



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit State Examinations Commission

LEAVING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION, 2003

CLASSICAL STUDIES – ORDINARY LEVEL (400 marks)

WEDNESDAY, 18 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 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) “Words indeed fail one when one tries to give a general picture of this disease; and as for the sufferings of individuals, they seemed almost beyond the capacity of human nature to endure.”
(Thucydides, *History of the Peloponnesian War*)
- (a) Describe briefly the symptoms and sufferings of those struck down by the Plague in Athens in 430 B.C. (30)
- (b) “... men became indifferent to every rule of religion and law.”
(Thucydides, *History of the Peloponnesian War*).
Comment on the lawless behaviour of some Athenians during the Plague. (20)
- (ii) (a) Describe how the Athenians came to occupy Pylos in 425 B.C. (15)
- (b) What efforts did the Spartans make to expel the Athenians from Pylos? (15)
- (c) Explain how Spartan troops came to be cut off on the island of Sphacteria. (20)
- (iii) (a) Why did Alcibiades leave the Sicilian Expedition and desert to the Spartan side? (20)
- (b) What advice did Alcibiades give to the Spartans on how to defeat Athens? (20)
- (c) What do you think of his behaviour at this time? (10)
- (iv) Give a full account of the Battle of Mantinea. (50)
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Topic 2. Alexander the Great.

[100]

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

- (i) The siege of Tyre by Alexander lasted seven months.
- (a) Explain why the position of Tyre made it so difficult to capture. (10)
- (b) Give a brief account of how the defenders kept Alexander at bay for so long. (30)
- (c) After Alexander and his army had defeated Tyre, comment on how the inhabitants were treated. (10)
- (ii) Write notes on any **two** of the following:
Memnon of Rhodes; Philotas; Hephaestion. (50)
- (iii) (a) Give an account of how Alexander became fatally ill, and briefly describe the last days of his life. (35)
- (b) Describe how his soldiers bade farewell to their king. (15)
- (iv) Discuss Alexander’s Orientalism (adoption of Persian ways) under the following headings:
dress; prostration; marriages. (50)
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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) Julius Caesar was murdered on the Ides of March in 44 B.C.
Give an account of the events of that fateful day. (50)
- (ii) Write notes on any **two** of the following:
Cato; Crassus; Mark Antony. (50)
- (iii) (a) Relate the story of how the Roman gentleman, Gaius Canius, was tricked into buying a property by the Syracusan banker called Pythius. (Cicero, *How to Make Right Decisions*) (40)
(b) What does Cicero think of Pythius' behaviour in this matter? (10)
- (iv) What picture do we get of Catiline and his fellow-conspirators from Sallust, **and** from Plutarch in his *Life of Cicero*? (50)
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Topic 4. Roman Historians.

[100]

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

- (i) (a) How did Sejanus become so powerful during the reign of the emperor Tiberius? (30)
(b) Describe how Tiberius brought about the downfall of Sejanus. (20)
- (ii) Give an account of the difficulties faced by Augustus (then called Octavian) from the Battle of Philippi to his victory over Anthony and Cleopatra at the Battle of Actium. (50)
- (iii) Write an account of the relationship between Augustus and Tiberius. (50)
- (iv) What evidence do you find in Suetonius that Augustus preferred a simple lifestyle to one of luxury and extravagance? (50)
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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, *King Oedipus*, do you agree that Oedipus was a very good king of Thebes? Give reasons for your answer. (50)
- (ii) "Surely, of all creatures that have life and will, we women are the most wretched."
(Euripides, *Medea*).
Describe how Medea goes on to show the truth of this statement. (50)
- (iii) (a) Outline the part played by Jocasta in the plot of Sophocles' play, *King Oedipus*. (30)
(b) Briefly describe how she killed herself. (20)
- (iv) (a) Why is the scene between Medea and Aegeus, king of Athens, so important to the plot of Euripides' play, *Medea*? (15)
(b) How does Medea succeed in winning the sympathy and support of Aegeus? (35)
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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*, describe how Odysseus and Telemachus succeeded in overcoming the Suitors in the Battle in the Hall. (50)
- (ii) (a) In Homer's *Odyssey*, describe how the god Poseidon tried to prevent Odysseus from returning to Ithaca. (40)
(b) In what way is Poseidon like the goddess Juno in Virgil's *Aeneid*? (10)
- (iii) (a) Relate the story of how Odysseus' men were turned into pigs by Circe. (30)
(b) How did Odysseus get the better of Circe and have his men restored? (20)
- (iv) (a) On the night that Troy was destroyed, describe how Aeneas' father, Anchises, was persuaded to leave the city with his family. (25)
(b) On the same night, what happened to Aeneas' wife, Creusa? (25)
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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) Based on your reading of Virgil's poem, relate the story of Orpheus and Eurydice. (40)
- (b) Do you find the manner in which Virgil relates the story to be moving? Give reasons for your answer. (10)
- (ii) Discuss the view that Livy's *Preface* is full of patriotic pride in Rome's past, and gloomy pessimism about her present state. (50)
- (iii) (a) The poem *Susceptibility*, by Propertius, opens as follows:
'You know, Demophon, that yesterday
I looked at many girls, in fact at girls everywhere,
And every one I loved...'
Summarise Propertius' feelings about women in this poem. (40)
- (b) Do you find any contradiction between this poem and those poems addressed to his lover, Cynthia? Give reasons for your answer. (10)
- (iv) (a) In Ovid's poem, *Baucis and Philomen*, briefly describe the hospitality provided by Baucis and Philomen for the gods, Jupiter and Mercury, who visited them in disguise. (40)
- (b) What do you think is the moral that Ovid would like the reader to draw from this story? (10)

