



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit State Examinations Commission

LEAVING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION, 2009

CLASSICAL STUDIES – ORDINARY LEVEL (400 marks)

WEDNESDAY, 17 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) “And you must fortify Decelea in Attica; it is the thing of which the Athenians have always been most frightened.” (Thucydides, *History of the Peloponnesian War*)
- (a) What arguments did Alcibiades use to persuade the Spartans to fortify Decelea? (35)
- (b) What effect did the fortification of Decelea by the Spartans have on the Athenian war effort? (15)
- (ii) In 427 BC, there was a debate in the Athenian Assembly about the fate of the population of Mytilene who had revolted from Athens.
- (a) What arguments did Cleon put forward in favour of executing the male population of Mytilene? (35)
- (b) Describe how the people of Mytilene escaped this punishment. (15)
- (iii) In your opinion, what were the main reasons for the failure of the Athenian expedition to Sicily (415 – 413 BC)? (50)
- (iv) “In the same winter the Athenians, following their annual custom, gave a public funeral for those who were the first to die in the war.” (Thucydides, *History of the Peloponnesian War*)
- (a) Describe how the Athenians honoured their war dead on this occasion. (30)
- (b) How did Pericles, in his famous Funeral Oration, seek to comfort the parents of the dead? (20)
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Topic 2. Alexander the Great.

[100]

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

- (i) Give an account of the Battle of Issus, Alexander’s first battle against Darius. (50)
- (ii) Write notes on **any two** of the following:
- Hephaestion; Callisthenes; Parmenio (25, 25)
- (iii) (a) Explain why Alexander decided to adopt Persian dress and customs. (25)
- (b) How did the Macedonians react to Alexander’s adoption of Persian customs and dress? (25)
- (iv) (a) Describe what happened at the siege of the fort of the Mallians where Alexander almost lost his life. (40)
- (b) What does this episode show about the character of Alexander? (10)
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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) (a) Give an account of the Battle of Pharsalus in which Pompey was defeated by Julius Caesar. (30)
- (b) Describe how Pompey met his death in Egypt soon after the Battle of Pharsalus. (20)
- (ii) “His ability to secure the affection of his men and to get the best out of them was remarkable.”
(Plutarch, *Life of Julius Caesar*)
- What evidence does Plutarch give of this ability of Caesar? (50)
- (iii) In a letter to his friend Atticus, Cicero describes the marriage of his brother Quintus and Pomponia, Atticus’ sister.
- (a) What does Cicero say in this letter about the marriage of Quintus and Pomponia? (40)
- (b) Whom does Cicero blame for the difficulties in the marriage? (10)
- (iv) In your reading of Catullus’ love poems to Lesbia, what did you learn about their love affair? (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) Give an account of the career of Mark Antony from the death of Julius Caesar in 44 BC. (40)
- (b) Describe how Antony and Cleopatra died not long after the Battle of Actium. (10)
- (ii) Describe the part played by Livia in the reign of Augustus, her husband, and in the reign of Tiberius, her son. (50)
- (iii) (a) Outline the events which led to Sejanus’ rise to great power. (35)
- (b) Describe how Tiberius brought about Sejanus’ downfall and death. (15)
- (iv) Write notes on **any two** of the following:-
- Agrippa; Cleopatra; Drusus (son of Tiberius) (25,25)
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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) (a) What part is played by the Chorus in Sophocles' play, *Oedipus the King*? (25)
- (b) Does the attitude of the Chorus towards Oedipus change during the course of the play? Support your answer by reference to the play. (25)
- (ii) (a) Explain how Medea is revenged on Jason in Euripides' play *Medea*. (35)
- (b) Do you believe that Medea is justified in her vengeance? Give reasons for your answer. (15)
- (iii) (a) Describe how Oedipus became King of Thebes. (30)
- (b) Do you think Oedipus was a good king? Support your answer by reference to the play. (20)
- (iv) "As for your scurrilous taunts against my marriage with the royal family, I shall show you that my action was wise, not swayed by passion, and directed towards your interests and my children's." (Euripides, *Medea*)
- (a) What case did Jason make to try to justify his marriage to Glauce? (35)
- (b) What does Jason's defence of his marriage to Glauce reveal of his character? (15)
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Topic 6. Ancient Epic.

