opinion of this sculpture? (15)

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) In Plato's *Republic*, Socrates is asked whether the Ideal State is possible.
- (a) Summarise the arguments Socrates makes in his reply. (35)
- (b) Do you think such a state could exist?
Give reasons for your answer. (15)
- (ii) Discuss the view that Dion's failure in Syracuse was due less to his own faults than to the corrupt and fickle nature of the Syracusan citizens. (50)
- (iii) "Well," he will continue, "isn't there a very great natural difference between men and women?"
(Plato, *Republic*)
- (a) How does Socrates answer the argument that women are by nature incapable of taking part in all the occupations of men? (40)
- (b) Why does Socrates say that treating women in the same way as men in training for war will cause great hilarity? (10)
- (iv) (a) What rules does Socrates lay down for the way of life of the Guardians in his state? (25)
- (b) How does Socrates answer the objection that these rules will not make the Guardians particularly happy? (10)
- (c) Would you agree with Plato that wealth and private property are the cause of the greatest problems in a state? Give reasons for your answer. (15)

Topic 10. Roman Art and Architecture.**[100]**

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

- (i) Study the plan of Timgad shown in **Photograph E** on **Paper X** and answer the following questions:
- (a) Identify the features marked at *aa*, *d*, *j*, *k*, and *h*. (15)
- (b) Where is Timgad situated and why was it built there? (10)
- (c) What does this plan tell us about life in this town? (15)
- (d) Timgad is an example of the use of the chessboard pattern in town-planning. Mention the **two** main theories about the origins of this pattern in Roman towns. (10)
- (ii) (a) Identify the event shown in **Photograph F** on **Paper X** and name the two main characters. (10)
- (b) "The tumultuous battle-scene is certainly rendered with a vivid sense of drama and a genuine attempt to distinguish the personalities involved." (Wheeler, *Roman Art and Architecture*)
Discuss this comment by Wheeler. (30)
- (c) Write a brief note on the technique of mosaic. (10)
- (iii) Study the relief sculpture shown in **Photograph G** on **Paper X**.
- (a) Give a brief description of the scene and state what it commemorates. (15)
- (b) Discuss how the artist has used high and low relief in this sculpture. (15)
- (c) Comment on Wheeler's remark that the sculptor of this scene has got perspective "nearly right". (20)
- (iv) **Photograph H** on **Paper X** shows the Maison Carrée at Nîmes. **Photograph I** shows the temple of Bacchus at Baalbek.
- (a) Give a full description of the Maison Carrée. (35)
- (b) Study **Photograph I** and identify **one** Greek feature and **one** Roman feature of this temple. (15)

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