

MATRICULATION AND SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS BOARD

UNIVERSITY OF MALTA, MSIDA

MATRICULATION EXAMINATION
INTERMEDIATE LEVEL
SEPTEMBER 2015

SUBJECT: CLASSICAL STUDIES
DATE: 5th September 2015
TIME: 9.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon

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 Belgians are fortifying their towns.
- The camp is being attacked by the Belgians.
- Roman soldiers are being led against their country.
- Great men are not frightened by small things.
- The shields of the enemy were very small.

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

- We were in the country of the Muse.
- The wise general freed the citizens.
- The judges train the citizens in the law.
- We shall pursue the young man out of the land.
- The goddess was stopping 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. Utrimque 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)
- Give the principal parts of the two underlined verbs. (2 marks)
- Write a short paragraph on the campaign this work relates to. (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 myth surrounding Heracles, describing some of his twelve labours.
- b) Discuss any Greek myth connected with Crete or with Athens, and explain its importance.
- c) The crisis of the Roman Republic contains important lessons for contemporary politics. Comment.
- d) Why is Athens in the period after the Persian Wars considered as having gone through a Golden Age, with lasting influence on the West? Discuss.
- e) What has made Julius Caesar a household name, and what inspiration can one draw from his life and politics?
- f) What are the key ideas connected with the figure of Socrates, which are inseparable from the development of civilization in the West?

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

- a) J.K. Rowling's books clearly make use of her knowledge of classical languages and classical myth. What are your comments on this successful writer?
- b) The study of Classics sheds light on the heritage of the West in language, art, architecture, drama, literature and politics. What have you discovered about this?
- c) Why is the study of mythology so enriching, and what in practice are the benefits of having even a general knowledge of Greek myth?