



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit State Examinations Commission

LEAVING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION, 2016

CLASSICAL STUDIES – ORDINARY LEVEL (300 marks)

FRIDAY, 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.
- Candidates are required to answer **SIX QUESTIONS** drawn from the **FOUR** chosen topics as follows:
Candidates must answer **two** questions from two of their chosen topics and **one** question from **each** of the remaining two of their chosen topics.
- There are fifty marks for each question. The total marks for the paper are 300.
- 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.

- (i) “Fix your eyes every day on the greatness of Athens... and fall in love with her.”
(Pericles’ Funeral Oration from *The History of the Peloponnesian War* by Thucydides.)
- (a) What does Pericles say, in the Funeral Oration, to make the Athenians proud of their city? (30)
- (b) What does Pericles have to say about the role of women in the city? (20)
- (ii) Write notes on **any two** of the following:
Cleon (the Athenian general); Gylippus (the Spartan general); Alcibiades (the Athenian politician). (25, 25)
- (iii) (a) Give a brief account of the siege of Plataea in 429 BC. (35)
- (b) What happened to the Plataeans after they surrendered? (15)
- (iv) In your view, what were the main mistakes made by the Athenians in the Sicilian expedition? (50)
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Topic 2. Alexander the Great.

- (i) (a) Describe the Battle of Issus, Alexander’s first battle against Darius. (20)
- (b) Compare the leadership styles of Alexander and Darius in this battle. (15)
- (c) Describe Alexander’s treatment of Darius’s family after the battle. (15)
- (ii) (a) Give an account of Alexander’s journey to the oracle at Siwah in Egypt. (15)
- (b) What happened during his visit to Siwah? (15)
- (c) In your opinion, did Alexander believe that he was the son of Zeus Ammon?
Give reasons for your answer. (20)
- (iii) Write notes on **any two** of the following:
Cleitus (Alexander’s general); Porus (Indian king); Bessus (Persian commander). (25, 25)
- (iv) At Opis, in 324 BC, Alexander’s Macedonian troops staged a mutiny against him.
- (a) What were the reasons for this mutiny? (25)
- (b) In Alexander’s speech to the Macedonians, he points out all that he and his father Philip have done for them. Give an account of Alexander’s speech. (25)
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Topic 3. Life and Thought in the Late Roman Republic.

- (i) Having defeated Pompey at Pharsalus, Caesar followed him to Egypt.
- (a) Give an account of Caesar's meeting with Cleopatra in Alexandria. (20)
 - (b) Caesar almost lost his life in a sea battle at Alexandria. Describe the event. (30)
- (ii) Cicero wrote a letter to his friend Atticus about the marriage of Cicero's brother Quintus and Pomponia, Atticus's sister.
- (a) Outline the incident that Cicero describes in his letter. (40)
 - (b) Whom does Cicero blame for the problems in the marriage? Give reasons for your answer. (10)
- (iii) From your reading of the poems of Catullus, give your opinion of him as:
- (a) A lover
 - (b) A friend
 - (c) A brother. (50)
- (iv) (a) Sallust describes Caesar and Cato as two men of "great merit, but different character". From your reading of the texts, what does Sallust mean by this? (35)
- (b) Give a brief description of Cato's death. (15)
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Topic 4. Roman Historians.

- (i) "None of Augustus's predecessors had ever provided so many or such splendid public shows." (Suetonius, *Life of Augustus*)
- (a) Describe the games and entertainments Augustus provided for the people of Rome. (35)
 - (b) In your opinion, why did Augustus attach such importance to public entertainment? (15)
- (ii) "Tiberius was tight-fisted to the point of miserliness." (Suetonius, *Life of Tiberius*)
- (a) What examples does Suetonius give of Tiberius's meanness? (35)
 - (b) Based on your reading of Tacitus and Suetonius, write an account of the death of Tiberius. (15)
- (iii) Outline the career of Augustus up to the Battle of Actium in 31 BC. (During this time Augustus was known as Octavian.) (50)
- (iv) Write notes on **any two** of the following:
- Livia (wife of Augustus); Julia (daughter of Augustus); Germanicus (nephew of Tiberius). (25, 25)
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GROUP II: Topics 5 to 7

Topic 5. Greek Drama.

- (i) (a) In Euripides' play *Medea*, describe how Medea gets her revenge on her husband Jason. (35)
- (b) In your opinion, was Medea justified in what she did? Explain your answer. (15)
- (ii) (a) In Sophocles' play *Oedipus the King*, describe Oedipus's reactions after he learns that he had killed his father and married his mother. (35)
- (b) What does Oedipus fear for his daughters' future? (15)
- (iii) In Sophocles' play *Oedipus The King*, when the prophet Tiresias is summoned to speak to Oedipus, he refuses to say what he knows.
- (a) Describe the meeting between Oedipus and Tiresias. (40)
- (b) What information does Oedipus eventually force from Tiresias? (10)
- (iv) (a) In Euripides' *Medea*, what reasons does Jason give to Medea for his marriage to Glauce, the King's daughter? (35)
- (b) Do you feel any sympathy for Jason at the end of the play? Give reasons for your answer. (15)
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Topic 6. Ancient Epic.

