

FORM 3

SOCIAL STUDIES (OPTION)

TIME: 1h 30min

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

This examination paper consists of FOUR Sections (A, B, C and D). Students are requested to attempt ALL Sections. Marks for each section are shown within brackets. Answers for Sections A, B and D are to be written on a separate sheet.

**Section A: Read carefully the following passage and then answer ALL the questions that follow.**

Social media is a new phenomenon in the field of personal and mass means of communication, because the technology used is mostly based on the internet. A cursory look at the statistical records concerning the use of social media demonstrates that these are widespread worldwide. In 2012 there were more than 900 million people using *Facebook*. In Malta only, more than 200,000 *Facebook* users have been registered, which approximately implies half of the local population. It is also estimated that on *YouTube* approximately 48 hours of new video footage are being uploaded every minute.

Until the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989 protests lasted for about four months. However, the protests that characterised the Arab Spring in 2011 lasted for a shorter period as a result of social media. Today we realize that the citizens of these Arab countries did not protest because of *Facebook* or *Twitter*, but because of many years of oppression and denial of their fundamental rights. *Facebook* and *Twitter* have contributed to a swifter change. In other countries, *YouTube* was instrumental in the dissemination of footage showing human massacres. One could also observe the effects of social media in the wave of violent protests that occurred in many world countries when a particular video appeared on *YouTube*, which Muslims strongly objected to.

### Questions

1. There are **four** principal means of mass communication.
  - (a) Mention these **four** means of mass communication.
  - (b) Why are they called **mass communication**? (6)
2. Why are social media popular and found worldwide? Give **TWO** reasons. (4)
3. Mass media are a powerful tool. Explain this sentence by giving **THREE** examples. (3)
4. In non-democratic countries, the internet is often controlled by the State.
  - (a) Explain why the State enforces this form of control.
  - (b) Mention **THREE** characteristics of a dictatorship. (5)
5. Explain how the means of communication increase globalisation. (4)
6. Do you think that what is presented as news is always true? Give reasons for your answer. (3)

**25 marks**

**Section B: Read carefully the following passage and then answer ALL the questions that follow.**

Every person is not only a citizen of his/her country, but also of the world. Together we have certain responsibilities towards each other and to the world. We do this by sharing our wealth as well as the knowledge that we acquired, doing voluntary work, expressing ourselves for good causes, giving charity and offering support. Even youths can make a difference so that the world will be a better place. The more responsible people are, the more social justice prevails.

### Questions

1. Explain the following terms:  
 (a) **global citizen**  
 (b) **social justice**  
 (c) **voluntary work.** (6)
2. Why is a person responsible towards others and to the world? Give **THREE** examples to demonstrate how a person can be responsible towards others. (5)
3. Not all citizens enjoy the rights they deserve. Explain this by giving **TWO** examples. (4)
4. Apart from being citizens of their country as well as global citizens, the Maltese are also Europeans. Mention **THREE** advantages that we enjoy as European citizens. (6)
5. Explain the relationship between **civic values** and **citizenship.** (4)

**25 marks**

**Section C: Answer ALL the following questions.**

1. What do you understand by the term **unemployment**? Mention **THREE** consequences that this leaves on society.

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(5)

2. Explain how **mental** and **social** health can be improved.

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(5)

3. Which health services are provided to the elderly and to persons with special needs?

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(5)

4. Explain how a country's culture contributes to a unique national identity.

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(5)

5. Why is it important to strike a balance between work and leisure?

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(5)

**25 marks**

**Section D: Choose ONE of the following themes and write around 250 words about it on a separate paper.**

1. Explain in detail how we can act responsibly with regards to health and consumption.
2. Malta has experienced technological development in education, means of communication and health. Discuss the impact that technology brought about on our lives and lifestyle.
3. Discuss how we can use our leisure time not only for relaxation, but also as a means of personal development.
4. Work ethic, together with one's rights and duties, give dignity to the worker. Discuss.

**25 marks**

**Total: 100 marks**