



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit State Examinations Commission

LEAVING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION, 2007

CLASSICAL STUDIES – HIGHER LEVEL (400 marks)

WEDNESDAY, 20 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 1: Topics 1 to 4

Topic 1. Athens at War.

[100]

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

- (i) In 415 BC, the Athenian Assembly held a debate on the Sicilian Expedition
- (a) What were the main arguments put forward by Nicias against the expedition? (20)
- (b) What were the main arguments put forward by Alcibiades in favour of the expedition? (20)
- (c) In your opinion, which of the two men, Nicias or Alcibiades, made the stronger argument? Support your answer with reference to the debate. (10)
- (ii) "Future ages will wonder at us, as the present age wonders at us now." (Thucydides, *History of the Peloponnesian War*)
- (a) According to Pericles in his funeral oration, why does the city of Athens deserve to be admired? (40)
- (b) In your opinion, would the words Pericles addressed to the relatives of the dead have been a source of comfort? Support your answer with reference to the oration. (10)
- (iii) "It was certainly the greatest battle that had taken place for a long time among Hellenic states, and it was fought by the most renowned cities in Hellas." (Thucydides, *History of the Peloponnesian War*)
- (a) Give an account of the Battle of Mantinea (418 – 417 BC). (40)
- (b) Describe the changed situation in the Peloponnese as a result of this battle. (10)
- (iv) (a) Why did the Athenians fortify the temple at Delium in 424 BC? (15)
- (b) Briefly describe the subsequent battle at Oropus. (25)
- (c) How did the Boeotians recapture the temple at Delium? (10)

Topic 2. Alexander the Great.

[100]

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

- (i) Arrian writes that for Alexander "the sheer pleasure of battle, as other pleasures are to other men, was irresistible." Discuss this statement with reference to Alexander's career. (50)
- (ii) Alexander addressed his officers at the river Hyphasis as follows:
- "I observe, gentlemen, that when I would lead you on to a new venture you no longer follow me with your old spirit. I have asked you to meet me that we may come to a decision together: are we, upon my advice to go forward, or, upon yours, to turn back?" (Arrian, *The Campaigns of Alexander*)
- (a) What were the main arguments put forward by Coenus in favour of turning back? (35)
- (b) What is your opinion of Alexander's reaction when his men refused to continue into India? (15)
- (iii) (a) Describe how Alexander tricked the Indian leader Porus and succeeded in crossing the river Hydaspes. (15)
- (b) Give an account of the Battle of the Hydaspes. (25)
- (c) In your opinion, why did Alexander treat Porus so well after this battle? (10)
- (iv) (a) Based on your reading of Arrian and Plutarch, give an account of Alexander's treatment of women. (35)
- (b) What is your opinion of Alexander's attitude to women? (15)

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) From your reading of Catullus, what are the main themes in his poetry? (25)
- (b) What do the poems of Catullus reveal of his character? (15)
- (c) In your opinion, do his poems appeal to the modern reader? Give reasons for your answer. (10)
- (ii) “Everyone ought to have the same purpose: to make the interest of each the same as the interest of all.” (Cicero, *How to Make the Right Decisions*)
- (a) In *How to Make the Right Decisions*, what arguments does Cicero use to support this statement? (30)
- (c) Cicero gives examples of two men, one selling corn to Rhodes and the other selling his house, which he alone knows to have certain defects. Do you agree with Cicero’s opinion of the behaviour of these men? Give reasons for your answer. (20)
- (iii) Discuss the importance of the office of tribune in the politics of the Late Roman Republic. Support your answer with reference to the prescribed texts. (50)
- (iv) “...his expedition against Britain was peculiarly remarkable for its daring.” (Plutarch, *Life of Caesar*)
- (a) Outline the difficulties Caesar encountered in his invasions of Britain. (35)
- (b) What insight do we get into Caesar’s character from Plutarch’s account of these invasions? (15)
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Topic 4. Roman Historians. [100]

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

- (i) “... now started the most destructive fire which Rome had ever experienced.” (Tacitus, *Annals*)
- (a) Give a description of the great fire of Rome. (30)
- (b) What is your opinion of Nero’s behaviour throughout this episode? (20)
- (ii) During the treason trials Tiberius displayed his worst qualities. Discuss this statement. Support your answer with reference to the prescribed material. (50)
- (iii) Tacitus is a conscientious writer who has made an accurate contribution to history. Suetonius is purely entertaining. Discuss this statement. Support your answer with reference to the prescribed texts. (50)
- (iv) It has been said that throughout his reign Claudius was dominated by freedmen and wives. Discuss this judgement with reference to the prescribed material. (50)
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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) In Aeschylus' play, *Prometheus Bound*, what characteristics does Prometheus possess that reveal him as a tragic hero? (50)
 - (ii) Discuss the view that in Sophocles's play, *Oedipus the King*, Oedipus displays all the qualities of a great detective. (50)
 - (iii) In his play *Medea*, Euripides shows great understanding of the female psyche through his depiction of a range of female characters. Discuss this statement. (50)
 - (iv) (a) Discuss Aristophanes' attitude to Euripides in his play *Frogs*. (30)
(b) Why was Aeschylus finally chosen as the poet to be brought back to Athens? (20)
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Topic 6. Ancient Epic. [100]