- (i) (a) In Homer's *Odyssey*, why is the god Poseidon an enemy of Odysseus? (20)
- (b) How does Poseidon try to prevent Odysseus from getting home? (20)
- (c) How were the Phaeacians punished by the god Poseidon for helping Odysseus? (10)
- (ii) (a) What were Scylla and Charybdis in Homer's *Odyssey*? (15)
- (b) Describe the encounter of Odysseus and his men with Scylla and Charybdis. (20)
- (c) What do you learn about the character of Odysseus from this episode? (15)
- (iii) (a) In Book 1 of Virgil's *Aeneid*, when Jupiter is speaking to Venus, what does he reveal about the destiny of Aeneas and his descendants? (25)
- (b) When they meet in the Underworld in Book 6, what does Aeneas learn about his destiny and the destiny of his descendants, from his father Anchises? (25)
- (iv) (a) Write a brief description of one incident from the *Aeneid*, Books 1 to 6, where Juno shows her hatred for Aeneas and the Trojans. (30)
- (b) Explain why Juno hates Aeneas and the Trojans. (20)
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Topic 7. Writers of the Augustan Age.

- (i) In Book 6 of Virgil's *Aeneid*, the Sibyl leads Aeneas down to the River Styx.
- (a) Give a description of Charon, the ferryman in the Underworld. (15)
 - (b) How does the Sibyl explain to Aeneas the souls crowding around the riverbank? (20)
 - (c) Give an account of the simile that Virgil uses to describe the souls on the riverbank. (15)
- (ii) (a) In Livy's *Class Warfare*, what story does Menenius Agrippa tell the plebeians in order to persuade them to come back into the city? (25)
- (b) What was the message of his story? (15)
 - (c) What important concession was granted to the plebeians by the Senators? (10)
- (iii) (a) Briefly summarise Horace's story *The Bore*. (35)
- (b) Did you enjoy *The Bore*? Give reasons for your answer. (15)
- (iv) (a) What is your favourite poem by Propertius on your course? (5)
- (b) Summarise your chosen poem. (25)
 - (c) Explain why you chose this particular poem as your favourite. (20)
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Topic 8. Art and Architecture in Greek Society.

- (i) Study **Photograph A** on **Paper X** and answer the following questions.
- (a) Identify the structure shown in **Photograph A** on **Paper X** and name its location. (10)
 - (b) Give a full description of the structure, using the correct architectural terms. (25)
 - (c) Explain how this building's design is well suited to its purpose. (15)
- (ii) **Photograph B** on **Paper X** shows the sculptures from the west pediment of the Temple of Zeus at Olympia. **Photograph C** shows the central figure in the pediment.
- (a) Identify the central figure in the pediment. (10)
 - (b) How has the artist dealt with the problem of fitting his sculptures in the triangular space of the pediment? (20)
 - (c) This sculpture belongs to the Early Classical period of Greek sculpture. How is the central figure typical of that period? (10)
 - (d) What story is shown in the scene on the pediment? (10)
- (iii) **Photograph D** on **Paper X** shows a part of the continuous frieze on the Parthenon.
- (a) Explain what is meant by the word 'frieze'. (5)
 - (b) Who are the figures shown in the photograph? (10)
 - (c) Where on the temple was this frieze located? (You may use a sketch as your answer.) (10)
 - (d) Name the sculptor in charge of the sculpting of the Parthenon frieze. (5)
 - (e) Give a description of the whole Parthenon frieze. (20)
- (iv) Study **Photograph E** on **Paper X**.
- (a) Identify the sculpture shown in **Photograph E** on **Paper X**. (10)
 - (b) To which period of Greek sculpture does this statue belong? (10)
 - (c) Comment on the carving of the drapery. (10)
 - (d) How, in your view, has the sculptor shown the tender, playful relationship between the woman and the child? (20)
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Topic 9. The Philosopher in Society: A Study of Socrates and Plato.

- (i) (a) In your own words, give an account of Plato's Simile of the Cave. (30)
- (b) Explain the meaning of this simile. (20)
- (ii) In Plato's *Republic*, Socrates argues that women, by nature, are as capable as men of doing all the jobs in his Ideal State.
- (a) Outline the arguments Socrates makes to prove his case. (35)
- (b) Do you agree with Socrates' arguments about women's abilities? Explain your answer. (15)
- (iii) According to Socrates, "The individual is not self-sufficient but has many needs which he cannot supply himself." (Plato's *Republic*)
- (a) How does Socrates use this argument to describe the origins of society? (40)
- (b) According to Socrates, how does a society become civilised? (10)
- (iv) Adeimantus claimed that philosophers were, "either useless or dangerous".
- (a) Explain how Socrates defends the role of philosophers against this accusation. (35)
- (b) Do you agree with Socrates' arguments? Explain your answer. (15)
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Topic 10. Roman Art and Architecture.

- (i) **Photograph F** on **Paper X** shows the Roman aqueduct at Segovia in Spain.
Photograph G on **Paper X** shows the Roman aqueduct known as the Pont du Gard.
- (a) Explain how aqueducts were used to bring water to Roman towns. (10)
- (b) Comment on the use of the arch in such structures. (20)
- (c) Compare the aqueduct at Segovia with the aqueduct known as the Pont du Gard. (20)
- (ii) **Photograph H** on **Paper X** shows a sculpture of a Roman aristocrat carrying busts.
- (a) Why is this man shown carrying busts? (10)
- (b) Comment on the clothing worn by this man. (15)
- (c) In your opinion, how is this sculpture typical of Roman portraits in general? (25)
- (iii) **Photograph I** on **Paper X** shows the plan of the Stabian Baths at Pompeii.
- (a) Using the plan, give a full description of the Stabian Baths. (30)
- (b) Explain the importance of baths in the life of a typical Roman town. (20)
- (iv) **Photograph J** on **Paper X** shows a famous wall painting from Pompeii.
- (a) Name the three principal figures in this painting and describe what is happening. (20)
- (b) Do you agree that the painter made the scene dramatic? Explain your answer. (20)
- (c) Why did the Romans decorate their rooms with wall paintings? (10)
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