



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit State Examinations Commission

LEAVING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION, 2006

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 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) In 427 B.C., the Athenian Assembly debated a motion to cancel the death sentence imposed on the people of Mytilene.
- (a) Summarise the case made by Cleon in favour of the death penalty. (30)
- (b) What is your opinion of the case made by Cleon? (10)
- (c) What was the outcome for the citizens of Mytilene? (10)
- (ii) (a) According to Thucydides, why is the Peloponnesian War “more worth writing about than any of those which had taken place in the past”? (30)
- (b) In your opinion, to what extent is the fame of the Peloponnesian War due to the way Thucydides writes about it? (20)
- (iii) In your opinion, what were the main mistakes made by the Athenians in their conduct of the war in Sicily? (50)
- (iv) (a) Give an account of the part played by the Athenian general Demosthenes in the events of the Peloponnesian War. (35)
- (b) What were the qualities of Demosthenes as a general? (15)
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Topic 2. Alexander the Great.

[100]

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

- (i) (a) Describe the main components of Alexander’s army. (25)
- (b) In the battle of Issus, what use did Alexander make of his cavalry **and** infantry? (25)
- (ii) “Alexander now decided to disband his fleet.” (Arrian, *The Campaigns of Alexander*)
- (a) Why did Alexander dismiss his fleet after the siege at Miletus? (25)
- (b) What policy did Alexander then adopt to counter the strength of the Persian navy? (15)
- (c) What risks did Alexander run in following this policy? (10)
- (iii) “Meanwhile Alexander had become so much obsessed by his fears of the supernatural and so overwrought and apprehensive in his own mind, that he interpreted every strange or unusual occurrence, no matter how trivial, as a prodigy or a portent...” (Plutarch, *Life of Alexander*)
- What evidence is there in the texts that Alexander paid great attention to omens **and** oracles throughout his life? (50)
- (iv) “From this point he began to adapt his own style of living more closely to that of the country and tried to reconcile Asiatic and Macedonian customs.” (Plutarch, *Life of Alexander*)
- (a) What forms did this “Orientalism” of Alexander take? (35)
- (b) In your opinion, why did Alexander follow this policy? Support your answer with reference to the prescribed material. (15)
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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) “The law is Reason, right and natural, commanding people to fulfil their obligations and prohibiting and deterring them from doing wrong.” (Cicero, *Right and Wrong*)
- How does Cicero go on to develop this view? (50)
- (ii) From your reading of Plutarch’s *Lives*, what would you consider were the most important factors in gaining power in Rome of the Late Republic?
- You should refer to specific events in your answer. (50)
- (iii) (a) Describe Caesar’s crossing of the river Rubicon in 49 B.C. and explain its significance. (25)
- (b) How did Pompey react to Caesar’s crossing of the Rubicon? (10)
- (c) Briefly compare the behaviour of the **two** generals at this time. (15)
- (iv) “I am consumed with an extraordinary and not, I think, discreditable desire that my name should be made illustrious and renowned by a work from your pen.” (Cicero, *Letter to the historian Lucius Lucceius*)
- (a) Summarise Cicero’s letter to Lucceius. (30)
- (b) What does this letter tell us of Cicero’s character? (20)

Topic 4. Roman Historians.

[100]

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

- (i) (a) Discuss the part played by Mark Antony in the events from the death of Julius Caesar (44 B.C.) to Antony’s defeat at the Battle of Actium (31 B.C.). (40)
- (b) What aspects of Antony’s character may have contributed to his downfall? (10)
- (ii) “Tacitus believed that the emperors had been corrupted by power. It was not just power, but the desire for power, that Tacitus found dangerous.” (Mellor)
- Discuss this statement with reference to the prescribed material on your course. (50)
- (iii) In A.D. 26 Tiberius left Rome for the island of Capri.
- (a) In your opinion, why did Tiberius leave Rome at that time? (20)
- (b) What effect did his absence have on affairs at Rome? (15)
- (c) Comment briefly on Suetonius’ account of Tiberius’ life on Capri. (15)
- (iv) Corbulo has been described as the greatest general of his time.
- Give an account of Corbulo’s achievements. (50)

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) From your reading of Aristophanes' play *Frogs*, what insights do you get into politics **and** life in Athens at that time? (50)

 - (ii) In Sophocles' play, *King Oedipus*, the prophet Tiresias and Oedipus have a dramatic encounter.
 - (a) Give an outline of that encounter. (25)
 - (b) What is your opinion of the behaviour of both Oedipus and Tiresias in this encounter? (25)

 - (iii) What insights does Euripides' play, *Medea*, give us into the different ways women and men viewed marriage at that time? (50)

 - (iv) In Aeschylus' play, *Prometheus Bound*, while Zeus is a brutal tyrant, Prometheus himself is not without his faults. Discuss this view 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) In Homer's *Odyssey*, analyse the relationship between Penelope and her son Telemachus. (50)

