



**Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit**  
*State Examinations Commission*

**LEAVING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION, 2010**

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**ANCIENT GREEK — ORDINARY LEVEL**

**(400 marks)**

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TIME: 3 Hours

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1. Translate into English **any two** of the passages **A, B, C, D.** (All passages carry equal marks):- [210]

**A.**

*(The Greeks, to thank the gods for their escape to safety, make sacrifices and hold games. They choose Dracontius, a Spartan exile, to be in charge of the games and to select a suitable place where they can be held.)*

μετὰ δὲ τοῦτο παρεσκευάζοντο τὴν θυσίαν ἣν ῥύξαντο: ἦλθον δ' αὐτοῖς ἱκανοὶ βόες ἀποθύσαι τῷ Διὶ τῷ σωτήρι καὶ τῷ Ἡρακλεῖ. ἐποίησαν δὲ καὶ ἀγῶνα γυμνικόν ἐν τῷ ὄρει ἔνθα περ ἔσκηνον. εἶλοντο δὲ δρόμου τ' ἐπιμεληθῆναι καὶ τοῦ ἀγῶνος Δρακόντιον Σπαρτιάτην, ὃς ἔφυγε παῖς ὡν οἴκοθεν, παῖδα ἄκων κατακανῶν ξυήλη πατάξας.

ἐπειδὴ δὲ ἡ θυσία ἐγένετο, ἐκέλευον τὸν Δρακόντιον ἠγείσθαι ὅπου τὸν δρόμον πεποικηκῶς εἴη. ὁ δὲ, δείξας οὐπὲρ ἔστηκότες ἐτύγχανον, “οὗτος ὁ λόφος,” ἔφη, “κάλλιστος τρέχειν ὅπου ἂν τις βούληται.”

“πῶς οὖν,” ἔφασαν, “δυνήσονται παλαίειν ἐν λόφῳ σκληρῷ καὶ δασεῖ οὕτως;” ὁ δ' εἶπε: “μᾶλλον τι ἀνιάσεται ὁ καταπεσών.”

XENOPHON (105)

εὐχομαι: I vow. ἱκανός: sufficient. ἀγών: contest. γυμνικός: athletic. σκηνέω: I encamp. δρόμος: racecourse. ἐπιμελέομαι (+ Genitive Case): I take charge of. ἄκων: unintentionally. κατακάνω: I kill. ξυήλη: dagger. πατάσσω: I strike. ἔστηκότες: standing. λόφος: hill. παλαίω: I wrestle. σκληρός: hard. δασύς: rough. ἀνιάομαι: I am hurt.

**B.**

*(The Spartan Pausanias, victor over the Persians at Plataea, is at Byzantium. Receiving letters from the Persian king, he becomes conceited, adopts a Persian style of dress and dining, travels with foreign bodyguards, and becomes so disagreeable that the alliance of towns in the area switches its allegiance from Sparta to Athens.)*

ὁ δὲ Πausανίας λαβὼν ταῦτα τὰ γράμματα, ὧν καὶ πρότερον ἐν μεγάλῳ ἀξιώματι ὑπὸ τῶν Ἑλλήνων διὰ τὴν Πλαταιᾶσιν ἡγεμονίαν, πολλῶ τότε μᾶλλον ἤρτο καὶ οὐκέτι ἐδύνατο ἐν τῷ καθεστῶτι τρόπῳ βιοτεύειν. σκευᾶς τε Μηδικᾶς ἐνδύομενος ἐκ τοῦ Βυζαντίου ἐξῆλθε καὶ Μῆδοι καὶ Αἰγύπτιοι ἐδορυφόρου αὐτὸν διὰ τῆς Θράκης πορευόμενον· τράπεζαν τε Περσικὴν παρετίθετο καὶ οὐκ ἐδύνατο κατέχειν τὴν διάνοιαν, ἀλλ' ἔργοις βραχέσι προδηλοῦ ἢ μειζόνως ἐς ἔπειτα ἐμελλε πράξειν. δυσπρόσοδόν τε ἑαυτὸν παρεῖχε καὶ τῇ ὀργῇ οὕτω χαλεπῇ ἐχρήτο ἐς πάντας ὥστε μηδένα δύνασθαι προσιέναι· δι' ὅπερ καὶ πρὸς τοὺς Ἀθηναίους οὐχ ἥκιστα ἡ ξυμμαχία μετέστη.

