

MATRICULATION AND SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS BOARD

UNIVERSITY OF MALTA, MSIDA

MATRICULATION EXAMINATION  
INTERMEDIATE LEVEL  
SEPTEMBER 2014

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**SUBJECT:** HISTORY  
**DATE:** 5th September 2014  
**TIME:** 4.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.

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**Answer ALL FOUR questions, the TWO in Section A and the TWO in Section B.  
All questions carry equal marks.**

**SECTION A**

**Question 1**

**Answer EITHER part (a), OR part (b), OR part (c).**

**[Either]** (a) ‘Maltese constitutional history to 1921 was characterised by gradual gains, but also by notable reversals’. Discuss.

**[Or]** (b) What was the Language Question, and why was it so important in Maltese political history?

**[Or]** (c) ‘Malta’s strategic value to Britain was shown both in times of war, as well as in times of peace’. Discuss.

**Question 2**

**Answer EITHER part (a), OR part (b), OR part (c)**

**[Either]** (a) Why did revolutions break out in different European countries in 1848, and what did they achieve?

**[Or]** (b) ‘The Russian Revolution of 1917 continued where that of 1905 left off.’ Discuss.

**[Or]** (c) ‘Nationalism was the principal cause of the First World War’. Discuss.

## SECTION B

### Question 3

Answer EITHER part (a), OR part (b).

[*Either*] (a) Debate in the House of Commons, 8 May 1848

*‘DR. BOWRING rose to put a question to the Hon. Gentleman the Under Secretary for the Colonies respecting the island of Malta. It would of course be in the recollection of Hon. Members, that the inhabitants of Malta had frequently forwarded petitions to that House praying that there might be conceded to them all the benefits of a representative and constitutional Government. What he now wished to ask was, whether the Ministers of the Crown had taken any steps upon that subject, or whether there were any measures for that purpose now in progress?’*

*MR. HAWES said, that if his Hon. Friend meant by that question to inquire whether or not it was proposed to give to Malta a representative assembly, he had only to say, in reply, that no such measure was in contemplation. He should not do justice to the present Governor of Malta if he did not take that opportunity of stating to the House that that right Hon. Gentleman had many important measures of improvement under his consideration, such, for example, as the establishment of municipal institutions, the improvement of the commercial law, an amelioration of the modes of civil procedure, a diminution of legal expenses, and a revision of other important Maltese institutions. The Governor of Malta also intended to introduce into that island the warehousing system, which would greatly improve trade. From these practical measures the best results might be expected.’*

- (i) Explain the statement that *‘the inhabitants of Malta had frequently forwarded petitions to that House praying that there might be conceded to them all the benefits of a representative and constitutional Government’*. (5 marks)
- (ii) How did the British respond to Maltese demands up to 1848? (5 marks)
- (iii) What measures were envisaged by the British in Malta, according to this statement in 1848? (5 marks)
- (iv) Which events led the British to change their policy in Malta in 1848-49? (5 marks)
- (v) Describe briefly the significance of the constitutional changes that were introduced in this period in Malta. (5 marks)

[*Or*] (b) Reply by the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies in the House of Commons, 11 February 1881, to a question on the Reports of Rowsell, Keenan and Julyan.

*Sir, first, I may say generally that Her Majesty's Government agree, to a great extent, with the views which have been put forward by the three gentlemen mentioned in the Question, and which are, I believe, substantially those of my Hon. Friend. Of the specific recommendations made by Sir Penrose Julyan several have already been carried into effect. For instance, the Public Works Department has been made a separate department, the Department of the Receiver General has been constituted so as to absorb the Treasury and part of the Land Revenue Department, and a Contract Committee has been established. Other proposals of Sir Penrose Julyan are still under consideration. Secondly, a Bill for the reduction by one-half of the quite indefensible wheat tax, so justly objected to by my hon. Friend the Member for Rochdale (Mr. T. B. Potter) and others, will, I expect, be proposed during the present*

*Session of the Council. Thirdly, a Commission has been appointed, under the presidency of Mr. Savona, to examine and report as to the adoption of Mr. Keenan's proposals with regard to the re-organization of the University; and the Local Government hopes, before the Session of the Council is over, to lay before it a measure founded upon the Report of that Commission. With regard to the English language, it is, of course, well known to all interested in Malta that hitherto the English language has been too little encouraged there, and it is now intended further to encourage it. If the Maltese are to have a fair chance of success in life, that must be done, and already the use of English is enforced in all Departments of the State except the Judicial Department. With regard to the language test respecting which my hon. Friend has asked, I am not aware that any complaint has ever been made of that test by the Maltese people; but if any demand were to arise for its abolition, I must say I cannot see how any reasonable objection could be made to it.'*