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

- (i) Compare the character of Medb in the *Táin* with the character of Penelope in Homer's *Odyssey*. (50)
 - (ii) Discuss the view that love and justice are the central themes of Homer's *Odyssey*. (50)
 - (iii) "... the presence and personality of Rome is felt strongly in the *Aeneid*." (Camps)
How does Virgil bring Rome's greatness and destiny to the attention of the reader of the *Aeneid*? (50)
 - (iv) Compare and contrast the visit of Aeneas to the Underworld in Virgil's *Aeneid* Book 6 with the visit of Odysseus to the Underworld in Homers' *Odyssey* Book 11. (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) Comment on Horace's sense of humour in the extracts from the *Satires* (*The Bore, Journey to Brundisium, The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse*). (50)
- (ii) "History possesses the outstandingly beneficial merit of setting all its varied lessons luminously on record for our attention." (Livy's *Preface*)
Show how Livy uses stories from Rome's history to highlight the virtues of patriotism and courage. In your answer, refer to the Livy extracts on your course. (50)
- (iii) (a) In the *Song of Silenus* from Virgil's *Eclogues*, describe how the satyrs forced their father Silenus to give them "their promised song". (15)
- (b) How does Virgil make this account full of gentle humour? (20)
- (c) Briefly outline Silenus' account of the creation of the world. (15)
- (iv) From your reading of the prescribed poems, analyse Propertius' relationship with Cynthia. (50)

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) **Photograph A on Paper X** shows the vase known as the "François Vase."
- (a) What is the name of this type of vase? (5)
- (b) Name the potter who made this vase. (5)
- (c) Comment on the subject matter and decoration of this vase. (25)
- (d) Briefly explain the difference between black figure vases and red figure vases. (15)
- (ii) **Photograph B on Paper X** shows a Greek theatre.
- (a) Where is this theatre to be found? (5)
- (b) Identify the areas marked **a**, **b**, and **c**. Briefly state the function of each of those areas. (20)
- (c) What type of performance took place in such theatres? (5)
- (d) Would you agree with Richter when she concludes that 'the auditorium was both ... comfortable and practical in planning'? Give reasons for your answer. (20)
- (iii) **Photograph C on Paper X** shows the Kouros from Anavysos.
- (a) To which period of Greek sculpture does this statue belong? (5)
- (b) What was the purpose of statues such as this? (10)
- (c) In what ways does this sculpture show development from sculptures of earlier periods? (35)
- (iv) **Photograph D on Paper X** shows a sculpture from the Hellenistic period.
- (a) What is the subject of this sculpture? (5)
- (b) Use **Photograph D** to show in what ways this sculpture is typical of Hellenistic sculpture. (30)
- (c) Explain how Classical sculpture differs from that of the Hellenistic period. (15)

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) In the Introduction to Plato's *Republic*, Socrates asks Cephalus if old age is a difficult time or not.
- (a) Outline the reply of Cephalus to Socrates' question. (20)
- (b) According to Cephalus, what is the advantage of being very rich as one nears the end of one's life? (15)
- (c) What is your opinion of Cephalus' views on the advantage of wealth as one approaches death? (15)
- (ii) (a) From your reading of Plato's *Republic*, describe the Simile of the Cave. (30)
- (b) Explain the meaning of the Simile. (20)
- (iii) (a) In Plato's opinion, what place should physical education have in the education of the Guardians? (20)
- (b) What are Plato's views on the relationship between the physical and intellectual sides of education? (20)
- (c) Do you agree with Plato's opinion on the importance of physical education? (10)
- (iv) Dion was a devoted follower of Plato's philosophy. In your opinion, did Dion's behaviour in Syracuse live up to that philosophy? In your answer, refer to Plutarch's *Life of Dion*. (50)
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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 the plan of Trier (Augusta Treverorum) in Roman Gaul.
- (a) Identify the features shown at **c, d, e, g, and l**. (15)
- (b) What evidence is there to suggest that Trier was a city of importance and wealth? (25)
- (c) Briefly describe the building in Trier known as the Aula Palatina. (10)
- (ii) **Photograph F** on **Paper X** shows the plan of the Stabian Baths at Pompeii. **Photograph G** on **Paper X** shows the plan of Hadrian's Baths at Leptis Magna.
- (a) Using the two plans, compare and contrast the Stabian Baths and Hadrian's Baths. (30)
- (b) Briefly describe the heating system used in Roman baths. (10)
- (c) What contribution did Roman baths make to the development of the use of the arch? (10)
- (iii) Study **Photograph H** on **Paper X** and answer the following questions:
- (a) In what ways is this statue typical of Roman portrait sculpture? (40)
- (b) What does this sculpture tell us about Roman family customs? (10)
- (iv) **Photograph I** on **Paper X** shows a wall-painting from Herculaneum.
- (a) To which style of Roman wall-painting does this picture belong? (5)
- (b) What features of this painting are typical of this style? (35)
- (c) What features of this painting show the influence of the theatre? (10)
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