



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit
State Examinations Commission

LEAVING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION, 2015

ANCIENT GREEK — ORDINARY LEVEL

(400 marks)

TIME: 3 Hours

WEDNESDAY, 17 JUNE – MORNING 9.30 – 12.30

1. Translate into English **any two** of the passages **A, B, C, D.** (All passages carry equal marks):-

[210]

A.

(Mandane has taken her son Cyrus to visit her father, Astyages king of the Medes. When she is preparing to return to her husband in Persia, Astyages wants his grandson to stay longer with him. Cyrus agrees, wishing to improve his horsemanship.)

ἐπεὶ δὲ ἡ Μανδάνη παρεσκευάζετο ὡς ἀπιούσα πάλιν πρὸς τὸν ἄνδρα, ὁ Ἀστυάγης έδειτο αὐτῆς καταλιπεῖν τὸν Κύρον. ἡ δὲ μήτηρ ἠρώτα τὸν Κύρον πότερον βούλεται μένειν ἢ ἀπιέναι. ὁ δ' οὐκ ἐμέλλησεν, ἀλλὰ ταχὺ εἶπεν ὅτι μένειν βούλεται. ἐρωτηθεὶς δὲ ὑπὸ τῆς μητρὸς διὰ τί, εἶπεν·

“βούλομαι ἐνθάδε μένειν, ὦ μήτηρ, ὅτι οἴκοι μὲν κράτιστός εἰμι καὶ ἀκοντίζων καὶ τοξεύων, ἐνθάδε δὲ ἵππεύων ἥττων εἰμὶ τῶν ἡλικῶν. καὶ τοῦτο ἐμὲ πάνυ ἀνιά. εἰάν με καταλίπης ἐνθάδε καὶ μάθω ἵππευεῖν, ὅταν μὲν ἐν Πέρσαις ὦ, ῥαδίως νικήσω ἐκείνους τοὺς ἀγαθοὺς τὰ πεζικά, ὅταν δ' εἰς Μῆδους ἔλθω, ἐνθάδε πειράσομαι, ἀγαθῶν ἵπέων κράτιστος ὢν ἵππεύς, συμμαχεῖν τῷ πάππῳ.”

Xenophon (105)

παρασκευάζομαι: I prepare. δέομαι (+ Genitive Case): I ask. μέλλω: I hesitate.
ἀκοντίζω: I throw the javelin. τοξεύω: I shoot with the bow. ἵππεύω: I ride on horseback.
ἥττων: worse. ἡλικες: peers, those of the same age. ἀνιάω: I annoy, vex.
τὰ πεζικά: exercises on foot. πειράομαι: I try. ἵππεύς: horseman.
συμμαχέω (+ Dative Case): I help, come to the aid of. πάππος: grandfather.

B.

(The people of Heraclea — founded by the Lacedaemonians and governed by Xenares — are defeated by neighbouring tribes, the Aenianians, Dolopians, Malians and Thessalians. The Boeotians occupy the town and dismiss Hegesippidas, its new Lacedaemonian governor.)

τοῦ δ' ἐπιγιγνομένου χειμῶνος, Ἡρακλεώταις μάχη ἐγένετο πρὸς Αἰνιᾶνας καὶ Δόλοπας καὶ Μηλιάς καὶ Θεσσαλῶν τινας· τὰ γὰρ ἔθνη ταῦτα τῇ πόλει πολέμια ἦν· οὐ γὰρ τὸ χωρίον ἔτειχίσθη ἐπ' ἄλλῃ τινὶ γῆ ἢ τῇ τούτων γῆ. καὶ εὐθύς τε καθισταμένη τῇ πόλει ἠναντιοῦντο, καὶ τότε τῇ μάχῃ ἐνίκησαν τοὺς Ἡρακλεώτας, καὶ Ξενάρης, Λακεδαιμόνιος, ἄρχων αὐτῶν ἀπέθανε, διεφθάρησαν δὲ καὶ ἄλλοι τῶν Ἡρακλεώτων.

