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

MATRICULATION CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION
INTERMEDIATE LEVEL
SEPTEMBER 2012

SUBJECT:	HISTORY
DATE:	7th September 2012
TIME:	4.00 p.m. to 7.00 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) ‘Maltese political demands from 1800 to 1921 periodically led the British to improve Malta’s constitutional status.’ Discuss.
- [*Or*] (b) ‘In times of war, Malta’s strategic value was underlined. The islands also reaped considerable economic benefits.’ Discuss with reference to the period 1800 to 1914.
- [*Or*] (c) What was the Maltese ‘Language Question’, and why did it take so long to resolve?

Question 2

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

- [*Either*] (a) Why did revolution break out in France in 1789?
- [*Or*] (b) ‘The unification of Germany and Italy could not take place without the defeat of important international adversaries’. Discuss.
- [*Or*] (c) ‘The Russian revolutions of 1905 and 1917 were the product of political discontent, but also of social and economic changes’. Discuss.

SECTION B

Question 3

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

[*Either*] (a) House of Commons debate, 29 April 1870

Mr Kinnaird said, he wished to ask the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, Whether it is the intention of the Government to sanction the admission of "ecclesiastics" into the Council of Government at Malta; and, if so, whether he has any objection to lay upon the Table of the House a Copy of the Correspondence with reference thereto, and also a Return of the number of voters in the several districts of the island who voted for the re-admission of ecclesiastics; also of the number who abstained from voting altogether?

Mr Monsell replied, that the Council of the Government of Malta was constituted in 1849, and until 1857 ecclesiastics were not excluded from it. The whole of the elected Members of the Council had demanded that the old system should be reverted to, and that there should be no exclusion of ecclesiastics. On their application the question was submitted to the electors, and the demand was confirmed by 1,499 votes, against 58 negative votes. It was not the intention of the Government to refuse its sanction to that arrangement, and he should be ready to lay Copies of extracts from the Correspondence on the Table of the House.

- (i) Describe briefly the constitutional development of Malta up to 1870. (5 marks)
- (ii) How was the *Council of Government of Malta* composed, and what were its duties? (5 marks)
- (iii) The second paragraph refers to a question *submitted to the electors*. What was the subject of this referendum, and why was it considered important to consult the electorate about it? (5 marks)
- (iv) By 1870 the British had introduced a principle to guide the work of the Maltese Council of Government. What was this principle, and how was it applied? (5 marks)
- (v) What were the shortcomings of the 1849 constitution, and how were they eventually addressed? (5 marks)

[*Or*] (b) House of Lords debate, 21 July 1859

Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, considering the importance and position of Malta, was glad to hear that this subject had been under the attention of the Government; but he would have been better pleased to hear that they had come to some decision regarding it. When they considered the present state of the world, and the importance of Malta, especially in connection with the East, the defences of that place must necessarily be a matter of the deepest interest.

IM17.12s

They were not to view this question as one merely affecting the accommodation of the trade of Malta and the navy, but as one connected with the question of our defences. He hoped, therefore, the subject would receive the most earnest attention of the Government,

The Duke of Newcastle said, that the matter alluded to necessarily occupied more than one Department of the Government; it occupied the attention of the Colonial, the War, and the Admiralty Departments. He begged to assure his noble Friend that in neither of those Departments had the subject been neglected. On the contrary it occupied the most serious and anxious attention of one and all. It was viewed, primarily, as regarded the defences; and, secondly, as regarded the convenience of all branches of the service—the navy on the one hand and the mercantile marine on the other.

