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AN ROINN OIDEACHAIS AGUS EOLAÍOCHTA

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LEAVING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION, 2002

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

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WEDNESDAY 19 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.

**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) “And, with regard to my factual reporting of the events of the war, I have made it a principle not to write down the first story that came my way...”  
(Thucydides, *The Peloponnesian War*)
- (a) What methods did Thucydides use to try to get an accurate account of the events of the Peloponnesian War? (25)
- (b) What was his approach to reporting speeches made by those involved in the war? (25)
- (ii) (a) Just before the outbreak of the Peloponnesian War, why did Corcyra want to become an ally of Athens? (15)
- (b) What were the main arguments used by the Corcyreans to persuade the Athenians to accept them as allies? (25)
- (c) What was the decision of the Athenians in this matter? (10)
- (iii) (a) Give an account of how Brasidas defeated Cleon and his Athenian army at the Battle of Amphipolis in 422 B.C. (40)
- (b) What is your opinion of Cleon’s leadership in this battle? (10)
- (iv) (a) Describe how Nicias, the Athenian general at Syracuse, met his death. (25)
- (b) What happened to those Athenians who were taken prisoner after their final defeat at Syracuse? (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) In 328 B.C., Alexander killed Cleitus, one of his oldest friends.
- (a) Tell the story of how this murder came about. (35)
- (b) Who do you think was more at fault in this incident: Alexander or Cleitus? Give reasons for your answer. (15)
- (ii) “Alexander now decided to disband his fleet.” (Arrian, *Campaigns of Alexander*)
- (a) What reasons did Alexander have for disbanding his fleet? (20)
- (b) Without any fleet of his own, how did Alexander plan to overcome the Persian fleet? (30)
- (iii) “Go whither you will; I shall not hinder you. But, if go you must, there is one thing I would have you understand – what I have done for you...”  
(Arrian, *Campaigns of Alexander*)

With these words Alexander began his speech to his men at Opis, after they had angrily refused to serve any further.

Give an outline of what Alexander claimed had been done for the Macedonian army, **both** by his father Philip **and** by himself. (50)

- (iv) (a) Despite the presence of Porus, the Indian king, on the opposite bank, how did Alexander succeed in crossing the river Hydaspes? (30)
- (b) Describe the course of the battle which followed. (20)
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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) "... on his voyage back, he was captured near the island of Pharmacusa by some of the pirates who even at that time controlled the seas." (Plutarch, *Life of Caesar*)
- (a) Describe what happened when Julius Caesar was captured by pirates. (40)
- (b) What does this incident reveal about Caesar's character? (10)
- (ii) (a) According to Sallust, what was Rome like "in the good old days"? (25)
- (b) What does Sallust say is the cause of all Rome's problems in his own day? (25)
- (iii) From your reading of Plutarch's *Lives*, whom do you consider to have been the better general: Pompey or Caesar? Give reasons for your choice. (50)
- (iv) Cicero wrote a letter to his friend Atticus in which he gives an account of the state of affairs in the marriage of Cicero's brother, Quintus, and Atticus' sister, Pomponia.
- (a) Outline what Cicero says in his letter about the way in which the marriage is working out. (40)
- (b) Whom does Cicero blame for the problems in the marriage? Give reasons for your answer. (10)
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**Topic 4. Roman Historians. [100]**

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

- (i) The Emperor Augustus had only one child, his daughter, Julia.
- (a) Give an account of Julia's life and death. (40)
- (b) What is your opinion of the way her father, Augustus, treated her? (10)
- (ii) (a) During his reign as emperor, what did Augustus do to make Rome a more beautiful city? (30)
- (b) What measures did he take to make Rome a safer place in which to live? (20)
- (iii) Tacitus described mutinies that broke out among the legions of Pannonia and Germany at the beginning of the reign of Tiberius.
- According to Tacitus, what were the reasons that led the soldiers to mutiny at that time? (50)
- (iv) (a) Outline the circumstances which led to the death of Germanicus. (35)
- (b) Explain briefly the part played by Piso in the whole episode. (15)
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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) In Sophocles' play, *Oedipus the King*, what evidence do you find to show that Oedipus is a man of very quick temper? (50)
- (ii) (a) In Euripides' play, *Medea*, what reasons does Creon, King of Corinth, give for wanting Medea thrown out of Corinth without delay? (25)
- (b) How does Medea manage to persuade Creon to let her stay for one more day? (25)
- (iii) (a) In Sophocles' play, *Oedipus the King*, what reasons does Oedipus give for blinding himself? (30)
- (b) Now that he is blind and going into exile, what future does Oedipus fear for his two little daughters? (20)
- (iv) In Euripides' play, *Medea*, would you agree that Jason is a man who actually dislikes women and sees them only as a means to gain other things that are more important to him? (50)
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**Topic 6. Ancient Epic.**

[100]

