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AN ROINN OIDEACHAIS AGUS EOLAÍOCHTA

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LEAVING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION, 2000

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**CLASSICAL STUDIES — ORDINARY LEVEL**  
**(400 marks)**

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WEDNESDAY, 21 JUNE — AFTERNOON 2.00 to 5.00

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- 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**.

**Topic 1. Athens at War. [100]**

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

- (i) What were the causes of the Peloponnesian War? (50)
  - (ii) The Spartans laid siege to the town of Plataea in 429 B.C.
    - (a) Describe how the Plataeans managed to keep the Spartans out for so long. (35)
    - (b) How did the siege finally come to an end? (15)
  - (iii) ‘Both sides, therefore, had cogent reasons for making peace.’ (Thucydides)  
Give the reasons of **both** the Spartans and the Athenians for wanting to make peace (i.e. the Peace of Nicias) in 421 B.C. (50)
  - (iv) ‘The rest of the people, in fact almost the entire population of Athens ... went down to Piraeus with them.’ (Thucydides)
    - (a) What were the feelings of the people as they watched the launching of the Sicilian Expedition? (25)
    - (b) Describe the scene in the harbour as the Athenian fleet prepared to set sail. (25)
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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) What was the Gordian Knot? (15)  
(b) How did Alexander meet the challenge presented by the Gordian Knot? (35)
  - (ii) What do you most admire about Alexander as a leader, and as a man? (50)
  - (iii) (a) Describe how Alexander’s close friend, Hephaestion, died. (25)  
(b) Give an account of Alexander’s behaviour after Hephaestion’s death. (25)
  - (iv) (a) Why did the site of the battle of Issus suit Alexander’s army more than the army of the Persians? (15)  
(b) Briefly describe the course of the battle. (35)
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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) Give a brief account of Pompey’s career up to the time he left for Spain to fight against Sertorius. (50)
  - (ii) ‘It is not lawful for a man to be present at the rites nor even to be in the house where they are being celebrated.’ (Plutarch, *Life of Caesar*)
    - (a) Describe what happened when Clodius ‘gate-crashed’ the women’s festival. (35)
    - (b) What happened at Clodius’ trial? (15)
  - (iii) Cicero’s letter to Atticus describes a visit which Caesar and his followers made to Cicero in 45 B.C. Summarise how Caesar and Cicero got on during this visit. (50)
  - (iv) ‘His ability to secure the affection of his men and to get the best out of them was remarkable.’ (Plutarch)
    - (a) Give some examples of the remarkable deeds of bravery which Caesar’s men produced for him. (40)
    - (b) How did Caesar encourage and reward this spirit of bravery? (10)
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**Topic 4. Roman Historians.****[100]**

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

- (i) 'However, the charge of being a womaniser stuck.' (Suetonius, *Augustus*)  
What does Suetonius tell us about Augustus and women? (50)
- (ii) Tacitus and Suetonius both speak of Tiberius' reluctance and hesitation before he accepted the position of emperor.  
What reasons are given for his behaviour? (50)
- (iii) 'Eventually Augustus broke his friendship with Mark Antony, which had always been a tenuous one and in continuous need of patching.' (Suetonius, *Augustus*)  
Give an account of the relationship between the two men. (50)
- (iv) Describe Tiberius' treatment of Germanicus' widow, Agrippina, and her children. (50)

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<b>GROUP II: Topics 5 to 7</b>
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**Topic 5. Greek Drama.****[100]**

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

- (i) When Oedipus accuses Creon of plotting against him, how does Creon defend himself? (50)
- (ii) (a) Show how Medea talks Jason into taking the gifts to the princess Glauce, his new wife. (30)  
(b) What use does Medea make of her children in this interview with Jason? (20)
- (iii) Would you agree that in Sophocles' *King Oedipus* the gods planned Oedipus' downfall, and made it happen? (50)
- (iv) Summarise the messenger's account of the deaths of Glauce, and her father Creon, in Euripides' *Medea*. (50)

**Topic 6. Ancient Epic.****[100]**

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

- (i) (a) Describe how Odysseus and his men sailed past the Sirens unharmed. (40)  
(b) What does this episode tell us about Odysseus? (10)
- (ii) (a) What do you admire about Odysseus' behaviour in his adventure with the Cyclops? (40)  
(b) Would you blame Odysseus in any way for what happened? (10)
- (iii) 'Having made her decision for death, she first worked out, all by herself, the time and the means.'  
(Virgil, *Aeneid* IV)  
(a) Give an account of how Dido planned and carried out her suicide. (40)  
(b) Show briefly how Virgil made her death so moving. (10)
- (iv) Would you agree that Odysseus is a more exciting hero than Aeneas? Give reasons for your answer. (50)

