



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit State Examinations Commission

LEAVING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION, 2021

CLASSICAL STUDIES – HIGHER 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) (a) Give an account of the Battle of Mantinea in 418 BC. (40)
(b) How did the Spartan victory at Mantinea change the situation in the Peloponnese? (10)
 - (ii) (a) Describe the part played by the Athenian general Demosthenes in the Peloponnesian War. (35)
(b) In your opinion was Demosthenes a great general? Give reasons for your answer. (15)
 - (iii) In 416 BC an Athenian army landed on the island of Melos. Before they attacked, the Athenians tried to negotiate the Melians' surrender.
 - (a) What arguments did the Athenians use to convince the Melians to surrender? (20)
 - (b) What were the Melians' counter-arguments? (20)
 - (c) Do you think that the Athenians' arguments were valid? Give reasons for your answer. (10)
 - (iv) (a) Outline the events which resulted in the Oligarchic Coup of 411 BC. (35)
(b) Why did the Oligarchy fail to maintain the support of the people of Athens? (15)
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Topic 2. Alexander the Great.

- (i) (a) Based on your reading of Plutarch and Arrian, describe Alexander's treatment of women. (40)
(b) What is your opinion of Alexander's attitude to women? (10)
 - (ii) After the Battle of Gaugamela Alexander began to adopt a new policy of orientalism.
 - (a) What forms did this orientalism take? (35)
 - (b) In your view, why did Alexander decide on this policy? Explain your answer. (15)
 - (iii) (a) Describe how Alexander fooled Porus and crossed the Hydaspes unopposed. (15)
(b) Give a brief account of the Battle of the Hydaspes. (25)
(c) What do we learn about Alexander's character from his treatment of Porus after the battle? (10)
 - (iv) "That his character and temper grew worse as his power increased seems clear." (Plutarch)
Based on your reading of Arrian and Plutarch, discuss this view of Alexander in the period 331 BC to his death in 323 BC. (50)
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Topic 3. Life and Thought in the Late Roman Republic.

- (i) (a) Give a brief account of the Catiline Conspiracy and its aftermath. (30)
(b) From your reading of the prescribed extracts, what is your opinion of the character of Catiline? (20)
- (ii) (a) Give an account of the Battle of Pharsalus in 48 BC in which Caesar defeated Pompey. (35)
(b) In your opinion, how did Pompey perform as a general in this battle? Explain your answer. (15)
- (iii) "Publius Clodius, in his capacity for behaving quite outrageously, surpassed all the most notoriously evil people of his time." (Plutarch)
(a) What evidence is there in Plutarch's *Lives* to support this judgement? (30)
(b) What does the career of Clodius tell you about politics in Rome at that time? (20)
- (iv) The poems of Catullus primarily deal with love - not just love for Lesbia but also love for friends and family. Discuss this view of the poems of Catullus, supporting your answer by reference to the prescribed poems on your course. (50)
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Topic 4. Roman Historians.

- (i) (a) Describe the part played by Octavian (later known as Augustus) in events from 44 BC (the death of Julius Caesar) to 31 BC (the Battle of Actium). (35)
(b) What qualities did Octavian possess that contributed to his success? Explain your answer with reference to the prescribed texts. (15)
- (ii) (a) Explain why Tiberius left Rome in 26 AD for the island of Capri. (20)
(b) What effect did the Emperor's absence have on affairs in Rome? (10)
(c) How does Suetonius describe Tiberius' lifestyle on the island? (20)
- (iii) (a) Describe the circumstances in which Claudius became Emperor of Rome. (20)
(b) Do you think that the rule of Claudius was good for Rome and the Empire? Support your answer with reference to the prescribed texts. (30)
- (iv) In his introduction to the *Annals of Imperial Rome*, Tacitus wrote: "I shall write without indignation or partisanship." Based on your reading of the *Annals*, in your opinion, did Tacitus live up to his promise? Give reasons for your answer. (50)
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GROUP II: Topics 5 to 7

Topic 5. Greek Drama.

- (i) (a) In *Prometheus Bound* by Aeschylus, Prometheus steals fire from heaven and gives it to mankind. How does Prometheus justify his theft in the play? (25)
- (b) What do the other immortals think of Prometheus' gift of fire to humans? (25)
- (ii) "The seriousness that underlies this funny play is a factor in its greatness."
Discuss this statement with reference to *Frogs* by Aristophanes. (50)
- (iii) In Sophocles' play *Oedipus The King*, Oedipus summons the prophet Tiresias to his palace.
- (a) Describe the meeting between Oedipus and Tiresias. (25)
- (b) Why does Oedipus assume that Creon is plotting against him? (10)
- (c) What is your opinion of the behaviour of both Oedipus and Tiresias at this meeting? (15)
- (iv) Discuss the view that parenthood is a central theme in Euripides' play, *Medea*.
Support your answer with reference to the play. (50)
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Topic 6. Ancient Epic.

