

# MATRICULATION AND SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS BOARD

# INTERMEDIATE MATRICULATION LEVEL 2024 FIRST SESSION

SUBJECT: **History**DATE: 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2024

TIME: 9:00 a.m. to 12:05 p.m.

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) Why was there a Language Question in Malta, and what were its main

characteristics?

**[Or]** (b) Why were Maltese political demands for a better constitution between 1903

and 1919 unsuccessful?

**[Or]** (c) Discuss the impact of the Suez Canal on Malta.

#### **Question 2**

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

**[Either]** (a) Why did revolutions break out in Europe in 1848?

**[Or]** (b) Discuss the role played by Sardinia-Piedmont in the unification of Italy.

**[Or]** (c) Was nationalism the main cause of World War I?

Please turn the page.

#### **SECTION B**

#### **Question 3**

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

[Either] (a) Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, House of Lords, 8 September 1887

The Government had received the draft of a project for the formation of a Constitution, drawn up by a Committee appointed by an assembly of citizens in Malta. In forwarding the draft scheme, the Governor desired to inform the Secretary of State of the spirit of moderation which had been exhibited by the gentleman who had had a conference with him, and the spirit so evinced enabled the Governor to believe that a scheme for the government of the island might be satisfactory to the inhabitants. In reply to this despatch, the Secretary of State informed the Governor that he approved his action, in the matter, and was gratified by the conciliatory tone in which the communications between himself and the Committee had been conducted. The Secretary of State added that he desired to arrive at a conclusion to meet the wishes of the people of Malta, and that the present proposals would have his most careful consideration.

(i) Describe Malta's constitutional situation up to 1887.	(5)
(ii) What were the main political demands of the Maltese?	(5)
(iii) Describe the new features of the constitution of 1887.	(5)
(iv) How did Maltese politicians organise themselves in this period?	(5)
(v) To what extent did the constitution of 1887 achieve its objectives?	(5)

(Total: 25 marks)

# [Or] (b) Sir Penrose Julyan, Report on the Civil Establishments of Malta, 1880

I express not only my own opinion but also that of intelligent representatives of nearly every section of the community with whom I have discussed the subject, in saying that a great error was committed by the late Sir George Cornewall Lewis and Mr John Austin, the special commissioners who visited this island in 1837, and did so much to improve its institutions, when they recommended that preference should be given to Italian over English... on the plea that 'from its use as the language of trade throughout the Mediterranean and from the near neighbourhood of Malta to Italy and Sicily, the Italian language is far more useful to a Maltese than any other language, excepting his native tongue'. Experience has not justified that assumption. The trade of Malta with the Italian kingdom amounted in 1877 to less than 2 per cent of its trade with all the rest of the world, while its commercial relations with Egypt were of more than thrice the value, and those with Turkey nearly eleven times as great.

(i)	Describe the context to Julyan's report.	(5)
(ii)	Explain Julyan's reference to the commissioners of 1837.	(5)
(iii)	Explain Julyan's proposal in this passage.	(5)
(iv)	Who were the main figures involved in the Language Question in late nineteenth	century
	Malta?	(5)
(v)	How far did later developments prove Julyan right?	(5)

(Total: 25 marks)

# Question 4 Answer EITHER part (a), or part (b).

**[Either]** (a) Count Cavour on the meeting held with the French Emperor, 21 July 1858.

The Emperor asked me what France would get in return for her military backing, and whether Your Majesty would hand over Savoy and Nice to France. I replied that Your Majesty supported the principle of nationalism, which included recognition that Savoy, by virtue of being French-speaking, should be united with France ... even though it would cause your majesty untold unhappiness to renounce a territory that was the cradle of his own family. Regarding Nice, the situation was different, since the inhabitants of Nice had far more in common with the Piedmontese than with the French, and their incorporation into France would accordingly be entirely contrary to those very principles of nationalism underpinning the military triumph anticipated against Austria. Napoleon now stroked his moustache and indicated that these nationality issues were perhaps not quite such a priority for now. The political future of Nice could be settled on another occasion. He moved on to how the alliances might line up in a future war. British neutrality could be secured with the help of Piedmontese diplomacy, Prussia would abstain despite an adversarial perspective in respect to Austria, and Russia would abstain albeit from a pro-Austrian position.

- (i) Describe the background to French interest in Italian affairs. (5)
- (ii) Explain the significance of this meeting described by Count Cavour. (5)
- (iii) Explain the reference to: 'contrary to those very principles of nationalism underpinning the military triumph anticipated against Austria'. (5)
- (iv) Describe the consequences of this meeting in the months that followed it. (5)
- (v) To what extent was Count Cavour the mastermind of Italian unification? Answer with reference to events up to the Declaration of the Kingdom of Italy. (5)

(Total: 25 marks)

## [Or] (b) Leo Tolstoy to the Tsar, 1902

A third of the whole of Russia lives under emergency legislation, and that means without any lawful guarantees. The armies of the regular police and of the secret police are continuously growing in numbers. The prisons and the penal colonies are overcrowded with thousands of convicts and political criminals, among whom the industrial workers are now included. The censorship issues the most meaningless restrictions ... In all cities and industrial centres soldiers are employed and equipped with live ammunition to be sent against the people. In many places fratricidal blood has already been shed. Yet the strenuous and terrible activity of the government results only in the growing impoverishment of the rural population, of those 100 million souls on whom the power of Russia is founded, and who, in spite of the ever-increasing budgets, or perhaps on account of these increases, are faced with famine which has become a normal condition.

- (i) Comment on Tolstoy's description of the condition of Russia in this letter. (5)
- (ii) Why did the Tsarist government feel the need to control the population? (5)
- (iii) Explain the significance of the reference to 'the growing impoverishment of the rural population' (5)
- (iv) How was popular dissatisfaction demonstrated in later years? (5)
- (v) Why did the ruling class fail to understand the problems of the people and carry out some necessary reforms? (5)

(Total: 25 marks)