



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit State Examinations Commission

LEAVING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION, 2021

CLASSICAL STUDIES – ORDINARY LEVEL (200 marks)

MONDAY, 28 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 **FOUR QUESTIONS**. Candidates must answer **one** question from a Topic **in each** of the three Groups. Candidates can then select their remaining question from any Topic in any Group.
- There are fifty marks for each question. The total marks for the paper are 200.
- 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) In 429 BC the Spartans besieged Plataea.
- (a) Describe how the Plataeans kept the Spartans out for so long. (35)
 - (b) How did the Spartans treat the Plataeans after they surrendered? (15)
- (ii) Write notes on any **two** of the following:
Pericles (the Athenian politician); Nicias (the Athenian general); Demosthenes (the Athenian general). (25,25)
- (iii) In 416 BC, the Athenians ordered the Melians to surrender.
- (a) What arguments were used by the Athenians to persuade the Melians to surrender? (20)
 - (b) What arguments were used by the Melians in their reply? (20)
 - (c) What eventually happened to the citizens of Melos? (10)
- (iv) (a) Why did Alcibiades, the Athenian general, desert to the Spartan side in 415 BC? (25)
- (b) What advice did Alcibiades give the Spartans on how to win the war against Athens? (15)
 - (c) What is your opinion of the behaviour of Alcibiades at this time? (10)
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Topic 2. Alexander the Great.

- (i) In 334 BC, Alexander fought his first battle on Persian territory at the Granicus River.
- (a) What advice, given by Parmenio, did Alexander ignore before the battle and why did he ignore it? (10)
 - (b) What made this battle especially difficult for Alexander's troops? (10)
 - (c) Describe the incident in the middle of the battle where Cleitus saved Alexander's life. (15)
 - (d) What happened to Cleitus in the end? (15)
- (ii) (a) Describe what happened at the siege of the Mallian Fortress where Alexander almost lost his life. (40)
- (b) What does this episode reveal about Alexander's character? (10)
- (iii) (a) Why did Alexander decide to return to Babylon via the Gedrosian Desert? (10)
- (b) Describe the difficulties experienced by Alexander and his army as they crossed the desert. (25)
 - (c) What leadership qualities did Alexander show during the journey? (15)
- (iv) Write notes on any **two** of the following:
Philip (father of Alexander); Bucephalus (Alexander's horse); Porus (Indian king). (25,25)
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Topic 3. Life and Thought in the Late Roman Republic.

- (i) "Romulus understood that cities founded for long life and greatness ought not to be on the sea." (*Rome's Natural Advantages*, Cicero)
- (a) Who was Romulus? (10)
- (b) What reasons does Cicero give to justify this statement? (20)
- (c) In Cicero's opinion, what other natural advantages does Rome have? (20)
- (ii) (a) In the extract, *Cato and Caesar*, what comparisons does Sallust make between the characters of Cato and Caesar? (35)
- (b) Describe how Cato met his death. (15)
- (iii) Julius Caesar was assassinated on the Ides of March, 44 BC.
- (a) Describe what happened on Caesar's last day alive. (35)
- (b) Explain why he was assassinated. (15)
- (iv) Did you enjoy reading the poems of Catullus on your course? Explain your answer with reference to the poems. (50)
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Topic 4. Roman Historians.

- (i) (a) In his *Life of Augustus*, Suetonius suggests that Augustus was a "womaniser". What evidence does Suetonius provide to support this view? (35)
- (b) What is your opinion of Augustus's treatment of his daughter, Julia? (15)
- (ii) At the beginning of the reign of Tiberius as Emperor, mutinies broke out in Germany and Pannonia.
- (a) What were the conditions endured by the soldiers that led them to mutiny? (25)
- (b) How did Drusus and Germanicus put an end to the mutinies? (25)
- (iii) Write notes on any **two** of the following:
Cleopatra (Queen of Egypt); Livia (wife of Augustus); Mark Antony (politician and general). (25,25)
- (iv) (a) How did Tiberius bring about the downfall and death of Sejanus? (25)
- (b) According to Suetonius, when Tiberius died, the Romans rejoiced, shouting, "To the Tiber with Tiberius!". Why did the Romans rejoice when he died? (25)
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GROUP II: Topics 5 to 7

Topic 5. Greek Drama.

- (i) In Euripides' play *Medea*, Medea shows great skill in getting people to do what she wants.
- (a) Explain how Medea succeeds in manipulating Jason, Creon and Aegeus in her pursuit of vengeance. (35)
 - (b) Did you find Medea an interesting character? Give reasons for your answer. (15)
- (ii) (a) In Sophocles' play *Oedipus the King*, why does Jocasta distrust oracles and prophecies? (25)
- (b) Describe the death of Jocasta and Oedipus's reaction to it. (25)
- (iii) (a) In your opinion, what role did Jason's character play in his own downfall? (35)
- (b) At the end of the play did you feel any sympathy for Jason? Give reasons for your answer. (15)
- (iv) (a) Describe how Oedipus became King of Thebes. (25)
- (b) In your opinion, was Oedipus a good King of Thebes? Explain your answer by reference to Sophocles' play *Oedipus the King*. (25)
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Topic 6. Ancient Epic.