- (i) In the first four books of Homer's *Odyssey*, Athena helps Odysseus's son Telemachus to assert himself.
- (a) Describe how Telemachus shows his new-found confidence. (35)
- (b) How does the attitude of the Suitors towards Telemachus change as a result of his new-found confidence? (15)
- (ii) Virgil's mastery of suspense, drama and tragedy is at its best in his account of the fall of Troy in Book 2 of the *Aeneid*.
Do you agree with this statement? Give reasons for your answer. (50)
- (iii) In Homer's *Odyssey*, Odysseus has all the qualities of a great action hero but he also has flaws.
Discuss this view supporting your answer with reference to the text. (50)
- (iv) Compare the character of Medb in the *Táin* with the character of Penelope in the *Odyssey*. (50)
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Topic 7. Writers of the Augustan Age.

- (i) In contrast to his attitude to Rome in his own day, Livy admired the courage, patriotism and community spirit of ancient Romans. Discuss this statement with reference to the prescribed extracts from Livy's *Histories*. (50)
- (ii) Any woman would have been well advised to stay away from the poet Propertius. Do you agree with this statement or not? Explain your answer with reference to the poems of Propertius. (50)
- (iii) (a) Describe Horace's *Journey to Brundisium*. (35)
- (b) From your reading of the poem would you consider Horace a good travelling companion? Give reasons for your answer. (15)
- (iv) (a) Do you agree that Virgil's account of Orpheus's ordeal in *Orpheus and Eurydice* is dramatic and moving? Give reasons for your answer. (35)
- (b) Discuss Virgil's use of imagery in this poem. (15)
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GROUP III: Topics 8 to 10

Topic 8. Art and Architecture in Greek Society.

- (i) **Photograph A on Paper X** shows the plan of the Temple of Zeus at Olympia.
- (a) To which period of architecture does this temple belong? (10)
 - (b) Give a full description of the temple, using the correct architectural terms.
(In your answer refer to the plan and the temple.) (20)
 - (c) Describe the sculptural decoration of this temple. (20)
- (ii) Study **Photograph B on Paper X**.
- (a) Identify the type of vase shown and say what it was used for. (10)
 - (b) Identify the two figures on the vase and say what they are doing. (10)
 - (c) Name the artist who painted this vase. (5)
 - (d) Comment on the quality and style of the decoration of the vase. (25)
- (iii) **Photograph C on Paper X** shows a sculpture from Anavysos.
- (a) What is this kind of statue called and to which period of Greek sculpture does it belong? (10)
 - (b) What was the purpose of such statues? (10)
 - (c) Explain the ways in which this sculpture is typical of its period. (30)
- (iv) (a) Identify the statue shown in **Photograph D on Paper X**. (5)
- (b) What was its purpose? (5)
 - (c) To which period of Greek sculpture does it belong? (5)
 - (d) Explain why the statue is typical of its period. (20)
 - (e) Describe the method of hollow casting used in making bronze statues. (15)
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Topic 9. The Philosopher in Society: A Study of Socrates and Plato.

- (i) In Plato's *Republic*, Adeimantus claims that philosophers are "useless members of society".
- (a) How does Socrates refute Adeimantus's allegation against philosophers? (35)
 - (b) Do you agree with Socrates or Adeimantus? Give reasons for your answer. (15)
- (ii)
- (a) How does Socrates explain how the primitive community began? (20)
 - (b) Describe how, according to Socrates, the primitive community developed into a "civilized community". (20)
 - (c) Why does Socrates believe that war is inevitable in the civilised community? (10)
- (iii)
- (a) According to Socrates, what part should music play in his ideal education system? (20)
 - (b) How does Socrates justify his views on music? (15)
 - (c) What is your view of Socrates' attitude to music? Give reasons for your answer. (15)
- (iv) Despite his devotion to Plato, Dion's behaviour failed to live up to Plato's ideals. Discuss this view with reference to Plutarch's *Life of Dion*. (50)
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Topic 10. Roman Art and Architecture.

- (i) **Photograph E** on **Paper X** shows the plan of Roman Timgad.
- (a) Identify the features shown at **aa, d, e, j and k**. (10)
 - (b) Where is Timgad located and why did the Emperor Trajan locate it there? (15)
 - (c) What does the plan tell us about the lifestyle of the inhabitants of Timgad? (25)
- (ii) **Photograph F** and **Photograph G** on **Paper X** show two Roman amphitheatres.
- (a) Identify the two amphitheatres shown. (10)
 - (b) Compare the architecture of the two amphitheatres. In your answer, refer to the exterior and interior of both amphitheatres. (25)
 - (c) What do these structures tell us about Roman life? (15)
- (iii) **Photograph H** on **Paper X** shows a mosaic from Rome and **Photograph I** on **Paper X** shows a painting from Pompeii.
- (a) Discuss the view that these two works of art show how the Romans found beauty in everyday things. (25)
 - (b) What other types of scene did the Romans like to show in their houses? In your answer, refer to the prescribed works on the course. (15)
 - (c) Of the Roman mosaics and paintings on your course, which is your favourite piece? Give reasons for your answer. (10)
- (iv) **Photograph J** and **Photograph K** on **Paper X** show panels from the Arch of Titus in Rome.
- (a) What event is being commemorated in these relief sculptures? (10)
 - (b) Explain the term “relief sculpture”. (10)
 - (c) Compare these two relief sculptures under the following headings: composition; perspective; subject matter. (30)
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