**Topic 7. Writers of the Augustan Age.**

[100]

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

- (i) Discuss Propertius' attitude to love in the poems on your course. (50)
  - (ii) (a) In Livy's *Class Warfare*, how did Menenius Agrippa persuade the plebeian citizens to return to Rome? (30)  
(b) '...the general body of citizens were to have magistrates of their own.' Write a brief note on these magistrates. (20)
  - (iii) (a) Describe Horace's encounter with the bore in the poem, *The Bore*. (40)  
(b) How does Horace make fun of himself in this poem? (10)
  - (iv) (a) Describe the scene which meets Aeneas and the Sibyl as they approach the river Styx in Virgil's *Underworld*. (30)  
(b) What is the Sibyl's explanation for this scene? (20)
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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 ground-plan of the temple of Athene Nike.
    - (a) Where is this temple situated? (10)
    - (b) Name **two** other buildings in the same location. (15)
    - (c) Give a full description of the temple of Athene Nike. (25)
  - (ii) **Photograph B on Paper X** shows gods and a goddess from the Parthenon frieze.
    - (a) Where in the Parthenon temple was the frieze situated? (10)
    - (b) Describe what is depicted on the Parthenon frieze. (20)
    - (c) Comment on the achievement of the sculptor in the section of the frieze shown in **Photograph B**. (20)
  - (iii) (a) Identify the statue shown in **Photograph C on Paper X**. (10)  
(b) To which period of sculpture does it belong? (10)  
(c) What makes this statue, as Richter states: 'one of the finest Greek original statues in bronze that have survived'? (30)
  - (iv) Look at **Photograph D on Paper X**.
    - (a) What is shown in this sculpture? (10)
    - (b) To which period of Greek sculpture does it belong? (10)
    - (c) Richter says that it was the ambition of artists of this period to represent 'movement in different contrasting directions, the texture and multiple folds of drapery, human character and emotion.' Comment on this sculpture in the light of what Richter says. (30)
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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) 'Suppose the following to be the state of affairs on board a ship or ships.' (Plato, *Republic*)
- (a) How does Socrates develop this simile of the ship and the Sea Captain? (40)
- (b) What does the simile tell us about Plato's view of democracy? (10)
- (ii) 'The Rulers and Auxiliaries are to lead a life of austere simplicity.' (Plato, *Republic*)  
Give an account of the way of life Socrates lays down for his Rulers and Auxiliaries. (50)
- (iii) Socrates says that there are two things that can ruin and corrupt his Third Class (the workers), and these are: wealth and poverty.
- (a) How does he explain this statement? (35)
- (b) Why will his ideal state be able to fight a war successfully against much richer states? (15)
- (iv) Outline how Socrates defends his view that 'men and women should follow the same occupations, in spite of the great natural differences between them'. (Plato, *Republic*)
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**Topic 10. Roman Art and Architecture.**

**[100]**

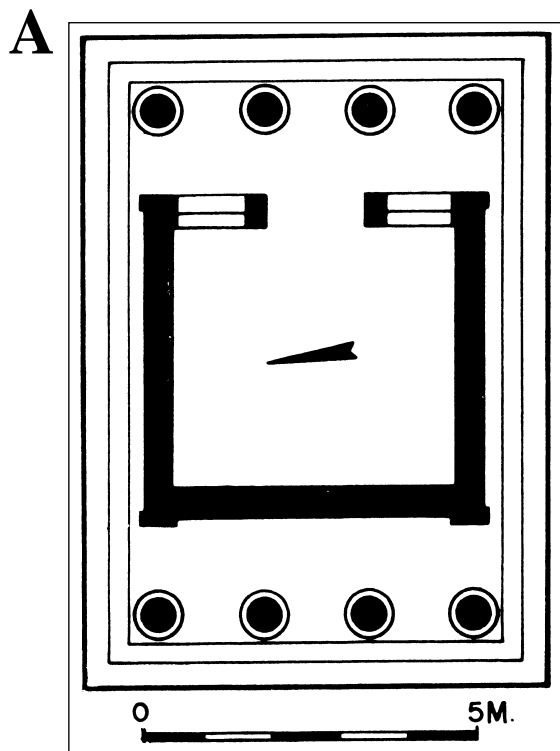
Answer **any two** of the following questions. (Each question is worth fifty marks):-

