

FORM 4

SOCIAL STUDIES (Option)

TIME: 1h 30min

This examination paper consists of FOUR Sections (A, B, C and D). Students are requested to attempt ALL Sections. Marks for each Section appear between brackets.

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

In recent years many countries have experienced a high unemployment rate. Presently, in Europe the number of unemployed persons has reached a high record. For example, in Spain unemployment amounts to 25% of the Spanish population, while the rate of unemployed persons in Italy is approximately 10%. What worries many scholars is the fact that the number of unemployed persons is going to keep on rising in many world countries. One cannot argue that unemployment is the result of a single cause, because there are several other factors which lead to many people becoming unemployed.

Questions

1. Why is work considered an integral part of a country's economy? (4)
2. Mention **FIVE** consequences of unemployment on society. (5)
3. Explain **THREE** reasons that lead to unemployment. (6)
4. There are two types of poverty: **absolute** and **relative**. Distinguish between the two. (4)
5. Machines are substituting humans. Explain this sentence in the context of unemployment. (6)

(25 marks)

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

Citizens are members of a particular State. As citizens every one of us enjoys a set of rights and responsibilities which we need to meet and put into practice. There are those which we are expected to meet for the common good, while there are others which we rightfully acquire from the State. Consequently there was a need for a set of laws, through which order within civil society could be maintained. Contemporary society does its best to respect equality among all its members, yet one of the greatest difficulties that it is facing is the enforcement of public order. It is the duty of every citizen to be aware of and respect his/her role as well as to be responsible for abiding by the law. Ultimately, it is in the person's own interest to ensure a healthy environment.

Questions

1. Explain the terms **rights** and **responsibilities**. Give **TWO** examples for each one.
2. Distinguish between a citizen living in a **democratic** country and another one living in a **totalitarian** country. (4)
3. What is the role of the President of Malta? Support your answer by mentioning **FOUR** responsibilities that the President has. (5)
4. The Constitution is the supreme law of our country. Write about the **THREE** institutions responsible for its safeguarding. (6)
5. In a democratic country every citizen has the right to join any group with similar interests to his/her own to put pressure on the State where this is deemed necessary. Do you think that **pressure groups** should be permitted? Explain the reason why. (4)

(25 marks)

Section C: Answer ALL the following questions.

1. Democratic societies provide opportunities for **social mobility**. Mention **FIVE** of these. (5)
2. Define **socialisation**. Give an example of a **primary agent** and a **secondary agent** of socialisation. (5)
3. The government is giving more importance to health and safety at the workplace. Mention **FIVE** precautions which workers should take to safeguard their own and their colleagues' lives at the workplace. (5)
4. Local councils have led to decentralisation of power. State what you understand by **decentralisation of power** and explain how local councils achieve this. (5)
5. Write about the role of religion in Maltese culture. (5)

(25 marks)

Section D: Choose ONE of the following titles and write around 275 words about it.

1. The world of work is often characterised by industrial relations.
 - a) Who are the social partners usually involved in these relations?
 - b) Explain the reasons why these relations occur.
2. Culture strengthens our national identity. Discuss.
3. The peer group has its positive and negative aspects.
 - a) Write about the need young people feel to form part of a peer group.
 - b) Explain in detail the harm which peer pressure can cause to young people.
4. The role of the family has changed through time and much of the work carried out previously by this institution is today being met by other institutions.
 - a) Discuss the main changes which have taken place in the family.
 - b) Explain the roles which are still being met by the family.

(25 marks)

Total: 100 marks