- (i) The document mentions ‘*the importance and position of Malta*’. What was Malta’s strategic value in this period? (5 marks)
- (ii) Describe briefly the role which was played by Malta in a major war involving Britain and other allies, which took place a few years before the date of this document. (5 marks)
- (iii) Explain the reference to ‘*the present state of the world*’; and ‘*the accommodation of the trade of Malta and the navy*’. (5 marks)
- (iv) The *defences of Malta* were being discussed. What steps were taken by the British to improve these defences in the second half of the nineteenth century? (5 marks)
- (v) The *Admiralty Department* is one of the departments referred to in the debate. Describe briefly the importance of the British Admiralty and its naval establishment in nineteenth century Malta. (5 marks)

Question 4

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

[Either] (a) Manifesto of Louis Napoleon Bonaparte, November 1848

Louis Napoleon to his fellow-citizens:

In order to recall me from exile, you have elected me a representative of the people; on the eve of choosing a chief magistrate for the republic my name presents itself to you as a symbol of order and security.

Those proofs of so honorable a confidence are, I am well aware, addressed to my name rather than to myself, who, as yet, have done nothing for my country; but the more the memory of the Emperor protects me and inspires your suffrages, the more I feel compelled to acquaint you with my sentiments and principles. There must be no equivocation between us.

I am moved by no ambition which dreams one day of empire and war, the next of the application of subversive theories. Brought up in free countries, disciplined in the school of misfortune, I shall ever remain faithful to the duties which your suffrages and the will of the Assembly impose upon me.

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If elected president, I shall shrink from no danger, from no sacrifice, in the defense of society, which has been so outrageously assailed. I shall devote myself wholly and without reservation to the consolidation of the republic, so that it may be wise in its laws, honest in its aims, great and strong in its deeds. My greatest honor would be to hand on to my successor, after four years of office, the public power consolidated, its liberties intact, and a genuine progress assured. . .

LOUIS NAPOLEON BONAPARTE.

- (i) Describe briefly the revolutionary events of 1848 in France. (5 marks)
- (ii) Louis Napoleon Bonaparte refers to the '*consolidation of the republic*'. Comment briefly on the republican experience of France from 1789 to 1848. (5 marks)
- (iii) Explain: '*the memory of the Emperor*'; '*your suffrages and the will of the Assembly*'. (5 marks)
- (iv) What was Louis Napoleon Bonaparte promising the people in this manifesto, and why did he make such promises? (5 marks)
- (v) Which later developments contradicted Louis Napoleon Bonaparte? (5 marks)

[Or] (b) Otto von Bismarck, *Memoirs*, 1890

We had to avoid wounding Austria too severely; we had to avoid leaving behind in her any unnecessary bitterness of feeling or desire for revenge; we ought rather to reserve the possibility of becoming friends again with our adversary of the moment, and in any case to regard the Austrian state as a piece on the European chessboard and the renewal of friendly relations as a move open to us. If Austria were severely injured, she would become the ally of France and of every other opponent of ours; she would even sacrifice her anti-Russian interests for the sake of revenge on Prussia.

On the other hand, I could not see any guarantee for us in the future of the countries constituting the Austrian monarchy, in case the latter were split up by risings of the Hungarians and Slavs or made permanently dependent on those peoples. What would be substituted for that portion of Europe which the Austrian state had hitherto occupied from Tyrol to Bukowina? Fresh formations on this surface could only be of a permanently revolutionary nature. German Austria we could neither wholly nor partly make use of. The acquisition of provinces like Austrian Silesia and portions of Bohemia could not strengthen the Prussian state; it would not lead to an amalgamation of German Austria with Prussia, and Vienna could not be governed from Berlin as a mere dependency.

- (i) Who was Otto von Bismarck, and what were his main achievements? (5 marks)
- (ii) Why does Bismarck state that '*We had to avoid wounding Austria too severely*'? (5 marks)
- (iii) Explain: '*the Austrian state as a piece on the European chessboard*'; '*the future of the countries constituting the Austrian monarchy*'. (5 marks)
- (iv) Bismarck refers to the danger of Austria becoming '*an ally of France and of every other opponent of ours*'. Who were Germany's principal opponents, and why? (5 marks)
- (v) Which later events tested Bismarck's system of alliances in a major way? (5 marks)