

MATRICULATION AND SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS BOARD

UNIVERSITY OF MALTA, MSIDA

MATRICULATION EXAMINATION  
INTERMEDIATE LEVEL  
MAY 2014

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**SUBJECT:** CLASSICAL STUDIES  
**DATE:** 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2014  
**TIME:** 9.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon

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**Answer ALL questions from Section A and Section B**  
**Answer ONE question from Section C**

**Section A - 30 marks**

1. Translate the following sentences into Latin (15 marks):

- They led large forces of cavalry against the enemy.
- A few towns will be laid waste by the soldiers.
- The land was ruled by the Romans.
- Huge forces of barbarians attacked the line of the Romans.
- He had easily avoided the greatest dangers.

2. Translate the following sentences into Greek (15 marks):

- You have struck the young man, general.
- He will train the clever young man in war.
- The citizens are in the house of the young man.
- Slaves are not useful in war.
- The guards pursued the slave.

**Section B - 30 marks**

3. Read the following passage and answer all the questions:

Δῆμος ἐστὶ Μαραθῶν ἴσον τῆς πόλεως τῶν Ἀθηναίων ἀπέχων καὶ Καρύστου τῆς ἐν Εὐβοίᾳ ταύτῃ τῆς Ἀττικῆς ἔσχον οἱ βάρβαροι καὶ μάχη τε ἐκρατήθησαν καὶ τινες ὡς ἀνήγοντο ἀπώλεσαν τῶν νεῶν. τάφος δὲ ἐν τῷ πεδίῳ Ἀθηναίων ἐστίν, ἐπὶ δὲ αὐτῷ στήλαι τὰ ὀνόματα τῶν ἀποθανόντων κατὰ φυλὰς ἐκάστων ἔχουσαι, καὶ ἕτερος Πλαταιεῦσι Βοιωτῶν καὶ δούλοις ἔμαχέσαντο γὰρ καὶ δοῦλοι τότε πρῶτον.

- What is the name of the work from which this extract is taken, and who wrote it? (2 marks)
- What is the name of the genre in which it was written? (2 marks)
- Where was Marathon? (2 marks)
- Write a short paragraph on the battle of Marathon. (6 marks)
- Translate the extract accurately into English. (18 marks)

**Section C - 40 marks**

**Answer Question 4 OR Question 5.**

**4. Write an essay of not less than 600 words on ONE of the following topics:**

- a) Give an account of the tales surrounding Crete and Athens in Greek mythology, making mention of King Minos' labyrinth, and the ensuing events in connection with Theseus' slaying of the Minotaur.
- b) Narrate the events surrounding the Trojan War and its great heroes. What has given these myths their great significance and immortal fame?
- c) What led to the crisis and eventual decline of the Roman Republic? Is there any relevance in this to contemporary politics?
- d) Who were the leading figures in 5<sup>th</sup>-century Athens in terms of their contribution to philosophy and/or drama? Comment on them.
- e) Why has Homer been called the father of Western Civilization? What is so unique and significant about the Homeric epics?
- f) What has made history look upon Scipio Africanus Maior as the greatest general of the classical world? Discuss.

**5. Write an essay of not less than 300 words on TWO of the following topics:**

- a) Language shapes one's thoughts. Discuss this statement in the light of your study and experience of the two classical languages.
- b) How does the study of mythology enrich the experience of every modern reader and writer?
- c) How would you describe the debt of Western Civilization to the Classical World?