

MATRICULATION AND SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS BOARD

UNIVERSITY OF MALTA, MSIDA

MATRICULATION EXAMINATION
INTERMEDIATE LEVEL
SEPTEMBER 2014

SUBJECT: CLASSICAL STUDIES
DATE: 5th September 2014
TIME: 4.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.

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):

- The general heard the loud cries of the enemy.
- The horses had been wounded with arrows.
- We shall be led into many cities.
- Roman soldiers will not be hindered by barbarians.
- The Gauls had larger weapons than our men.

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

- The soldiers are in the camp.
- The good judges prevented the war by their words.
- The general is often useful to the citizens.
- We shall be the slaves of the young man.
- The herald fared badly in the battle.

Section B - 30 marks

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

Eius adventu ex *colore vestitus* cognito, quo insigni in proeliis uti consuerat, turmisque equitum et cohortibus visis quas se sequi iusserat, ut de locis superioribus haec declivia et devexa cernebantur, hostes proelium committunt. Utrisque clamore sublato excipit rursus ex vallo atque omnibus munitionibus clamor. Nostri omissis pilis gladiis rem gerunt. Repente post tergum equitatus cernitur; cohortes aliae appropinquant. Hostes terga vertunt; fugientibus equites occurrunt. Fit magna caedes.

- 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)
- What military rank did the colour of the cloak (*colore vestitus*) signify? (2 marks)
- Write a short paragraph on the campaign this work relates to. (6 marks)
- Translate the extract accurately into English. (18 marks)

Please turn the page for Section C

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) How did the modern system of democracy find its beginnings in ancient Athens?
- b) Greek myth may be understood and analyzed on many different levels. Give some examples as to the truth of this statement.
- c) Why is knowledge of the Classics an essential part of every man's education?
- d) What is the great contribution of Homeric epic to Western civilization?
- e) Why has Scipio Africanus Maior been held to be the greatest general of the classical world?
- f) What can modern politics learn from the crisis that led to the collapse of the Roman Republic?

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

- a) J.K. Rowling's works are peppered with Latin phrases and mythological borrowings. Has this contributed to her success? Discuss.
- b) How does the experience of coming in touch with a Classical language change one's perspective on the world?
- c) What are the enduring elements of mythology that have been able to enthrall young and old audiences of every age?