



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

**LEAVING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION, 2011**

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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 Persian king Cyrus with his army is helping the Armenians against the warlike Chaldaeans.)*

εἶχον δ' οἱ Χαλδαῖοι γέρρα τε καὶ παλτὰ δύο· καὶ οὗτοι λέγονται εἶναι πολεμικώτατοι τῶν περὶ ἐκείνην τὴν χώραν· καὶ μισθοῦ στρατεύονται, ὅποταν τις αὐτῶν δέηται, διὰ τὸ πολεμικοί τε καὶ πένητες εἶναι· καὶ γὰρ ἡ χώρα αὐτοῖς ὄρεινῃ τέ ἐστι καὶ ὀλίγη ἢ τὰ χρήματα ἔχουσα.

ὥς δὲ οἱ ἀμφὶ τὸν Κύρον μάλλον ἐπλησίαζον τῶν ἄκρων, ὁ Τιγράνης σὺν τῷ Κύρῳ πορευόμενος εἶπεν· “ὦ Κύρε, ἄρ' οἴσθ’,” ἔφη, “ὅτι δεήσει ἡμᾶς αὐτοὺς αὐτίκα μάλα μάχεσθαι; ὥς οἱ γε Ἀρμένιοι οὐ δέχονται τοὺς πολεμίους.” καὶ ὁ Κύρος εἰπὼν ὅτι εἶδείη τοῦτο, εὐθὺς παρηγγύησε τοῖς Πέρσαις παρασκευάζεσθαι, ὥς αὐτίκα δεήσον διώκειν.

XENOPHON (105)

Χαλδαῖος: Chaldaean. γέρρον: wicker shield. παλτόν: spear.  
πολεμικός: warlike. μισθοῦ: for pay. δέομαι (+ Genitive Case): I need.  
διὰ τὸ ... εἶναι: because they are ... πένης: poor. ὄρεινός: mountainous.  
ἢ τὰ χρήματα ἔχουσα: the part that is productive. πλησίαζω (+ Genitive Case): I draw near.  
τὰ ἄκρα: the heights. Τιγράνης: Tigranes (a friend of Cyrus). αὐτίκα: immediately.  
δεήσει: it will be necessary. Ἀρμένιος: Armenian. δέχομαι: I stand up against.  
εἶδείη: he knew. παρεγγυάω (+ Dative Case): I command. παρασκευάζομαι: I prepare.  
ὥς ... δεήσον: as it would be necessary.

**B.**

*(At the end of the Sicilian expedition, Nicias tried to lead away his army. The enemy attacked and caught them in disorder at the river Assinaros. Nicias finally surrendered to Gylippos.)*

Νικίας δ' ἐπειδὴ ἡμέρα ἐγένετο ἐξῆγε τὴν στρατιάν· οἱ δὲ Συρακόσιοι καὶ οἱ ξύμμαχοι προσέκειντο πανταχόθεν βάλλοντές τε καὶ κατακοντίζοντες. καὶ οἱ Ἀθηναῖοι ἠπείγοντο πρὸς τὸν Ἀσσίναρον ποταμόν, ἅμα μὲν βιάζομενοι ὑπὸ τῆς πανταχόθεν προσβολῆς ἰπέπων τε πολλῶν καὶ τοῦ ἄλλου ὄχλου, ἅμα δ' ὑπὸ τῆς ταλαιπωρίας. ῥᾶον γὰρ ῥᾶον τι ἑαυτοῖς ἔσεσθαι ἐὰν διαβῶσι τὸν ποταμόν. ὥς δὲ γίνονται ἐπ' αὐτῷ τῷ ποταμῷ, ἐσπίπτουσιν οὐδενὶ κόσμῳ ἔτι, ἀλλὰ πᾶς τέ τις διαβῆναι αὐτὸς πρῶτος βουλόμενος καὶ οἱ πολέμιοι προσκέιμενοι χαλεπὴν ἤδη τὴν διάβασιν ἐποίουν. οἱ δὲ Πελοποννήσιοι ἐπικαταβάντες τοὺς ἐν τῷ ποταμῷ μάλιστα εσφάζον. τέλος δὲ νεκρῶν πολλῶν ἤδη ὄντων ἐν τῷ ποταμῷ, ὁ Νικίας τῷ Γυλίππῳ παραδίδωσιν.

