



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit State Examinations Commission

LEAVING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION, 2014

CLASSICAL STUDIES – HIGHER LEVEL (300 marks)

FRIDAY, 13 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 I: Topics 1 to 4

Topic 1. Athens at War.

- (i) (a) Outline the reasons why Athens and Sparta agreed to the Peace of Nicias in 421 BC. (30)
- (b) Explain why both sides resumed the war. (20)
- (ii) (a) Give an account of the part played by Cleon in the Peloponnesian War. (40)
- (b) Do you admire Cleon? Explain your answer. (10)
- (iii) Before the Sicilian Expedition, a large number of Hermae were mutilated in Athens.
- (a) Explain what Hermae were. (10)
- (b) According to Thucydides, why were the Athenians upset by this episode? (10)
- (c) Explain how the mutilation of the Hermae affected the subsequent course of the war. (30)
- (iv) Thucydides made use of several speeches in his *History of the Peloponnesian War*.
- (a) In your opinion, what does Thucydides achieve by the use of such speeches? (35)
- (b) Do you think it appropriate for Thucydides, as an historian, to use speeches in this way? Explain your answer. (15)
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Topic 2. Alexander the Great.

- (i) (a) Discuss the view that it was Alexander's qualities as a leader and as a strategist that ensured victory over the Persians at the Granicus River. (35)
- (b) What do we learn about Alexander's character from his behaviour after the battle? (15)
- (ii) (a) Why did Alexander disband his navy after the siege of Miletus? (15)
- (b) Without a navy, how did Alexander deal with the threat from the Persian fleet? (25)
- (c) What did you learn about Alexander from his decision to dispense with his navy? (10)
- (iii) (a) What did Alexander achieve by his visit to Egypt? (30)
- (b) From your reading of Arrian and Plutarch, do you think that Alexander believed in his own divinity? Give reasons for your answer. (20)
- (iv) "The truth is that he was fighting mad and such was his passion for glory that he had not the strength of mind, when there was action afoot, to consider his own safety. The sheer pleasure of battle was irresistible." (Arrian) Discuss this statement with reference to Alexander. (50)
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Topic 3. Life and Thought in the Late Roman Republic.

- (i) (a) What do the poems of Catullus reveal about his character? (35)
- (b) Do you think that the poems of Catullus have any relevance for today's reader? Give reasons for your answer. (15)
- (ii) (a) From your reading of the prescribed texts, compare the qualities of Caesar and Pompey as generals. (40)
- (b) Describe how Pompey died. (10)
- (iii) "Publius Clodius, in his capacity for behaving quite outrageously, surpassed all the most notoriously evil people of his time." (Plutarch)
- (a) What evidence is there in Plutarch's *Lives* to support this judgement? (35)
- (b) What does Clodius' career tell you about politics in Rome at that time? (15)
- (iv) (a) In 56 BC Cicero wrote a letter to the historian Luceius. Give an account of the contents of the letter. (40)
- (b) What do you learn about Cicero's character from this letter? (10)
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Topic 4. Roman Historians.

- (i) (a) Give an account of the career of Mark Antony from the death of Julius Caesar in 44 BC to the Battle of Actium in 31 BC. (40)
- (b) Did you admire Mark Antony? Explain your answer. (10)
- (ii) "Soon Tiberius broke out in every sort of cruelty and never lacked for victims." (Suetonius, *The Twelve Caesars*)
From your reading of Suetonius, do you think that this is a fair judgement of Tiberius' character throughout his reign? (50)
- (iii) (a) Outline the events that led to the downfall and death of the Emperor Nero. (40)
- (b) In your opinion, did the Emperor Nero have any redeeming features? Explain your answer. (10)
- (iv) (a) Discuss the treatment by the Emperor Augustus of his daughter Julia. (40)
- (b) What is your opinion of the way Augustus treated women in general? (10)
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GROUP II: Topics 5 to 7

Topic 5. Greek Drama.

- (i) “Now you, free and in power, would be unbearable.”
Discuss this assessment of Prometheus’ character by Hermes in the last scene of *Prometheus Bound* by Aeschylus. (50)
- (ii) (a) Why does Dionysus choose Aeschylus to be the poet to save Athens in Aristophanes’ *Frogs*? (30)
(b) In your opinion, why is Euripides not chosen? (20)
- (iii) (a) Discuss the view that, in Euripides’ *Medea*, Jason’s wretched end is largely due to his own character defects. (40)
(b) Do you feel any sympathy for Jason at the end of the play? Give a reason for your answer. (10)
- (iv) (a) Analyse the role of oracles and prophecies in *Oedipus The King* by Sophocles. (35)
(b) In your opinion, to what extent did Oedipus contribute to his own downfall? Explain your answer. (15)
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Topic 6. Ancient Epic.