- (i) Who were *the three gentlemen* mentioned in the passage and what were they commissioned to report to the Crown? (5 marks)
- (ii) What were the principal proposals made by the commissioners? (5 marks)
- (iii) Explain the reference to the '*quite indefensible wheat tax*'. (5 marks)
- (iv) What proposals were being made to address the fact that '*hitherto the English language has been too little encouraged there*'? (5 marks)
- (v) Comment on the Maltese reactions to the reports by these royal commissioners. (5 marks)

#### **Question 4**

**Answer EITHER part (a), OR part (b).**

**[Either]** (a) Proclamation of the French Republic, 1848

*'In the name of the French people:*

*Citizens: royalty, under whatever form, is abolished; no more legitimism, no more Bonapartism, no regency.*

*The provisional government has taken all the measures necessary to render impossible the return of the former dynasty or the advent of a new dynasty.*

*The republic is proclaimed.*

*The people are united.*

*All the forts which surround the capital are ours.*

*The brave garrison of Vincennes is a garrison of brothers.*

*Let us retain that old republican flag whose three colors made with our fathers the circuit of the globe.*

*Let us show that this symbol of equality, of liberty, and of fraternity is at the same time the symbol of order - of order the more real, the more durable, since justice is its foundation and the whole people its instrument.*

*The people have already realized that the provisioning of Paris requires a freer circulation in the streets, and those who have erected the barricades have already in several places made openings large enough for the passage of wagons and carts. Let this example be imitated everywhere. Let Paris reassume its accustomed appearance and trade its activity and confidence. . .'*

- (i) Comment briefly on the events which led to the proclamation of the Republic in France in 1848. (5 marks)
- (ii) Explain the following statement: '*Citizens: royalty, under whatever form, is abolished; no more legitimism, no more Bonapartism, no regency.*' (5 marks)
- (iii) The document refers to '*that old republican flag whose three colors made with our fathers the circuit of the globe.*' Which events had taken the *old republican flag* outside France in the past? (5 marks)
- (iv) Referring to *order*, the proclamation states that '*justice is its foundation and the whole people its instrument.*' Explain. (5 marks)
- (v) To what extent and how long did the French maintain the principles outlined in this proclamation? (5 marks)

**[Or]** (b) Extract from the *Memoirs* of Otto von Bismarck.

*'We had to avoid wounding Austria too severely; we had to avoid leaving behind in her any unnecessary bitterness of feeling or desire for revenge; we ought rather to reserve the possibility of becoming friends again with our adversary of the moment, and in any case to regard the Austrian state as a piece on the European chessboard and the renewal of friendly relations as a move open to us. If Austria were severely injured, she would become the ally of France and of every other opponent of ours; she would even sacrifice her anti-Russian interests for the sake of revenge on Prussia.'*

*On the other hand, I could not see any guarantee for us in the future of the countries constituting the Austrian monarchy, in case the latter were split up by risings of the Hungarians and Slavs or made permanently dependent on those peoples. What would be substituted for that portion of Europe which the Austrian state had hitherto occupied from Tyrol to Bukowina? Fresh formations on this surface could only be of a permanently revolutionary nature. German Austria we could neither wholly nor partly make use of. The acquisition of provinces like Austrian Silesia and portions of Bohemia could not strengthen the Prussian state; it would not lead to an amalgamation of German Austria with Prussia, and Vienna could not be governed from Berlin as a mere dependency.'*

- (i) Who was Otto von Bismarck? (5 marks)
- (ii) Explain Bismarck's statement when he says that '*We had to avoid wounding Austria too severely; we had to avoid leaving behind in her any unnecessary bitterness of feeling or desire for revenge*'. (5 marks)
- (iii) Explain the references to France and Russia in the text. (5 marks)
- (iv) Why does Bismarck state that '*Vienna could not be governed from Berlin as a mere dependency*'? (5 marks)
- (v) To what extent did subsequent developments justify the approach to Austria taken by Bismarck? (5 marks)