GROUP III: Topics 8 to 10**Topic 8. Art and Architecture in Greek Society.****[100]**

- (i) **Photograph A on Paper X** shows a part of the temple of Hephaistos. **Photograph B** shows the plan of the same temple.
- (a) Where is the temple situated? (5)
- (b) In which order of Greek architecture is it built? (5)
- (c) Of which material is it **mainly** built? (5)
- (d) Based on **Photograph B**, and using correct architectural terms, give a brief description of this temple. (35)
- (ii) **Photograph C on Paper X** shows a metope from the temple of Zeus at Olympia.
- (a) Where are metopes normally located in a Greek temple? In your answer, you may use a drawing. (10)
- (b) From which period of Greek sculpture does this metope come? (10)
- (c) What scene from Greek mythology is shown in this metope? (15)
- (d) Comment on the expressions on the faces of the figures shown. (15)
- (iii) Study the statue in **Photograph D on Paper X**.
- (a) What name is given to such female statues? (5)
- (b) How do they differ from statues of males of the same period? (10)
- (c) From which period of Greek sculpture does this statue come? (5)
- (d) In what ways is this statue typical of statues of this period? (30)
- (iv) **Photograph E on Paper X** shows the statue known as the Marathon Boy (340-300 B.C.).
- (a) Of which material is this statue made? (10)
- (b) In what ways does this statue differ from the statues of the Archaic period? (40)

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) Outline Plato's Simile of the Cave. (35)
- (b) Explain what this simile means. (15)
- (ii) Plato divides his state into three classes.
- (a) Name the three classes, and explain what is the role of **each** of the classes in Plato's state. (40)
- (b) Is there any movement allowed between classes? Explain your answer. (10)
- (iii) What are the qualities that Plato thinks are required in his Philosopher-Rulers? (50)
- (iv) According to Plato, the ideal state has the qualities of wisdom, courage, self-discipline and justice.
- (a) In the ideal state, where is each of these qualities to be found? (35)
- (b) Explain what Socrates means when he claims that 'justice consists in minding your own business.' (15)
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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) **Photograph F on Paper X** show the Roman theatre at Orange in Southern France.
- (a) Give a description of the design and of the main parts of this theatre. (40)
- (b) Comment on the scaenae frons (that is, the wall behind the stage). (10)
- (ii) **Photograph G on Paper X** shows a wall-painting from Herculaneum.
- (a) Why did the Romans have such paintings on the walls of their rooms? (20)
- (b) Explain why Wheeler sees the influence of the theatre in this painting. (30)
- (iii) Study **Photograph H on Paper X**.
- (a) Identify the structure shown in this photograph. (10)
- (b) Why was this structure erected in Rome? (10)
- (c) Explain what is meant by 'relief sculpture.' (10)
- (d) Comment on the way the sculptor has achieved variety in the sculpting of the figures. (20)
- (iv) (a) Identify the arch shown in **Photograph I on Paper X**. (5)
- (b) Why were such arches built? (5)
- (c) Where in a Roman city were such arches usually located? (5)
- (d) Give a brief description of this arch. (35)
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