THUCYDIDES (105)

ἀξίωμα: honour. Πλαταιᾶσιν: at Plataea. ἤρτο: 'he exalted himself'. καθεστώς: normal. σκευή: dress, attire. Μηδικός: Median, Persian. ἐνδύομαι: I put on. δορυφορέω: I attend as bodyguard. Θράκη: Thrace. κατέχω: I restrain. διάνοια: intention. βραχύς: small. προδηλώω: I reveal. μειζόνως: more greatly, on a greater scale. ἐς ἔπειτα: in the future. δυσπρόσοδος: difficult to approach. ὀργή: temper. ξυμμαχία: alliance.

### C.

(Orestes agonises over whether he should kill his mother. His sister Electra urges him to do so, in order to avenge their father's death.)

ΟΡΕΣΤΗΣ τί δῆτα δρῶμεν; μητέρ' ἢ φονεύσομεν;  
 ΗΛΕΚΤΡΑ μῶν σ' οἶκτος εἶλε, μητρὸς ὡς εἶδες δέμας;  
 ΟΡΕΣΤΗΣ φεῦ·  
 πῶς γὰρ κτάνω νιν, ἢ μ' ἔθρεψε κάτεκεν;  
 ΗΛΕΚΤΡΑ ὥσπερ πατέρα σὸν ἦδε κάμον ὠλεσεν.  
 ΟΡΕΣΤΗΣ μητροκτόνος νῦν φεύξομαι, τόθ' ἄγνός ὦν.  
 ΗΛΕΚΤΡΑ καὶ μή γ' ἀμύνων πατρί δυσσεβῆς ἔση.  
οὐ μὴ κακισθεὶς εἰς ἀνανδρίαν πεσῆ.  
 ΟΡΕΣΤΗΣ ἔσειμι· δεινοῦ δ' ἄρχομαι προβλήματος  
 καὶ δεινὰ δράσω. θεοῖσι δ' εἰ δοκεῖ τάδε,  
 ἔστω· πικρὸν δ', οὐχ ἡδύ, τάγωνισμά μοι.

EURIPIDES (105)

δράω: I do, perform. φονεύω: I murder. μῶν: surely ... not ... ? οἶκτος: pity.  
 δέμας: body, person. κάτεκεν = καὶ ἔτεκεν. τότε: formerly. ἄγνός: pure, undefiled.  
 ἀμύνω (+ Dative Case): I avenge. δυσσεβής: impious. οὐ μὴ (+ Subjunctive Mood): 'do not ... !'  
 κακίζομαι: I play the coward. ἀνανδρία: unmanliness. πρόβλημα: task.  
 πικρός: bitter. τάγωνισμα = τὸ ἀγώνισμα: the contest.

### D.

(After killing Agamemnon, Aegisthus ruled for seven years over Mycenae. In the eighth year Orestes, Agamemnon's son, came and avenged his father. Menelaus then arrives.)

ἐπτάετες δ' ἤνασσε πολυχρῦσοιο Μυκῆνης,  
 κτείνας Ἀτρείδην, δέδμητο δὲ λαός ὑπ' αὐτῷ.  
 τῷ δὲ οἱ ὀγδοάτῳ κακὸν ἤλυθε δῖος Ὀρέστης  
 ἄψ' ἀπ' Ἀθηναίων, κατὰ δ' ἔκτανε πατροφονῆα,  
 Αἰγίσθον δολόμητιν, ὃ οἱ πατέρα κλυτὸν ἔκτα.  
 ἦ τοι ὁ τὸν κτείνας δαίνυ τάφον Ἀργείοισιν  
 μητρὸς τε στυγερῆς καὶ ἀνάλκιδος Αἰγίσθοιο·  
αὐτῆμαρ δὲ οἱ ἦλθε βοῆν ἀγαθὸς Μενέλαος  
 πολλὰ κτήματ' ἄγων, ὅσα οἱ νέες ἄχθος ἄειραν.

