



# Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit State Examinations Commission

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LEAVING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION, 2015

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## CLASSICAL STUDIES – ORDINARY LEVEL (300 marks)

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FRIDAY, 12 JUNE – AFTERNOON 2.00 to 5.00

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- 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**.

<b>GROUP I: Topics 1 to 4</b>
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**Topic 1. Athens at War.**

- (i) (a) Give an account of the Battle of Mantinea in 418 BC. (40)
- (b) Why was the Spartan victory at Mantinea so important for King Agis? (10)
- (ii) (a) Describe the sufferings of the Athenians who were struck down by the Plague in 430 BC. (25)
- (b) According to Thucydides, what kind of lawless behaviour occurred in Athens at the time of the Plague? (15)
- (c) In what ways did the Plague bring out the best in the Athenians? (10)
- (iii) In 425 BC a group of Spartans surrendered to the Athenians on the island of Sphacteria.
- (a) Outline the events that led to their surrender. (35)
- (b) How did this event affect the course of the Peloponnesian War? (15)
- (iv) (a) In what ways did the leadership of the Spartan, Gylippus, contribute to the Athenian defeat in Sicily? (20)
- (b) In what ways was the poor leadership of Nicias to blame for the Athenian defeat? Give reasons for your answer. (30)
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**Topic 2. Alexander the Great.**

- (i) (a) Describe how Alexander tricked the Indian king, Porus, and succeeded in crossing the Hydaspes River in 326 BC. (35)
- (b) What did you learn about Alexander's character from his behaviour during and after the Battle of the Hydaspes? (15)
- (ii) (a) Explain how, in some ways, Alexander became more like a Persian king than a Macedonian king. (15)
- (b) Why did Alexander decide to adopt Persian customs and dress? (15)
- (c) How did the Macedonians react to this development? (20)
- (iii) In 328 BC after a violent quarrel, Alexander killed Cleitus, an old friend.
- (a) Give an account of the events leading to the death of Cleitus. (30)
- (b) Who, in your opinion, was more to blame for this incident, Alexander or Cleitus? Give reasons for your answer. (20)
- (iv) (a) Describe how Alexander almost lost his life at the Siege of the Mallians in 325 BC. (30)
- (b) Explain why Alexander's close friends were angry with him after this incident. (10)
- (c) How did Alexander's ordinary soldiers react after this incident? (10)
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**Topic 3. Life and Thought in the Late Roman Republic.**

- (i) (a) Describe the Battle of Pharsalus in which Caesar defeated Pompey in 48 BC. (35)
- (b) Give a brief account of Pompey's death in Egypt shortly after this battle. (15)
- (ii) "As well as being a devoted lover, Catullus was also a good friend and a loving brother."  
Show how the poems by Catullus on your course support this statement. (50)
- (iii) (a) According to Caesar, why did he decide to invade Britain in 55 BC? (15)
- (b) What does Caesar say about the appearance, clothing and style of warfare of the people of Britain? (35)
- (iv) (a) Explain why Antony and Cicero hated each other. (25)
- (b) Describe Cicero's death. (25)
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**Topic 4. Roman Historians.**

- (i) (a) Describe the role of Livia in the reign of her husband, Augustus. (20)
- (b) What role did Livia play in the reign of her son, Tiberius? (20)
- (c) Why did Augustus encourage Romans to marry and to have large families? (10)
- (ii) (a) Give an account of the death of Emperor Augustus. (30)
- (b) What were the main terms of Augustus's will? (20)
- (iii) (a) Why did Tiberius decide to leave Rome to live on the island of Capri? (20)
- (b) From your reading of Suetonius, describe the lifestyle of Tiberius during his time on Capri. (30)
- (iv) (a) Describe how Tiberius treated Agrippina (the widow of Germanicus) and her children. (30)
- (b) Do you agree that Tiberius was evil at heart? Explain your answer. (20)
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**GROUP II: Topics 5 to 7**

**Topic 5. Greek Drama.**

- (i) (a) In Euripides' play *Medea*, what arguments does Medea use to persuade the Chorus to take her side in her row with Jason? (15)
- (b) Explain how the attitude of the Chorus changes towards Medea later in the play. (15)
- (ii) (a) In Sophocles' play *Oedipus the King*, explain why Oedipus is so determined to discover who killed Laius, the former King of Thebes. (15)
- (b) Give an account of the death of Laius. (20)
- (c) What effect did the discovery of the truth about Laius' death have on Oedipus and his wife, Jocasta? (15)
- (iii) (a) Describe the meeting between Medea and Creon, King of Corinth, in Euripides' play *Medea*. (25)
- (b) Give an account of the deaths of Creon and his daughter Glauce. (25)
- (iv) (a) Describe Oedipus' quarrel with Creon in Sophocles' play *Oedipus the King*. (35)
- (b) What did you learn about Oedipus' character from this quarrel? (15)
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**Topic 6. Ancient Epic.**