[100]

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

- (i) (a) In Homer's *Odyssey*, briefly describe how Alcinous, king of the Phaeacians, helped Odysseus to return to Ithaca. (25)
- (b) How did the god Poseidon punish the Phaeacians for helping Odysseus? (25)
- (ii) (a) Give an account of the meeting of Odysseus and his men with the Lotus-Eaters. (20)
- (b) Describe Odysseus' encounter with the Sirens. (20)
- (c) What do these adventures show about the character of Odysseus? (10)
- (iii) (a) In Virgil's *Aeneid*, explain why Juno hated Aeneas and the Trojans. (20)
- (b) Relate one incident from the *Aeneid* Books 1 – 6 where Juno showed her hatred of Aeneas and his men. (30)
- (iv) In Book 6 of the *Aeneid*, explain how Virgil uses Aeneas' visit to the Underworld to glorify Rome and the Emperor Augustus. (50)
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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) “Owing to the want of women a single generation was likely to see the end of her (Rome’s) greatness.”
(Livy, *The Sabine Women*.)
- (a) According to Livy in *The Sabine Women*, how did Romulus and the Romans secure wives? (40)
- (b) What is Livy’s attitude towards this behaviour by the first Romans? (10)
- (ii) “Virgil’s Underworld is a place of horrors and monsters as well as being the abode of the Dead.”
- (a) Describe the horrors and monsters that Aeneas encounters in the Underworld. (35)
- (b) What explanation does the Sibyl give for the souls crowding around the river bank? (15)
- (iii) (a) Summarise the story of *The Bore* by Horace. (35)
- (b) Did you enjoy this story? Give reasons for your answer. (15)
- (iv) (a) Name the poem by Propertius on your course that you found most appealing. (5)
- (b) Summarise the content of your chosen poem. (25)
- (c) Explain why you find this poem so appealing. (20)

GROUP III: Topics 8 to 10**Topic 8. Art and Architecture in Greek Society.****[100]**Answer **any two** of the following questions. (Each question is worth fifty marks):-

- (i) Study the structure shown in **Photograph A** on **Paper X** and answer the following questions.
- (a) Name the structure and its location. (10)
- (b) Using the correct architectural terms, describe the structure shown. (25)
- (c) Explain how this building was very well designed for its purpose. (15)
- (ii) Study the sculpture shown in **Photograph B** on **Paper X** and answer the following questions.
- (a) Identify the sculpture. (10)
- (b) To which period of Greek sculpture does this statue belong? (10)
- (c) In what ways is this sculpture typical of its period? (30)
- (iii) **Photograph C** on **Paper X** shows gods and a goddess from the Parthenon frieze.
- (a) Explain what is meant by “frieze”. (10)
- (b) Describe what was depicted in the whole Parthenon frieze. (10)
- (c) Where was the frieze located in the temple? (10)
- (d) Name the figures shown in the photograph. (10)
- (e) Name the sculptor who was in charge of the sculpting of the Parthenon frieze. (10)
- (iv) Study the *kore* shown in **Photograph D** on **Paper X** and answer the following questions.
- (a) Identify the sculpture shown. (5)
- (b) To which period of Greek sculpture does this sculpture belong? (10)
- (c) How is this statue typical of this period? (35)

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) In your own words, outline Plato's Simile of the Cave. (30)
- (b) What lessons is Plato trying to teach through the Simile of the Cave? (20)
- (ii) In Plato's *Republic*, Adeimantus claims that philosophers are "either useless or dangerous." Explain how Socrates defends philosophers. (50)
- (iii) (a) According to Plato, what is the ideal kind of education? (20)
- (b) According to Socrates, what kind of stories should children learn? (30)
- (iv) (a) What rules on Private Property does Plato lay down for his rulers? (20)
- (b) What kind of housing and food does he allow his rulers? (15)
- (c) Do you think Plato's rules on Private Property are practical? Explain your answer. (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 E on Paper X** shows a model reconstruction of a tenement house in ancient Ostia.
- (a) What materials were used in the construction of this building? (10)
- (b) Give a description of the exterior of this building. (20)
- (c) How did Roman apartment blocks differ from apartment blocks today? (15)
- (d) How was the ground floor occupied? (5)
- (ii) **Photograph F on Paper X** shows a statue of a Roman patrician.
- (a) Why is this man shown carrying busts? (15)
- (b) Comment on the way the man is dressed. (10)
- (c) How is this statue typical of Roman portraits in general? (25)
- (iii) **Photograph G on Paper X** shows a relief from the Arch of Titus in Rome.
- (a) Describe what is happening in the sculpture. (20)
- (b) Explain what is meant by high relief and low relief. (15)
- (c) Comment on the position of the Emperor Titus in this relief. (15)
- (iv) **Photograph G on Paper X** shows the painting known as the Garden of Livia.
- (a) Where would such paintings be found in a Roman house? (10)
- (b) Give a description of this painting. (25)
- (c) Comment on the use of the different colours in this painting. (15)
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