THUCYDIDES (105)

πρόσκειμαι: I harass. κατακοντίζω: I hurl down spears. ἐπείγομαι: I hurry.  
βιάζομαι: I am forced. προσβολή: attack. ὄχλος: crowd. ταλαιπωρία: hardship.  
οἶομαι: I think. ῥᾶον: easier. διαβαίνω: I cross. κόσμος: order, discipline.  
σφάζω: I slaughter. παραδίδωμι: I surrender.

### C.

(A baby boy — the son of Phoebus Apollo himself — has been left at the entrance to the god's oracle at Delphi. A prophetess finds him there and takes pity on him.)

κυρεῖ δ' ἄμ' ἰππεύοντος ἡλίου κύκλω  
 προφήτις ἐσβαίνουσα μαντεῖον θεοῦ·  
 ὄψιν δὲ προσβαλοῦσα παιδί νηπίω,  
 ἔθαύμασ' εἴ τις Δελφίδων τλαίη κόρη  
 λαθραῖον ὠδῖν' ἐς θεοῦ ῥίψαι δόμον,  
 ὑπὲρ τε θυμέλας διορίσαι πρόθυμος ἦν·  
 οἴκτω δ' ἀφῆκεν ὠμότητα — καὶ θεὸς  
 συνεργὸς ἦν τῷ παιδί μὴ κπεσεῖν δόμων —  
 τρέφει δὲ νιν λαβοῦσα. τὸν σπεύραντα δὲ  
 οὐκ οἶδε Φοῖβον οὐδὲ μητέρ' ἧς ἔφυ.

EURIPIDES (105)

κυρέω: I happen to ... ἄμα (+ Dative Case): at the rising of. ἰππεύω: I travel.  
 κύκλος: orb. προφήτις: prophetess. μαντεῖον: oracle. ὄψις: sight, vision.  
 νήπιος: infant. Δελφίς: Delphian woman. τλαίη: had dared. λαθραῖος: secret.  
 ὠδῖς: birth, child. θυμέλη: altar. διορίζω: I remove. πρόθυμος: eager.  
 οἴκτος: pity. ἀφίημι: I send away. ὠμότης: cruelty. συνεργός: helper.  
 κπεσεῖν = ἐκπεσεῖν. τρέφω: I rear. νιν: him. σπεύρας: begetter, father.  
 ἔφυ: he was born.

### D.

(Penelope, not recognizing the stranger, asks him who he is. Odysseus in reply compliments her on her land, but then describes Crete - as if he had come from there.)

τοῖσι δὲ μύθων ἦρχε περίφρων Πηνελόπεια.  
 “ξείνε, τὸ μὲν σε πρῶτον ἐγὼν εἰρήσομαι αὐτή·  
 τίς, πόθεν εἶς ἀνδρῶν; πόθι τοι πόλις ἡδε τοκῆς;”  
 τὴν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος προσέφη πολύμητις Ὀδυσσεύς·  
 “ὦ γύναι, οὐκ ἄν τις σε βροτῶν ἐπ' ἀπείρονα γαῖαν  
ναικέοι· ἢ ψάρ σευ κλέος οὐρανὸν εὐρὺν ἰκάνει.  
 Κρήτη τις γαῖ' ἔστι μέσῳ ἐνὶ οἴνοπι πόντῳ,  
 καλὴ καὶ πίειπα, περίρρυτος· ἐν δ' ἄνθρωποι  
 πολλοί, ἀπειρέσιοι, καὶ ἐννήκοντα πόλεις.”