- (i) (a) A section of a monument is shown in **Photograph E** on **Paper X**. Identify this monument. (10)
- (b) Of what historical event is this monument a record? (10)
- (c) How has the artist given us a continuous, uninterrupted record of the event? (10)
- (d) Use **Photograph E** to illustrate Wheeler's remark: 'Indeed, all perspective is at sixes and sevens.' (20)
- (ii) **Photograph F** on **Paper X** shows a bust of the Emperor Commodus (AD 180-193).
- (a) The Emperor is portrayed as a mythical hero. Name the hero and give reasons for your answer. (15)
- (b) What sort of image of himself do you think the Emperor wanted to give in this bust? (15)
- (c) How has the sculptor managed to suggest that the Emperor is vain and effeminate? (20)
- (iii) (a) What historical event is shown in **Photograph G** on **Paper X**? (10)
- (b) Identify clearly the central figure in the chariot, and the man on horseback near the tree. (20)
- (c) How has the artist conveyed the tumult of battle and the dramatic confrontation of the two men? (20)
- (iv) (a) Identify the structure shown in **Photograph H** on **Paper X**. (10)
- (b) Comment on the use of the arch in the construction of this building. (25)
- (c) Write a brief note on the columns on the exterior of the building. (15)
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CLASSICAL STUDIES — ORDINARY LEVEL