- (i) (a) Analyse the relationship between Penelope and her son Telemachus in Homer’s *Odyssey*. (40)
(b) Do you agree that Telemachus is a typical teenage boy? Give reasons for your answer. (10)
- (ii) “Temples and prayers are no use to a woman who is madly in love.” (Virgil, *Aeneid* Book 4)
(a) Analyse the role of the gods in the doomed love affair of Dido and Aeneas. (35)
(b) To what extent is Dido responsible for her own downfall? (15)
- (iii) Compare the depiction of warfare in the *Táin* with the depiction of warfare in the *Odyssey* or the *Aeneid*. (50)
- (iv) (a) Analyse the part played by the swineherd Eumaeus in the *Odyssey*. (35)
(b) What purpose does Odysseus’ disguise as a beggar serve in the story? (15)
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Topic 7. Writers of the Augustan Age.

- (i) (a) Do you agree that Virgil's account of Orpheus' ordeal in *Orpheus and Eurydice* is dramatic and moving? Give reasons for your answer. (35)
- (b) Discuss Virgil's use of imagery in this poem. (15)
- (ii) From your reading of the poems by Propertius on your course, what relevance does he have for today's readers? Support your answer with reference to the prescribed poems. (50)
- (iii) (a) According to Livy, what were the tactics used by Hannibal against the Romans at the Battle of Cannae? (35)
- (b) Do you think that Livy admired Hannibal? Support your answer with reference to the prescribed texts. (15)
- (iv) (a) Outline the main themes of Horace's *Ode to Spring*. (25)
- (b) Do you find Horace's poetry appealing? Answer with reference to the prescribed poems. (25)

GROUP III: Topics 8 to 10

Topic 8. Art and Architecture in Greek Society.

- (i) Study **Photograph A** on **Paper X**.
- (a) Identify the type of vase shown and describe the purpose of such vases. (10)
- (b) Identify the two figures on the vase and say what they are doing. (10)
- (c) Name the artist who painted this vase. (5)
- (d) Comment on the quality and style of the decoration of the vase. (25)
- (ii) **Photograph B** and **Photograph C** on **Paper X** show a plan and a detail of the temple of Hephaistos in Athens.
- (a) To which order of architecture does this temple belong? (5)
- (b) What materials were used in its construction? (10)
- (c) What, according to Richter, was unusual about this temple? (10)
- (d) Give a detailed description of the temple using the correct architectural terms. (25)
- (iii) **Photograph D** and **Photograph E** on **Paper X** show metopes from Focce del Sele and from the Parthenon in Athens.
- (a) To which period does each of these metopes belong? (10)
- (b) Where exactly on a temple would they have been placed? (5)
- (c) Explain what event is shown in each metope. (10)
- (d) Describe the developments that have taken place in sculpture between **Photographs D** and **E**. (25)
- (iv) Look at **Photograph F** on **Paper X**.
- (a) Identify this statue and name the sculptor. (10)
- (b) To which period of Greek sculpture does it belong? (5)
- (c) What new developments in sculpture are evident in this statue? (35)

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

- (i) (a) How does Socrates justify his view that wealth and poverty corrupt workers? (25)
(b) How might Socrates' ideal state defend itself or fight a war, without wealth? (25)
- (ii) (a) Outline the simile of The Cave in Plato's *Republic*. (30)
(b) What is the meaning of this simile? (20)
- (iii) (a) From your reading of *Letters VII* and *VIII*, what did Plato hope to achieve by his visits to Syracuse? (15)
(b) Do you agree that his visits to Syracuse ended in failure? Explain your answer by reference to Plato's *Letters* and Plutarch's *Life of Dion*. (35)
- (iv) (a) Give an account of Socrates' programme for the education and training of the Philosopher-Rulers in his ideal state. (35)
(b) In your opinion, was this programme suitable preparation for a ruler? Give reasons for your answer. (15)
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Topic 10. Roman Art and Architecture.

- (i) **Photograph G on Paper X** shows the plan of Trier (Augusta Treverorum), a city of Roman Gaul.
- (a) Identify the features shown at **c, d, e, g, h**. (15)
(b) What evidence is there to show that Trier was a city of wealth and importance in ancient times? (20)
(c) The Aula Palatina is a famous landmark in Trier. Describe this building and say what its original purpose was. (15)
- (ii) **Photograph H on Paper X** shows a relief from the Ara Pacis of Augustus 13 BC.
- (a) Why was the Ara Pacis built? (5)
(b) Give a detailed description of the Ara Pacis. (30)
(c) Why is the Ara Pacis such a famous structure? (15)
- (iii) (a) Identify the famous arch shown in **Photograph I on Paper X**. (5)
(b) Where in Roman towns were arches such as this usually located? (5)
(c) Why did the Romans build this type of arch? (10)
(d) Give a full description of this arch using the correct architectural terms. (30)
- (iv) **Photograph J on Paper X** shows a wall painting from Pompeii.
- (a) What event is shown in this painting? (5)
(b) Write a full description of this painting. (15)
(c) How does the artist convey the drama of the scene? (25)
(d) Give one other example of Greek subject matter in Roman art. (5)
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