



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit State Examinations Commission

LEAVING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION

HISTORY - HIGHER LEVEL

FIELD OF STUDY: EARLY MODERN, 1492-1815

Written Examination: 400 marks
Pre-submitted Research Study Report: 100 marks

SAMPLE EXAMINATION PAPER

Instructions to candidates:

Attempt Sections 1, 2 and 3 inside.

- **Section 1 (100 marks)**
Documents-based assessment (Ireland: Topic 2)
Attempt all parts of this section.
- **Section 2 (100 marks)**
Ireland: Topics 1, 3, 4, 5, 6.
Attempt one question from one topic.
- **Section 3 (200 marks)**
Europe and the wider world: Topics 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6.
Attempt one question on each of two topics.

SECTION 1: DOCUMENTS-BASED ASSESSMENT

Ireland: Topic 2

Rebellion and conquest in Elizabethan Ireland, 1558 – 1603

Case study to which documents relate:

The clerical career of Meiler Magrath

Study the documents opposite and answer the questions below.

1.
 - (a) In document A, what two reasons does Magrath give for his preference for the diocese of Down and Connor?
 - (b) In document A, what evidence is there that Magrath was not a Catholic at the time of writing?
 - (c) In document B, why does the writer predict that Magrath will “descend into fire everlasting”?

(20)

2.
 - (a) Which document, A or B, is more aggressive in language? Explain your answer, referring to both documents.
 - (b) In document A, is Magrath’s reluctance to live in any area outside English rule explained by the sentiments expressed in document B? Explain your answer, referring to both documents.

(20)

3.
 - (a) What points in document A give a clear indication to a historian of the Queen’s power in Ireland?
 - (b) Is a satirical poem such as document B a reliable source of historical evidence? Explain your answer.

(20)

4. What were the political and religious conditions in Ireland that provoked such criticisms of Meiler Magrath?

(40)

- Document A -

Extract from a letter from Meiler Magrath to the Privy Council requesting that Queen Elizabeth appoint him to an Irish bishopric.

After much hoping and a long captivity, I am loath (reluctant) to leave the presence of the illustrious Council until I have received some information about my future. And so I beg leave, your Lordships, that you will kindly inform me what Her Royal Majesty (Queen Elizabeth)...has decided to grant me, whether it is that dignity which I formerly held (Diocese of Down and Connor) or some other.

I beseech Her Majesty that she grant me whatever she will think suitable for me, only that it may be in some place where her rule is observed, as I have no desire to live among those rebellious and lawless Irish among whom I was born.

I point out to Her Majesty and your Excellencies that the diocese of Cork and Cloyne has long been vacant and that I shall gladly accept; unless perchance I should recover the former (Down and Connor), which indeed would be much more gratifying to me, as there I could and more easily serve Her Majesty than in any other diocese. For I have there...many friends and relatives. Moreover, in that diocese I would publicly speak the true doctrine in so far as in me lies, and no monk or papist could prevent me.

- Document B -

An extract from a translation of a satirical poem by Eoghan Ó Dubhthaigh on Meiler Magrath

O Meiler, without faith and without God,
O Meiler, without Jesus of boundless power;
You shall descend into fire everlasting,
With your frantic wife leaning on your arm.

To the friar whose religion is false,
To Meiler Magrath the apostate;
Until he submits to God's word, the boor,
Give him a box on each big jaw.

SECTION 2: IRELAND

Attempt one question from one of the topics below.

Ireland: Topic 1

Reform and Reformation in Tudor Ireland, 1494-1558

Attempt **one** of the following questions:

1. Why did Silken Thomas rebel against the Crown and what were the results of his rebellion? (100)
2. To what extent had the Reformation made progress in Ireland by the death of Edward VI in 1553? (100)
3. How successful were the political and the religious policies of Queen Mary Tudor in Ireland, 1553 – 1558? (100)
4. What was the state of Gaelic culture in Ireland in the first half of the sixteenth century? (100)

Ireland: Topic 3

Kingdom versus colony - the struggle for mastery in Ireland, 1603-1660

Attempt **one** of the following questions:

1. Why was the plantation policy of the Crown successful in the case of the Ulster Plantation? (100)
2. To what extent was the year 1641 a watershed in the history of seventeenth-century Ireland? (100)
3. Why was it possible for the Catholic Counter-Reformation to make such remarkable progress in Ireland? (100)
4. What were the economic and social results of the Cromwellian settlement? (100)

Ireland: Topic 4

Establishing a colonial ascendancy, 1660 – 1715

Attempt **one** of the following questions:

1. What were the main terms of the Treaty of Limerick and to what extent were those terms subsequently broken? (100)
2. In what ways were the viceroalties of Ormond different from the viceroyalty of Tyrconnell? (100)
3. During the period, 1660 – 1715, why did trade develop despite official restrictions on the movement of goods? (100)
4. Why did the Gaelic bardic system decline in the years before 1715? (100)

Ireland: Topic 5

Colony versus kingdom – tensions in mid-18th century Ireland, 1715 - 1770

Attempt **one** of the following questions:

1. What were the strengths and the weaknesses of the central government administration of the “Protestant Nation” in the period up to 1770? (100)
2. What were the main features of Irish rural society during the period, 1715 – 1770? (100)
3. Why did much of Ireland experience increased agrarian unrest during the period, 1715 – 1770? (100)
4. To what extent had the penal laws been relaxed by the year 1770? (100)

Ireland: Topic 6

The end of the Irish kingdom and the establishment of the Union, 1770 - 1815

Attempt **one** of the following questions:

1. Examine the nature and the regional character of the 1798 rebellion. (100)
2. What factors led to the passing of the act of Union and how was the act implemented? (100)
3. Why, and to what extent, did Belfast grow in importance during the period, 1770 –1815? (100)
4. During the period, 1770 – 1815, to what extent was Ireland influenced by Georgian culture in one or more of the following areas: architecture, art, literature and learning? (100)

SECTION 3: EUROPE AND THE WIDER WORLD
Attempt one question from each of two topics below.

Europe and the wider world: Topic 1
Europe from Renaissance to Reformation, 1492 – 1567

Attempt **one** of the following questions:

1. To what extent had the discovery of the New World both a political and an economic effect upon Spain? (100)
2. What were the issues at stake in the struggle against the Turks and why did that struggle last so long? (100)
3. How did Luther's quarrel with the Pope develop into a countrywide movement which was both political and religious in character? (100)
4. What was the rationale for and what was the nature of Calvin's regime in Geneva? (100)

Europe and the wider world: Topic 2
Religion and power: politics in the later 16th century, 1567 - 1609

Attempt **one** of the following questions:

1. What were the effects on Spain of the rule of Philip II? (100)
2. What were the causes and the consequences of the sixteenth-century economic crisis in Europe? (100)
3. To what extent was the revival of Catholicism due to the decisions of the Council of Trent and the work of the Jesuits? (100)
4. During the period, 1567 – 1609, what significant developments took place in one or more of the following: printing; popular literature; astronomy? (100)

Europe and the wider world: Topic 3
The eclipse of Old Europe, 1609 - 1660

Attempt **one** of the following questions:

1. What were the internal and international challenges to the Spanish state during the period, 1609 – 1660? (100)
2. What were the reasons for the economic changes that took place in Europe during the period, 1609 – 1660? (100)
3. What was the nature of the conflict between Galileo and the Catholic Church? (100)
4. During the period, 1609 – 1660, what significant developments took place in one or more of the following: music; art; theology? (100)

Europe and the wider world: Topic 4
Europe in the age of Louis XIV, 1660 - 1715

Attempt **one** of the following questions:

1. What was the nature of the political and social scene at the court of Louis XIV in Versailles? (100)
2. What were the factors that led to the restoration of the Stuart monarchy in Britain and to the fall of that monarchy within twenty years? (100)
3. How influential was the role of banking and the development of the money market in the economic life of Europe during the period, 1660 – 1715? (100)
4. During the period, 1660 – 1715, what religious issues arose in one or more of the following countries: England; France; Russia? (100)

Europe and the wider world: Topic 5
Establishing empires, 1715 - 1775

Attempt **one** of the following questions:

1. To what extent did European armies become more professional and more effective during the period, 1715 – 1775? (100)
2. Why did the American colonies revolt against British rule and what were the implications of that revolt for the colonies and for Britain? (100)
3. What were the strengths and weaknesses of mercantilism and why did it give way to laissez-faire capitalism? (100)
4. What were the political, social and economic ideas of the Enlightenment? (100)

Europe and the wider world: Topic 6
Empires in revolution, 1775 - 1815

Attempt **one** of the following questions:

1. What were the causes of the revolution that began in France in 1789? (100)
2. What were the issues at stake in the European revolutionary wars, 1792 – 1799? (100)
3. To what extent did the growth of Manchester illustrate the problems and opportunities of industrial growth, 1775 – 1815? (100)
4. Why were church-state relations so difficult in France and in Napoleonic Europe? (100)