- (i) (a) In Homer's *Odyssey*, describe what happened after Odysseus and his men were given the bag of winds by Aeolus. (30)
- (b) In your opinion, who was at fault in this episode? Give reasons for your answer. (20)
- (ii) (a) In Virgil's *Aeneid* explain how Venus made Dido fall in love with Aeneas. (20)
- (b) Why did Venus make this happen? (15)
- (c) Why did Aeneas leave Dido and sail to Italy? (15)
- (iii) (a) Describe what happened in the Battle in the Hall where Odysseus overcame the Suitors. (35)
- (b) Do you think the Suitors deserved their fate? Explain your answer. (15)
- (iv) In Book 1 of Virgil's *Aeneid*, in the midst of the storm, Aeneas says, "You were the lucky ones who died beneath the Walls of Troy!"
- (a) Where was Aeneas when he called out these words? (10)
 - (b) Why did he wish he had died in the fall of Troy? (10)
 - (c) Which goddess was his enemy and why? (15)
 - (d) How does Aeneas show his qualities of leadership after the storm? (15)
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Topic 7. Writers of the Augustan Age.

- (i) (a) In his poem *Gone to Clitumnus*, why does Propertius write, “Yet, Cynthia, I am glad you will be buried in the country.”? (15)
- (b) From your reading of the prescribed poems on your course, do you think Propertius is happier in the city than in the country? Give reasons for your answer. (15)
- (c) From your reading of Propertius’ poems, do you find him a likeable character? Give reasons for your answer. (20)
- (ii) (a) In the poems on your course by Horace what advice does he give about living life? (20)
- (b) What advice does Horace give on how we should think about death? (20)
- (c) Do you agree with Horace’s advice? Give a reason for your answer. (10)
- (iii) (a) How did Romulus get wives for his men in Livy’s *Sabine Women*? (35)
- (b) What does Livy’s extract tell us about early Roman attitudes to wives and to women in general? (15)
- (iv) (a) In Virgil’s *Orpheus and Eurydice*, describe how Orpheus loses his wife twice. (30)
- (b) What does this poem have to say about the power of music? (10)
- (c) Do you find this poem moving? Give a reason for your answer. (10)
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GROUP III: Topics 8 to 10

Topic 8. Art and Architecture in Greek Society.

- (i) (a) Identify the temple shown in **Photograph A** on **Paper X** and say where it is located. (10)
- (b) To which architectural order does this temple belong? (10)
- (c) Give a brief description of the sculpture on this temple. (20)
- (d) Give one reason why this temple is considered to be the most perfect example of a Greek temple. (10)
- (ii) **Photograph B** on **Paper X** shows a relief sculpture from the Temple of Artemis at Korkyra.
- (a) Name the main figure shown in this sculpture. (10)
- (b) Where was this sculpture located originally on the temple?
(You may use a labelled diagram as your answer.) (10)
- (c) Name the period of Greek sculpture to which this piece belongs. (10)
- (d) In what ways is this sculpture typical of its period? (20)
- (iii) Study **Photograph C** on **Paper X**.
- (a) Who is the figure shown here? (10)
- (b) Name the period of Greek sculpture to which this statue belongs. (10)
- (c) What is the statue made of? (10)
- (d) In your opinion, why does Richter say that this is, “one of the finest Greek statues”? (20)
- (iv) Study **Photograph D** on **Paper X**.
- (a) Identify the statue shown in the photograph. (10)
- (b) What did this type of statue represent? (10)
- (c) To which period of Greek sculpture does this statue belong? Give reasons for your answer. (20)
- (d) In your opinion, does this statue deserve to be greatly admired? Give a reason for your answer. (10)
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Topic 9. The Philosopher in Society: A Study of Socrates and Plato.

- (i) (a) Give an account of Socrates' simile of the Large and Powerful Animal. (35)
- (b) What does the simile tell us about Socrates' view of democracy? (15)
- (ii) (a) What rules does Socrates lay down for his Rulers about food, housing and private property? (30)
- (b) Why does Socrates insist on these rules? (10)
- (c) Do you think that these rules are practical? Give a reason for your answer. (10)
- (iii) (a) According to Socrates, his perfect state will obviously have the qualities of wisdom, courage and self-discipline. Where are these qualities to be found in the perfect state? (35)
- (b) How does Socrates define "justice"? (15)
- (iv) (a) Describe the views of Cephalus on old age in the introduction to Plato's *Republic*. (20)
- (b) According to Cephalus, what difference does wealth make to old age? (15)
- (c) Do you agree with the opinions of Cephalus on old age? Give a reason for your opinion. (15)
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Topic 10. Roman Art and Architecture.

- (i) **Photograph E** on **Paper X** shows a portrait bust of the Emperor Commodus and **Photograph F** on **Paper X** shows a portrait bust of an old woman.
- (a) How does the sculptor show that he is portraying the Emperor Commodus as the famous hero Hercules? (10)
 - (b) What does this sculpture tell us about the character of the Emperor? (15)
 - (c) Describe the woman portrayed in **Photograph F**. How is this sculpture typical of Roman portraits? (15)
 - (d) Which of these sculptures do you prefer? Give a reason for your answer. (10)
- (ii) **Photograph G** on **Paper X** shows the Roman theatre at Orange in the south of France.
- (a) Describe the overall design of the interior and exterior of the theatre. (20)
 - (b) In what ways would this theatre have been very well suited to its purpose? (10)
 - (c) How were the spectators in this theatre protected from the sun and the rain? (10)
 - (d) In what ways were Roman theatres different from theatres today? (10)
- (iii) **Photograph H** on **Paper X** shows a wall painting from Pompeii.
- (a) Describe what is happening in this painting. (25)
 - (b) How did the artist achieve a sense of high drama in this painting? (10)
 - (c) Name one other painting on your course which appealed to you and explain why you liked it. (15)
- (iv) **Photograph I** on **Paper X** shows the Roman aqueduct at Segovia in Spain. **Photograph J** on **Paper X** shows the Roman aqueduct known as the Pont du Gard.
- (a) Explain how aqueducts brought water to Roman towns. (10)
 - (b) Why is the arch so important in these structures? (15)
 - (c) Compare the two aqueducts shown in the photographs. (25)
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