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

- (i) "Eurycleia then came up to her master and began to wash him." (*Odyssey*, Book 19)
- (a) Describe how the old maid Eurycleia discovered that the beggar was her long-lost master, Odysseus. (30)
- (b) Briefly tell the story of how Odysseus came to have a scar on his upper leg. (20)
- (ii) (a) In Virgil's *Aeneid*, Book 2, what advice did the priest Laocoön give the Trojans about the Wooden Horse? (15)
- (b) What did Laocoön do to the Wooden Horse? (10)
- (c) Describe how Laocoön met his death shortly after. (25)
- (iii) "So the noble Odysseus crept out from under the bushes." (*Odyssey*, Book 6)
- (a) Describe Odysseus as he was when he emerged from under the bushes to confront Nausicaa. (15)
- (b) Give an outline of Odysseus' speech to Nausicaa on this occasion. (35)
- (iv) (a) Why did Odysseus want to avoid the island of the Sun-God? (10)
- (b) Describe what happened when Odysseus and his men landed on the island of the Sun-God. (30)
- (c) What were the consequences of the behaviour of Odysseus' men on the island? (10)
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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) “The half-man Cacus, terrible to look at,  
Lived in that cave.” (Virgil, *Aeneid*, Book 8)
- (a) What did Cacus do to anger Hercules, and how did he conceal his crime? (20)
- (b) Describe how Hercules overcame Cacus. (20)
- (c) What do you find amusing about this story? (10)
- (ii) “Rome was now strong enough to hold her own in war with any of the adjacent States; but owing to the want of women, a single generation was likely to see the end of her greatness.”  
(Livy, *The Sabine Women*)
- (a) Give an account of how Romulus succeeded in getting wives for his Romans. (40)
- (b) What do Romulus’ promises to the Sabine women tell us about the status of wives amongst the Romans? (10)
- (iii) Discuss the view that, in his love poetry, Propertius is both passionate and jealous. (50)
- (iv) In the poems on your course, what are Horace’s attitudes to life and death? (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) (a) Identify the structure shown in **Photograph A** on **Paper X**. (10)
- (b) Write a description of the main features of this structure. (25)
- (c) Comment on Richter’s statement: “one can realize how practical the plan was.” (15)
- (ii) **Photograph B** on **Paper X** shows the central figure from the pediment of the Artemis temple at Kerkyra.
- (a) Identify the figure shown in this pediment. (10)
- (b) From which period of Greek sculpture does this figure come? Give reasons for your answer. (20)
- (c) How does the sculptor go about solving the problems posed by the shape of the pediment? (20)
- (iii) Study **Photograph C** on **Paper X**.
- (a) What name is given to monuments such as this? (10)
- (b) Where were such monuments placed? (10)
- (c) Name the figure on top of the monument? (10)
- (d) From which period of Greek sculpture does this monument come? Give reasons for your answer. (20)
- (iv) **Photograph D** on **Paper X** shows the statue of Apollo Sauroktonos.
- (a) Name the sculptor of this statue. (10)
- (b) From which period of Greek sculpture does this statue come? (10)
- (c) Comment on the expression on the face **and** the pose of the figure of the god. (30)

**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) Why does Plato not allow many of the traditional tales about the gods into the education system of his ideal state? (25)
- (b) Why does he also ban many of the stories about the heroes of Ancient Greece? (25)
- (ii) (a) Give an account of Socrates' simile of the "large and powerful animal." (40)
- (b) What do you think is the meaning of this simile? (10)
- (iii) (a) According to Socrates, how does society come into being? (30)
- (b) According to Socrates, how does society then grow from its primitive form into a civilized state? (20)
- (iv) (a) What rules does Plato lay down for his Rulers with regard to Housing and Food? (25)
- (b) What is his attitude to Private Property for the Rulers? (15)
- (c) Why does he insist on these rules? (10)
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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) Identify the structure shown in **Photograph E** on **Paper X**. (10)
- (b) What was the function of such structures? (10)
- (c) Give a description of this structure, with particular reference to the importance of the use of the arch. (30)
- (ii) Study the painting shown in **Photograph F** on **Paper X**.
- (a) What famous incident is shown in this painting? (10)
- (b) Give a description of the painting. (30)
- (c) Comment on the use of colour in this painting. (10)
- (iii) **Photograph G** on **Paper X** shows a relief sculpture from the Arch of Titus.
- (a) What event is commemorated in this relief? (10)
- (b) Explain what is meant by 'high' and 'low' relief. (15)
- (c) How does the artist make the emperor more prominent and important than the other figures in the relief? (25)
- (iv) **Photograph H** on **Paper X** shows the plan of the Basilica at Pompeii.
- (a) For what purpose were basilicas used in Roman towns? (15)
- (b) In a Roman town, where were basilicas usually located? (10)
- (c) Study the plan shown, and then write a description of this basilica. (25)
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