HOMER (105)

μύθος: word. ἄρχω (+ Genitive Case): I begin. περίφρων: thoughtful.  
 εἰρήσομαι: I shall ask. εἶς: you are. τοκῆς: parents.  
 ἀπαμείβομαι: I answer. πολύμητις: crafty. ἀπείρων: endless.  
 γαῖα = γῆ. ναικέω: I criticize. κλέος: fame. οἴνοψ: dark-coloured.  
 πίειρα: fertile. περίρρυτος: surrounded by sea. ἀπειρέσιος: countless. ἐννήκοντα: ninety.

(i) Translate into English:-

(60)

ἀποχρεωμένων δὲ τούτοισι τῶν Μυσῶν, ἐπεσέρχεται ὁ τοῦ Κροίσου παῖς, ἀκηκοὺς τῶν ἐδέοντο οἱ Μυσοί. οὐ φαμένου δὲ τοῦ Κροίσου τὸν γε παῖδά σφι συμπέμψειν, λέγει πρὸς αὐτὸν ὁ νεηνίης τάδε: “ὦ πάτερ, τὰ κάλλιστα πρότερόν κοτε καὶ γενναιότατα ἡμῖν ἦν ἔς τε πολέμους καὶ ἔς ἄγρας φοιτέοντας εὐδοκίμειν. νῦν δὲ ἀμφοτέρων με τούτων ἀποκληίσας ἔχεις, οὔτε τινὰ δειλίην μοι παριδῶν οὔτε ἀθυμίην. νῦν τε τέοισί με χρὴ ὄμμασι ἔς τε ἀγορὴν καὶ ἔξ ἀγορῆς φοιτέοντα φαίνεσθαι; κοῖος μὲν τις τοῖσι πολιήτησι δόξω εἶναι, κοῖος δὲ τις τῇ νεογάμῳ γυναικί; κοῖω δὲ ἐκείνη δόξει ἀνδρὶ συνοικέειν; ἐμὲ ὦν σὺ ἢ μέθες ἰέναι ἐπὶ τὴν θήρην, ἢ λόγῳ ἀνάπεισον ὅπως μοι ἀμείνω ἐστὶ ταῦτα οὕτω ποιέόμενα.” ἀμείβεται Κροῖσος τοισίδε. “ὦ παῖ, οὔτε δειλίην οὔτε ἄλλο οὐδὲν ἄχαρι παριδῶν τοι ποιέω ταῦτα, ἀλλὰ μοι ὄψις ὀνείρου, ἐν τῷ ὕπνῳ ἐπιστᾶσα, ἔφη σε ὀλιγοχρόνιον ἔσεσθαι· ὑπὸ γὰρ αἰχμῆς σιδηρέης ἀπολέεσθαι.”

READING GREEK

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

- (a) Who is Adrastus? Explain why he is staying with Croesus.
- (b) Why have the Mysians come to Croesus? Outline what happens when Croesus agrees to send them his son.
- (c) Who was Solon? Write a note on his visit to Croesus.
- (d) Give the **First Person, Singular Number, Present Tense** of **any two** of these verbs underlined above:
- συμπέμψειν, ἀνάπεισον, ποιέόμενα, ἔφη.
- (e) Tell the story of Alkestis and Admetos.
- (f) How does Prometheus help humans 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) Describe the main events in the Athenians' Sicilian Expedition. Why did it fail?
- (ii) Choose **any two** of the following battles. Identify who fought in them, outline briefly their course, and explain their importance:-

Amphipolis; Cunaxa; Leuctra; Chaeronea.

- (iii) Give an account of Alexander the Great's conquest of the Persian empire from the battle of the Granicus River to the battle of Gaugamela (Arbela).
- (iv) Imagine you are an ancient Spartan. Explain to a visitor about the nature of your society and your system of government.

**B.**

- (i) Outline the life and work of Thucydides and assess his importance as an historian.
- (ii) Write about the life of Sophocles. Give a summary of **any one** of his plays.
- (iii) Identify and describe the main features of the Parthenon. In your view, what is its most impressive feature? Justify your choice.
- (iv) Write short notes on **any two** of the following:-

Geometric vases; the Delphic Charioteer; Caryatids; the Discobolus.

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