PAPER X



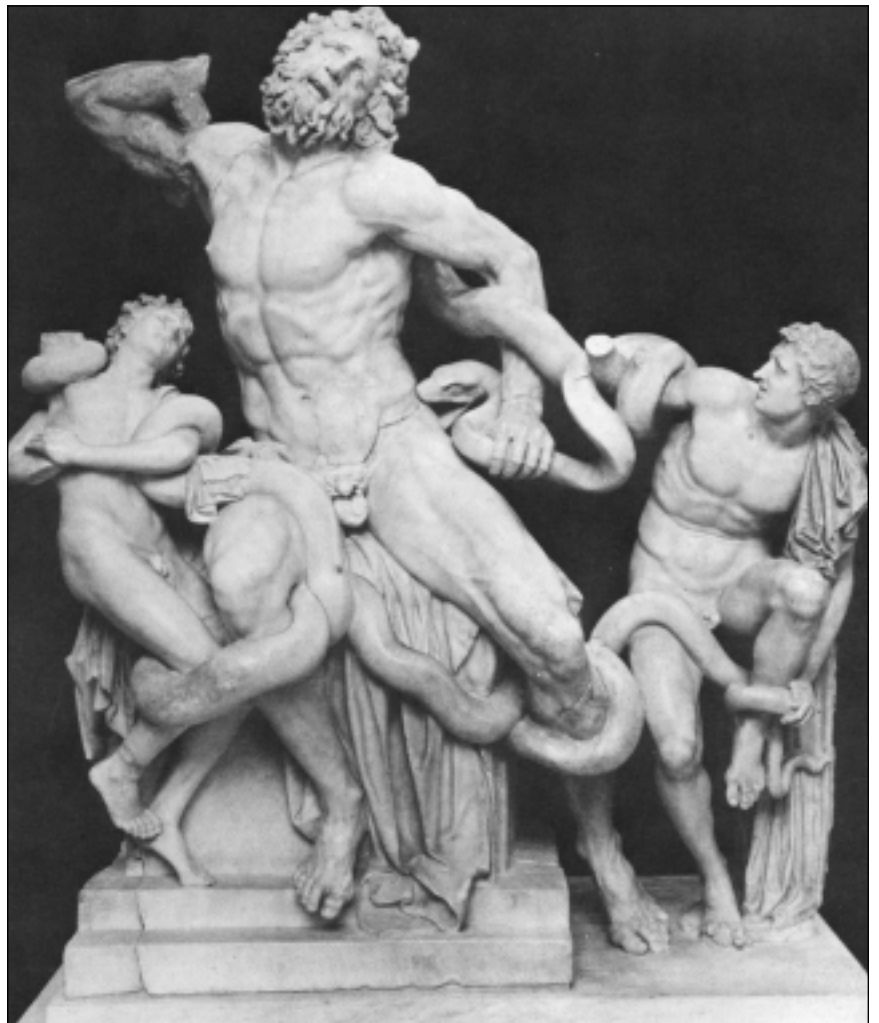
B



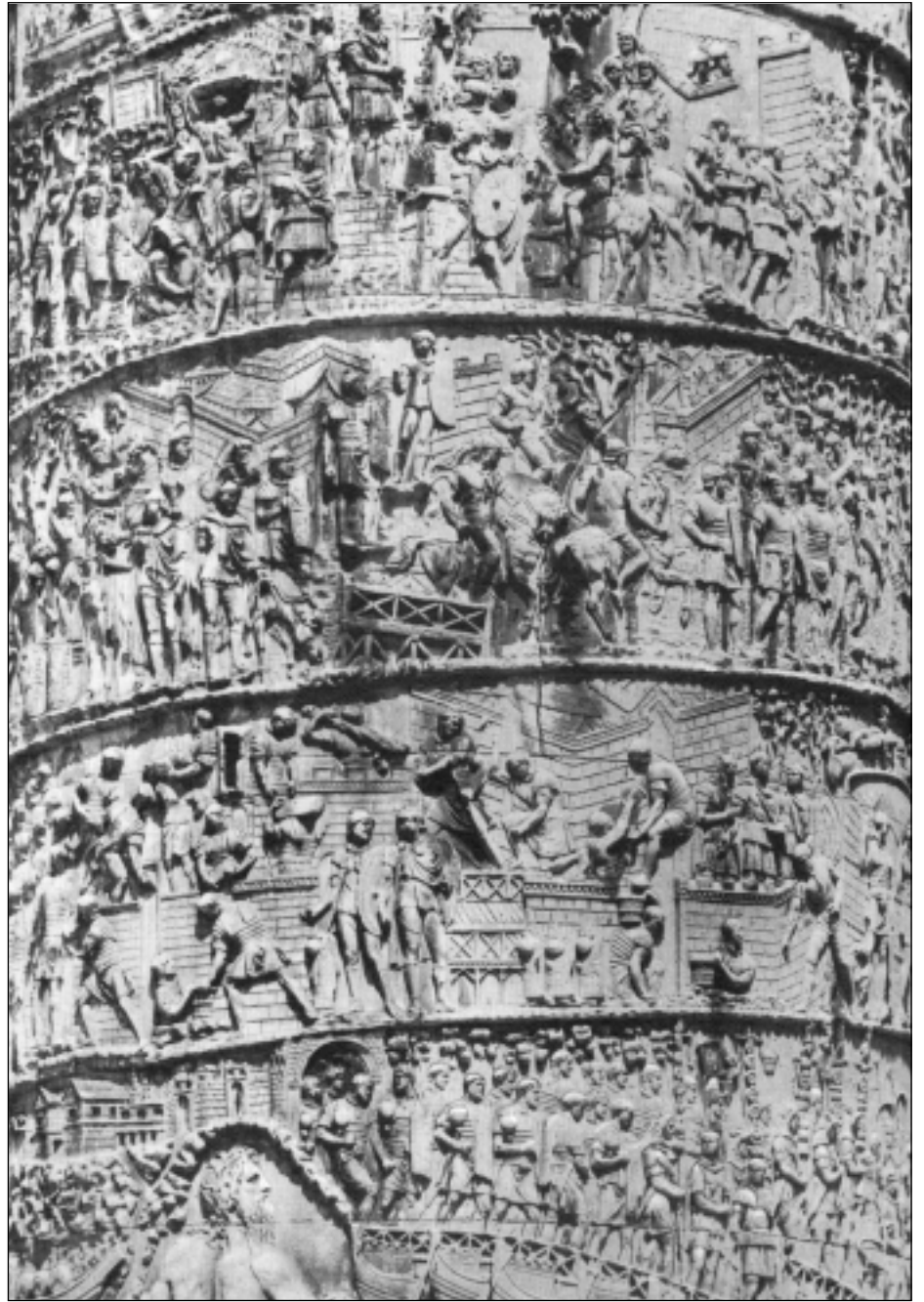
**C**



**D**



**E**



**F**







**G**

**H**



Photographs A, B, C and D are taken from *A Handbook of Greek Art*, G. Richter, Phaidon Press, 4th Edition 1995  
Photographs E, F, G and H are taken from *Roman Art and Architecture*, M. Wheeler, Thames and Hudson, London 1964