- (i) (a) In Book 4 of Virgil's *Aeneid*, why does Dido decide to kill herself? (20)
- (b) Describe Dido's last moments. (20)
- (c) How does Virgil make his description of her death so moving? (10)
- (ii) (a) In Book 12 of Homer's *Odyssey*, who were the Sirens and why were they so dangerous? (15)
- (b) Describe how Odysseus dealt with the Sirens. (20)
- (c) What did you learn about Odysseus' character from this episode? (15)
- (iii) (a) In Book 2 of Virgil's *Aeneid*, how was Anchises, father of Aeneas, persuaded to leave Troy? (15)
- (b) What evidence is there in Virgil's *Aeneid* of the close relationship between Aeneas and his father? (25)
- (c) In your opinion, is Aeneas a good father to his son, Ascanius? Give a reason for your answer. (10)
- (iv) (a) Based on your reading of Book 5 of Homer's *Odyssey*, describe Odysseus's journey from Ogygia to the land of the Phaeacians. (25)
- (b) What does Odysseus say to Nausicaa when he meets her? (15)
- (c) In what way does Nausicaa help Odysseus? (10)
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**Topic 7. Writers of the Augustan Age.**

- (i) (a) From your reading of Virgil's story of Cacus, describe the crime Cacus commits against Hercules and how he attempts to conceal it. (15)
- (b) How does Hercules discover Cacus' crime? (10)
- (c) Explain how Hercules defeats and kills Cacus. (15)
- (d) Did you enjoy this story? Give a reason for your answer. (10)
- (ii) (a) In the poems on your course, what advice does Horace give on how to live life? (25)
- (b) What advice does he give on how to think about death? (25)
- (iii) (a) In Virgil's *A Farmer's Calendar*, what are the activities of the farmer during Winter? (20)
- (b) In what ways does Virgil think that being a farmer is a good life to live? (30)
- (iv) (a) Describe the efforts made by Romulus to get wives for his men in Livy's *Sabine Women*. (35)
- (b) What did Romulus promise the captured Sabine women to win them over? (15)

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<b>GROUP III: Topics 8 to 10</b>
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**Topic 8. Art and Architecture in Greek Society.**

- (i) **Photograph A on Paper X** shows a famous temple in Athens.
- (a) Identify this temple and its location. (10)
- (b) In which order of Greek architecture is it built? (10)
- (c) Explain how this temple is very different from other Greek temples. (30)
- (ii) Study **Photograph B on Paper X**.
- (a) What name is given to this type of monument? (10)
- (b) Where were such monuments located? (10)
- (c) Name the figure on the top of the monument. (10)
- (d) To which period of Greek sculpture does this monument belong? Give reasons for your answer. (20)
- (iii) **Photograph C on Paper X** shows a metope from the Parthenon in Athens.
- (a) Identify the figures shown in the metope. (10)
- (b) Where on the Parthenon were the metopes located? You may use a sketch for your answer. (10)
- (c) Name the sculptor in charge of all sculptures on the Parthenon. (10)
- (d) How, in your opinion, has the sculptor created a sense of movement and drama in this metope? (20)
- (iv) **Photograph D on Paper X** shows a well-known sculpture.
- (a) Identify the sculpture. (10)
- (b) In which Greek sanctuary was it situated? (10)
- (c) What was it made of? (5)
- (d) To which period of Greek sculpture does it belong? (10)
- (e) How is the statue typical of this period? (15)

**Topic 9. The Philosopher in Society: A Study of Socrates and Plato.**

- (i) (a) Give an account of Plato's Simile of the Sea Captain. (30)
- (b) In your opinion, what lessons does Plato wish us to learn from this simile? (20)
- (ii) (a) Which types of music does Socrates consider suitable in his ideal state? Explain your answer with reference to the prescribed text. (25)
- (b) Which types of music would Socrates ban in his ideal state? Explain your answer with reference to the prescribed text. (25)
- (iii) From your reading of Plato's *Republic*, would you like to live in his ideal state? Give reasons for your answer. (50)
- (iv) (a) What rules does Socrates lay down for the lifestyle of the Guardians? (40)
- (b) Why does he insist on these rules? (10)
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**Topic 10. Roman Art and Architecture.**

- (i) **Photograph E on Paper X** shows a famous Roman building.
- (a) Identify the famous Roman building. (10)
- (b) Describe the exterior of this building. (15)
- (c) Briefly outline the kinds of entertainment which took place there. (15)
- (d) For what reason is this building regarded as a major achievement of Roman engineering? (10)
- (ii) **Photograph F on Paper X** shows a portrait bust of a Roman Emperor.
- (a) Identify the Roman Emperor. (10)
- (b) How does the sculptor show that he is portraying the Emperor as the mythical hero, Hercules? (15)
- (c) Describe how the sculpture shows the personality of the Emperor. (15)
- (d) In your view is this sculpture typically Roman? Explain your answer. (10)
- (iii) **Photograph G on Paper X** shows a section of a famous monument in Rome.
- (a) Identify the monument. (10)
- (b) What does this monument commemorate? (10)
- (c) Give one piece of information you can learn about the Roman army from this monument. (10)
- (d) Explain why this is considered a remarkable monument. (20)
- (iv) **Photograph H on Paper X** shows a painting known as the Garden of Livia.
- (a) Who was Livia? (10)
- (b) Give a detailed description of this painting. (30)
- (c) Where were paintings like this usually located in a Roman house? (10)
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