 - (ii) In Virgil's *Aeneid*, compare the role of the goddess Venus with the role of the goddess Juno. (50)

 - (iii) Throughout Virgil's *Aeneid*, the characteristic quality of Aeneas is a strong sense of duty.
 - (a) Discuss this statement with reference to the text. (35)
 - (b) In your opinion, does this strong sense of duty make him a less interesting hero? (15)

 - (iv) Compare the style of warfare shown in the *Táin* with the style of warfare shown in Virgil's *Aeneid*. (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) From your reading of the Virgil extracts *Rustic Happiness* and *A Farmer's Calendar*, do you find Virgil's description of the farmer's life to be a realistic one? (30)
- (b) What are the main aspects of city life that Virgil finds unattractive? (20)
- (ii) From your reading of the prescribed poems, compare the attitude of Propertius to women with the attitude of Ovid to women. (50)
- (iii) (a) In Livy's account of the battle of Cannae, describe how Hannibal defeated the Romans. (25)
- (b) Discuss the behaviour of the consul Paulus before and after the battle at Cannae. (10)
- (c) What is your impression of Hannibal as portrayed by Livy in the extracts on your course? (15)
- (iv) From your reading of the prescribed poems, how would you summarise Horace's philosophy of life? (50)
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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) **Photograph A** on **Paper X** shows the plan of the temple of Hephaistos (also known as the "Theseum").
- (a) In which order of Greek architecture is the temple built? (5)
- (b) Where is this temple located? (5)
- (c) What materials were used in its construction? (10)
- (d) Give a description of the temple using correct architectural terms. (30)
- (ii) Study the vase shown in **Photograph B** on **Paper X** and answer the following questions:
- (a) What is the name of this type of vase? (5)
- (b) For what purpose were such vases used? (5)
- (c) Using correct terms, give a description of this vase. (25)
- (d) This vase comes from Corinth. Give a brief account of the development of Corinthian pottery. (15)
- (iii) Study **Photographs C** and **D** on **Paper X** and answer the following questions:
- (a) From which periods of Greek sculpture does each of these two statues come? (10)
- (b) Use these two statues to describe the development in Greek sculpture that has taken place over the 100 years that separate **C** from **D**. (40)
- (iv) (a) What type of figure is shown in **Photograph E** on **Paper X**? (5)
- (b) Where was this sculpture located? (5)
- (c) Comment on the carving of the drapery of this figure. (15)
- (d) Compare this sculpture with the typical statues of women in the Archaic period. (25)
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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) (a) In his programme for the education of children, what types of stories does Plato ban? (20)
(b) How does Plato justify banning these stories? (20)
(c) Do you agree with Plato in his censorship of such stories? Give reasons for your answer. (10)
- (ii) From your reading of his *Seventh* and *Eighth Letters*, what opinion have you formed of Plato's character and philosophy? (50)
- (iii) In Plato's *Republic*, Adeimantus says of philosophers, "even those who look the best of them are reduced by this study you praise so highly to complete uselessness as members of society."
How does Socrates defend the study of philosophy against this objection? (50)
- (iv) "Now I wonder if we could contrive one of those convenient stories we were talking about a few minutes ago, ... some magnificent myth ..." (Plato, *The Republic*)
(a) Outline this "magnificent myth". (25)
(b) Why does Socrates think such a myth would be needed? (15)
(c) Would Socrates allow any movement between the classes mentioned in the myth? (10)

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 plan of Lepcis Magna in North Africa.
(a) Identify the features shown at *bb*, *c*, *g*, *f*, and *n*. (15)
(b) Use this plan to trace the development of Lepcis Magna from the time of the emperor Augustus to the reign of Septimius Severus. (30)
(c) Comment briefly on the harbour shown at *o* on the plan. (5)
- (ii) **Photograph G** on **Paper X** shows the theatre at Aspendos in Asia Minor.
(a) Give a description of this theatre. (25)
(b) How do this theatre and similar theatres illustrate Wheeler's statement that "the Roman theatre ... conformed to the Roman trend towards enclosed interiors"? (15)
(c) Apart from this trend towards enclosed interiors, mention **one** difference between Roman and Greek theatres. (10)
- (iii) (a) Identify the painting shown in **Photograph H** on **Paper X**. (5)
(b) Why were paintings such as these painted on the walls of Roman houses? (10)
(c) In your opinion, is Wheeler justified in calling this painting "a masterpiece"? (35)
- (iv) **Photograph I** on **Paper X** shows a detail from the Ara Pacis of Augustus (13 B.C.).
Photograph J on **Paper X** shows a relief from the Arch of Septimius Severus (c.A.D.200).
(a) In what way is the Ara Pacis scene more naturalistic than the relief from the Arch of Septimius Severus? (15)
(b) Comment on the attempt at perspective in the relief from the Arch of Septimius Severus. (15)
(c) What do these sculptures tell us about the change in the way the emperor is portrayed between the time of Augustus and the time of Septimius? (20)

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