τοῦ δ' ἐπιγιγνομένου θέρους εὐθύς ἀρχομένου, Βοιωτοὶ παρέλαβον τὴν Ἡράκλειαν, ὡς μετὰ τὴν μάχην κακῶς ἐπραττε, καὶ Ἠγησιππίδαν τὸν Λακεδαιμόνιον ὡς οὐ καλῶς ἄρχοντα ἐξέπεμψαν. δείσαντες δὲ παρέλαβον τὸ χωρίον μη οἱ Ἀθηναῖοι λάβωσιν· Λακεδαιμόνιοι μὲντοι ὠργίζοντο αὐτοῖς.

THUCYDIDES (105)

ἐπιγιγνόμενος: following. Ἡρακλεώτης: man of Heraclea. ἔθνος: tribe.
τειχίζω: I build. ἐπί (+ Dative Case): against, as a threat to. καθίστημι: I establish, set up.
ἐναντιόομαι:(+ Dative Case): I oppose. θέρος: summer. δείδω: I fear. μή: lest.
ὠργίζομαι:(+ Dative Case): I am angry at.

C.

(Helen explains how, when Priam's son Paris was judging a beauty contest between Hera, Athena and Aphrodite, Aphrodite won by offering Helen as a bribe. The outraged Hera then ensured that Paris did not get the real Helen.)

ἦλθον τρεῖς θεαὶ κάλλους πέρι,
“Ἡρα, Κύπρις τε, διογενῆς τε παρθένος.
τούμῳ δὲ κάλλος, εἴ καλὸν τὸ δυστυχές,
Κύπρις προτεῖνας’ ὡς Ἀλέξανδρος γαμειῖ,
νικᾷ. λιπῶν δὲ βούσταθμ’ Ἰδαῖος Πάρις
Σπάρτην ἀφίκεθ’ ὡς ἔμῳ στήσῳ λέχος.
“Ἡρα δέ, μεμφθεῖσ’ οὔνεκ’ οὐ νικᾷ θεάς,
δίδωσιν οὐκ ἔμ’ ἀλλ’ ὁμοιώσασα’ ἔμοι
εἶδωλον ἔμπνουν (οὐρανοῦ ξυνθεῖσ’ ἄπο)
Πριάμου τυράννου παιδί.

EURIPIDES (105)

κάλλους πέρι = περὶ κάλλους. Κύπρις: the Cyprian (Aphrodite). διογενῆς: born of Zeus.
τούμῳ = τὸ ἔμῳ. προτείνω: I hold out, offer. Ἀλέξανδρος: Paris.
βούσταθμον: ox-stall. Ἰδαῖος: Idaean, Trojan. ὡς ... στήσῳ: “in order to have.”
λέχος: marriage-bed. μέμφομαι: I complain. ὁμοιόω: I make like.
εἶδωλον: image. ἔμπνους: breathing. οὐρανοῦ ... ἄπο = ἀπὸ οὐρανοῦ.
ξυντίθημι: I put together, fashion.

D.

(Helen helps those at the feast to forget their grief by adding a special drug to the wine. This can stop tears, even when a close relative dies.)

ἔνθ’ αὐτ’ ἄλλ’ ἐνόησ’ Ἐλένη, Διὸς ἐκγεγαυῖα·
αὐτίκ’ ἄρ’ εἰς οἶνον βάλε φάρμακον, ἔνθεν ἔπινον,
νηπενθές τ’ ἄχολόν τε, κακῶν ἐπίληθον ἀπάντων.
ὅς τὸ καταβρόξειεν, ἐπὴν κρητῆρι μιγείη,
οὐ κεν ἐφημέριος γε βάλοι κατὰ δάκρυ παρειῶν,
οὐδ’ εἴ οἱ κατατεθναίη μήτηρ τε πατήρ τε,
οὐδ’ εἴ οἱ προπάροιθεν ἀδελφεὸν ἢ φίλον υἱὸν
χαλκῶ δηϊόωεν, ὃ δ’ ὀφθαλμοῖσιν ὄρωτο.
τοῖα Διὸς θυγάτηρ ἔχε φάρμακα μητιόεντα.

