

MATRICULATION AND SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS BOARD
UNIVERSITY OF MALTA, MSIDA
MATRICULATION EXAMINATION
INTERMEDIATE LEVEL
MAY 2015

SUBJECT: HISTORY
DATE: 22nd May 2015
TIME: 9.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon

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

SECTION A

Question 1 (25 marks)

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

- [*Either*] (a) The Duke of Wellington famously compared Malta to 'the quarter-deck of a man-of-war'. How far, and in what way, did the British use similar arguments to oppose Maltese constitutional demands until 1921?
- [*Or*] (b) How far, and in what way, did Maltese political development from 1880 to 1921 aid the achievement of local political demands?
- [*Or*] (c) 'World War I had a notable socio-economic impact on the Maltese population.' Discuss.

Question 2 (25 marks)

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

- [*Either*] (a) What were the principal causes of the French Revolution of 1789?
- [*Or*] (b) What did the 'Paris Commune' aim to achieve, and why did it fail?
- [*Or*] (c) To what extent, and in what way, were Italy and Germany unified in similar ways?

SECTION B

Question 3

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

[*Either*] (a) Declaration of Rights of the Inhabitants of the Islands of Malta and Gozo, 15 June 1802.

We, the Members of the Congress of the Islands of Malta and Gozo and their dependencies, by the free suffrage of the people, during the siege, elected to represent them on the important matter of ascertaining our native rights and privileges (enjoyed from time immemorial by our ancestors, who, when encroached upon, have shed their blood to regain them), and of fixing a Constitution of Government, which shall secure to us and our descendants in perpetuity, the blessings of freedom and the right of just law, under the protection and Sovereignty of the King of a free people, His Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. After long and mature deliberation, we make the following declaration, binding ourselves and our posterity for ever, on condition that our now acknowledged Prince and Sovereign shall, on his part, fulfill and keep inviolate his compact with us.

1st That the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland is our Sovereign Lord, and his lawful successors shall, in all times to come, be acknowledged as our lawful Sovereigns.

2nd That his said Majesty has no right to cede these Islands to any power. That, if he chooses to withdraw his protection, and abandon his sovereignty, the right of electing another sovereign, or of governing these Islands, belongs to us, the inhabitants and aborigines alone, and without control.

- (i) Explain the reference in this *Declaration* to the *siege*. (5 marks)
- (ii) What motivated the Maltese to seek *the protection and Sovereignty of the King of a free people*? (5 marks)
- (iii) Explain the significance of the phrase '*by the free suffrage of the people*' in Maltese political history. (5 marks)
- (iv) Why did the Maltese feel the need to state that '*his said Majesty has no right to cede these Islands to any power*'? (5 marks)
- (v) Comment on the words: '*to secure...the blessings of freedom and the right of just law*'. (5 marks)

- [Or] (b) Extract from *Annual Report of the Commercial Relations between the United States and Foreign Nations, 1870*

The geographical position of the island gives it a commercial importance altogether peculiar. It is the most convenient port for coals and provisions for all steamships between the east and ports west of the Mediterranean ports of France, (viz, Nice, Toulon, and Marseilles,) which, of course, includes nearly the whole intercourse of England with Eastern Asia by the Mediterranean. New routes have been established by Messina and by Brindisi within a few years, which have withdrawn trade from Malta, but the general increase of commerce has been great enough to compensate, partially at least, for all such losses. So far, the opening of the Suez Canal has benefited Malta, as will be seen by the table showing number and aggregate tonnage of steamers bound both ways which have touched here each month since the Canal was opened. My opinion is, however, that ultimately, if the canal is permanently successful, Port Said and Suez will become the great entrepots and ports of provisions for the steam traffic of America and Europe with Asia and Australia. Malta has become a depot for storage and transshipment of a larger portion of the commerce of all countries bordering the Mediterranean and Black Sea.

...

Arrivals at Malta of merchant steamships bound to and from the East Indies, China, &c., by the Suez Canal, from its opening, November, 1869, to September 30, 1870

<i>Date of Arrival</i>	<i>Number of vessels</i>	<i>Aggregate tonnage</i>
1869 November	1	722
December	4	1,960
1870 January	5	2,812
February	8	5,370
March	20	18,911
April	17	12,877
May	15	12,535
June	21	18,838
July	17	13,890
August	19	17,730
September	16	14,458
Total	143	120,103

- (i) Why does the author praise '*the geographical position of the island*'? (5 marks)
- (ii) Explain the reference to '*the opening of the Suez Canal*'. (5 marks)
- (iii) What is the significance of the reference to *steam traffic* in the Mediterranean? (5 marks)
- (iv) Study the table provided above. How far do the figures support the author's statement on commerce in Malta? (5 marks)
- (v) To what extent were these early indications borne out in later years? (5 marks)

Question 4

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

[Either] (a) Proclamation issued in Rome in February 1849:

Article 1: The Papacy has forfeited in fact and of right the temporal government of the Roman State.

Article 2: The Roman Pontiff shall have all the guarantees necessary to secure his independence in the exercise of his spiritual power.

Article 3: The form of the government of the Roman State shall be a pure democracy, and it shall take the glorious name of the Roman Republic.

Article 4: The Roman Republic shall maintain such relations with the rest of Italy as our common nationality may require.

- (i) Describe the circumstances which led to this proclamation in Rome. (5 marks)
- (ii) What role did the *Papacy* play in Italian affairs in this period? (5 marks)
- (iii) Explain: '*independence in the exercise of his spiritual power*'; '*the glorious name of the Roman Republic*'. (5 marks)
- (iv) What brought this *Roman State* to an end, and why? (5 marks)
- (v) Explain the significance of the reference to '*our common nationality*' in view of later Italian history. (5 marks)

[Or] (b) *Prince Alexander Karadjordjevic, July 1914*

A great evil has befallen this Serbia of ours. Austria-Hungary has declared war on us.... Our Kingdom's troubles with Austria and those of our nation date back into the past... In vain have Serb and Croat guards of the march, like so many other heroes of ours, shed their blood throughout Europe for the glory and benefit of the Court in Vienna... My Government, in accordance with the wishes of the people and the need for peace, a need felt not only by Serbia but also by the whole of Europe, had wished to avoid conflict at all cost, and that is why it has done its utmost to meet the demands of the Austro-Hungarian Government to the very limit of compliance beyond which no independent state may go... Unfortunately, Vienna's statesmen have turned a deaf ear to advice urging wisdom and to the interests of mankind. They declared war on us yesterday, thus not shrinking from also provoking the unforeseeable consequences of a European conflict... I am compelled to call on all my dear and valiant Serbs to defend Serbia's tricolour... Serbs, defend your hearths and the Serb nation with all your might!

- (i) Describe the circumstances which led to the declaration of war by Austria-Hungary against Serbia. (5 marks)
- (ii) Which European power was most friendly to Serbia, and with what consequences in the days that followed? (5 marks)
- (iii) The Prince is convinced that the war will become a '*European conflict*'. Why? (5 marks)
- (iv) What had kept the peace in Europe until 1914? (5 marks)
- (v) Describe briefly how the fears regarding the spread of war were very soon realized. (5 marks)