HOMER (105)

ἐπτάετες: for seven years. ἀνάσσω (+ Genitive Case): I rule over. δέδμητο: 'were subdued'.  
 λαός: the people. πατροφονεύς: his father's killer. δολόμητις: wily, crafty. κλυτός: glorious.  
 ἔκτα: Aorist Tense from κτείνω. δαίνυμι τάφον: I give a funeral feast.  
 Ἀργεῖοι: the Argives, the people of Argos. στυγερός: hateful. ἀνάλκις: cowardly.  
 αὐτῆμαρ: on the same day. κτήματα: treasures. ἄχθος: burden, cargo. ἀείρω: I bear.

(i) Translate into English:- (60)

ἄτε δὴ οὖν οὐ πάνυ τι σοφὸς ὤν, ὁ Ἐπιμηθεὺς ἔλαθεν αὐτὸν καταναλώσας τὰς δυνάμεις εἰς τὰ ἄλογα· λοιπὸν δὲ ἀκόσμητον ἔτι αὐτῷ ἦν τὸ ἀνθρώπων γένος, καὶ ἠπόρει ὃ τι χρῆσαιτο. ἀποροῦντι δὲ αὐτῷ, ἔρχεται Προμηθεὺς ἐπισκεψόμενος τὴν νομὴν, καὶ ὄρα τὰ μὲν ἄλλα ζῶα ἐμμελῶς πάντων ἔχοντα, τὸν δὲ ἀνθρώπον γυμνόν τε καὶ ἀνυπόδητον καὶ ἄστρωτον καὶ ἄοπλον· ἤδη δὲ καὶ ἡ εἰμαρμένη ἡμέρα παρῆν, ἐν ἣ ἔδει καὶ ἀνθρώπον ἐξιέναι ἐκ γῆς εἰς φῶς. ἀπορία οὖν σχόμενος ὁ Προμηθεὺς ἦντινα σωτηρίαν τῷ ἀνθρώπῳ εὖροι, κλέπτει Ἡφαίστου καὶ Ἀθηνᾶς τὴν ἐντεχνον σοφίαν σὺν πυρί — ἀμήχανον γὰρ ἦν ἄνευ πυρὸς αὐτὴν κτητὴν τῷ ἢ χρησίμην γενέσθαι — καὶ οὕτω δὴ δωρεῖται ἀνθρώπῳ. τὴν μὲν οὖν περὶ τὸν βίον σοφίαν ἀνθρώπος ταύτη ἔσχεν, τὴν δὲ πολιτικὴν οὐκ εἶχεν· ἦν γὰρ παρὰ τῷ Δίῳ.

READING GREEK

(ii) Answer **any four** of the following questions. (Each question carries ten marks):- (40)

- (a) Mention **two** characteristics Epimetheus gives to living creatures other than humans.
- (b) Write a short note on Athena.
- (c) Write a brief note on the philosopher Socrates.
- (d) Give the **First Person, Singular Number, Present Tense** of **any two** of these verbs underlined above:  
ἠπόρει, παρῆν, γενέσθαι, ἔσχεν.
- (e) What is the cause of the dispute between Aristarkhos and Theophemos?  
 Give a short account of the events to which it gave rise.
- (f) Briefly outline the encounter between Odysseus and Nausikaa.

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) What were the causes of the Peloponnesian War?
- (ii) Choose **any two** of the following battles. Identify who fought in them, outline briefly their course, and explain their importance:-
- Aegospotami; Mantinea; Granicus; Hydaspes.
- (iii) Give an account of the rise to dominance in Greece of Philip II of Macedon.
- (iv) In your opinion, which had the better system of government in the fifth century B.C., Athens or Sparta? Give reasons for your choice.

**B.**

- (i) Give an account of the life and work of Herodotus.
- (ii) Write briefly about Homer's epics and identify some features that are typical of Homeric poetry.
- (iii) Describe your favourite Ancient Greek building and explain why you like it.
- (iv) Write short notes on **any two** of the following:-
- Black Figure vases; Kouros figures; Pheidias;  
Aphrodite from Melos (Venus de Milo).

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