

MATRICULATION AND SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS BOARD  
UNIVERSITY OF MALTA, MSIDA

MATRICULATION EXAMINATION  
ADVANCED LEVEL  
SEPTEMBER 2013

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**SUBJECT:** RUSSIAN  
**PAPER NUMBER:** II – Oral Part  
**DATE:** 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2013

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**Examiner's Paper**

**1. PICTURE INTERPRETATION**

**(15 marks)**

The Candidate is to look at the pictures, talk about them and answer some questions put to him/her by the Examiner in Russian.



**2. ROLE PLAY**

**(10 marks)**

*The Candidate is to complete his/her part of the conversation in Russian:*

**Candidate:** - Excuse me, what is the number of this seat?

**Examiner:** - .

**Candidate:** – I'm sorry but this is my seat. I think you are sitting in the wrong seat...

**Examiner :** - , , ... .. , , , ...

**Candidate:** - Never mind, it doesn't matter.

**Examiner :** - ! .

**Candidate:** - Don't worry; now it's okay.

**Examiner:** - .

**Candidate:** - Do you know who is playing the role of Masha tonight? I didn't manage to buy a programme.

**Examiner :** - , ... ..

**Candidate :** - Thank you, you are very kind.

**Examiner :** - .

**Candidate :** - This is wonderful! Antonova is taking part!

**Examiner :** - ? ...

**Candidate :** - She is a very talented actress! She played the role of Olga in the film "Summer morning". You have probably watched this movie.

**Examiner :** - , .

**Candidate:** - Why? Don't you like to watch films?

**Examiner :** - , ... .

**Candidate:** - You are missing out on a lot. If you like, during the interval, I will explain to you, which films are worth watching.

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SUBJECT: RUSSIAN  
PAPER NUMBER: I  
DATE: 3rd September 2013  
TIME: 9.00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

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(a) Essay (40 marks)

Choose ONE topic from the following list and write an essay of approximately 300 words in Russian.

1. .
2. ?
3. .
4. ? ?

(b) Translation (10 marks)

Translate this passage into English or Maltese.

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**Answer the following questions in Russian:**

1. - ? (3 marks)
2. ? (2 marks)
3. ? (1 mark)
4. ? (1 mark)
5. ? (2 marks)
6. ? (5 marks)
7. ? (3 marks)
8. ? (4 marks)
9. ? (4 marks)
10. , ? (5 marks)

**(b) Reading Comprehension**

Read the text and answer the questions that follow in English.

**(20 marks)**

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**Answer the following questions in English:**

1. Who was Griboedov? (1 mark)
2. What is the title of the famous novel written by him? (1 mark)
3. What can you say about prince Chavchavadze? (2 marks)
4. When was Griboedov introduced to the family Chavchavadze? (1 mark)
5. Who was Nina? (1 mark)
6. How old was she when she first met Griboedov? (1 mark)
7. Why did Chavchavadze ask Griboedov to give music lessons to Nina? (2 marks)
8. What was Griboedov's impression of Nina when he saw her after a few years? (1 mark)
9. What did Nina think of her music teacher? (2 marks)
10. When did their marriage take place? (1 mark)
11. What was Griboedov's occupation in Persia? (1 mark)
12. What happened to Griboedov in Teheran? (1 mark)
13. Why did Nina's relatives and friends not want to inform her of her husband's death? (2 marks)
14. How old was Nina when she lost her husband? (1 mark)
15. How did she spend the rest of her life? (1 mark)
16. Where are Griboedov and Nina buried? (1 mark)

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<b>SUBJECT:</b>	RUSSIAN
<b>PAPER NUMBER:</b>	III
<b>DATE:</b>	5th September 2013
<b>TIME:</b>	9.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon

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**Prescribed Texts**

Choose any three texts and answer one question on each text. You may answer the questions in Russian if you wish, but you will not earn extra credit for doing so. Organise the time allocated to this paper as effectively as possible by spending equal time on each question: two very full answers cannot compensate for marks lost on a sketchy, incomplete third answer.

**Text 1**  
**“The Snowstorm” (Metel)**  
**(A. S. Pushkin)**

Answer one question:

**Either:**

1. “...Pushkin brings his tale, which contains an ironic paradox, to a happy resolution...” Discuss.

**Or:**

2. Although the setting of Pushkin’s *The Snowstorm* renders it clearly Russian, it shares many similarities with more popular stories of complicated young love like *Rome and Juliet*. Discuss.

**Or:**

3. Pushkin uses the original image of the snowstorm to create a variation on the theme of frustrated love, and in the process, offers a valuable lesson to the reader. Discuss.

**(25 marks)**

**Text 2**  
**“The Loner” (Biryuk)**  
**(I. Turgenev)**

Answer one question:

**Either:**

4. Although the two main characters – a forester and a captured man – have an equal social status and lifestyle, they perceive life differently. Discuss.

**Or:**

5. Demonstrate how the choice of words that describe the rapid onset of bad weather reflect the peasants’ dramatic situation.

**Or:**

6. Show how the characteristics and speech of the characters portray the beggarly existence of serfs dependant on their masters.

**(25 marks)**

**Text 3**  
**“Shadowed Paths” (Tyomnye Alleyi)**  
**(I. Bunin)**

Answer one question:

**Either:**

7. Love is a glowing feeling but, unfortunately, a difference in social status often brings suffering. Discuss.

**Or:**

8. Demonstrate how love lighted up the characters’ lives with particular episodes, including the best moments, living on in their memories.

**Or:**

9. Bunin demonstrates a deep understanding of the human soul; he subtly conveys the inner experiences of the characters. Discuss.

**(25 marks)**

**Text 4**  
**“The Darling” (Dushechka)**  
**(A. Chekhov)**

Answer one question:

**Either:**

10. Chekhov portrays a woman whose heart and soul belong to other people. Discuss.

**Or:**

11. Explain why the main character of the story is known as “Dushechka” by everyone.

**Or:**

12. Demonstrate how "The Darling" is a story about a person who is capable of loving to oblivion.

**(25 marks)**

**END OF THE EXAM PAPER**