HOMER (105)

ἄλλα νοέω: I get a different idea. ἐκγεγαυῖα (+ Genitive Case): born of.
νηπενθής: banishing pain. ἄχολος: calming anger.
ἐπίληθος (+ Genitive Case): causing to forget. καταβρόχω: I swallow. κρητήρ: bowl.
μειγνυμι: I mix. ἐφημέριος: for the course of a day. παρειά: cheeks.
προπάροιθεν: in front of him. δηϊόωεν: “men were to kill”. μητιόεις: cunning.

2.

[100]

(i) Translate into English:-

(60)

ἦ δ', ἀνέμου ὡς πνοιή, ἐπέσσυτο δέμνια κούρης,
στῆ δ' ἄρ' ὑπὲρ κεφαλῆς, καὶ μιν πρὸς μῦθον ἔειπεν,
εἰδομένη κούρη ναυσικλειτοῖο Δύμαντος,
ἦ οἱ ὀμηλική μὲν ἔην, κεχάριστο δὲ θυμῷ.
τῆ μιν εἰσαμένη προσέφη γλαυκῶπις Ἀθήνη·
“Ναυσικάα, τί νύ σ' ὦδε μεθήμονα γείνατο μήτηρ;
εἴματα μὲν τοι κεῖται ἀκηδέα σιγαλόεντα,
σοὶ δὲ γάμος σχεδὸν ἔστιν, ἵνα χρῆ καλὰ μὲν αὐτὴν
ἔνυσθαι, τὰ δὲ τοῖσι παρασχεῖν οἱ κέ σ' ἄγωνται.
ἐκ γάρ τοι τούτων φάτις ἀνθρώπους ἀναβαίνει
ἔσθλή, χαίρουσιν δὲ πατὴρ καὶ πότνια μήτηρ.
ἄλλ' ἴομεν πλυνέουσαι ἅμ' ἠοὶ φαινομένηφι·
καὶ τοι ἐγὼ συνέριθος ἅμ' ἔψομαι, ὄφρα τάχιστα
ἐντύναι, ἐπεὶ οὐ τοι ἔτι δὴν παρθένος ἔσσεαι.”

READING GREEK

(ii) Answer **any four** of the following questions. (Each question carries ten marks):-

(40)

- (a) Explain the situation at the start of the passage above.
- (b) Outline briefly the meeting between Nausikaa and Odysseus and the help that she gives to him.
- (c) In your opinion, how skilfully does Homer depict the character of Nausikaa? Justify your answer.
- (d) Give the **First Person, Singular Number, Present Tense** of **any two** of these verbs underlined above:
ἔειπεν, ἄγωνται, ἀναβαίνει, χαίρουσιν.
- (e) Give a summary of the dispute that arose between Aristarkhos and Theophemos.
- (f) Outline the roles played by Epimetheus and Prometheus in the Creation story.

3. Answer **three** of the following questions. At least **one** question must be chosen from Section A and **one** from Section B. The **third** question may be chosen from **either** Section A **or** Section B. (Each question carries thirty marks):- [90]

A.

- (i) Summarise the chief events that led up to the start of the Peloponnesian War in 431 BC. What was its main cause, in your opinion?
- (ii) Write short notes on **any two** of the following:-
the plague at Athens; the Peace of Nicias; Brasidas; Epaminondas.
- (iii) Pick **any one** of the battles fought by Alexander the Great. Explain briefly the situation in advance of the battle, outline its course, and assess its importance in the career of Alexander.
- (iv) Write short notes on **any two** of the following:-
Draco; Peisistratus; ecclesia; archons.

B.

- (i) Give an account of the life and work of Plato. Discuss briefly his importance as a philosopher.
- (ii) Name the two epics attributed to Homer. Outline briefly what each of them is about, and mention some of the features of the style of Homeric poetry.
- (iii) Describe briefly the differences which would help you recognise whether an ancient Greek vase-painting was Geometric, Black Figure, or Red Figure.
- (iv) Write short notes on **any two** of the following:-
Kouros figures; the Doric column; Pheidias; Aphrodite of Melos (Venus de Milo).

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