

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

MATRICULATION EXAMINATION
INTERMEDIATE LEVEL
SEPTEMBER 2016

SUBJECT:	HISTORY
DATE:	31st August 2016
TIME:	4:00 p.m. to 7:05 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) What were the main political demands of the Maltese in the nineteenth century, and why were the British so reluctant to satisfy them?
- [Or]** (b) How and why did nineteenth-century Malta benefit from periods of crisis in the Mediterranean?
- [Or]** (c) Why was the ‘Language Question’ an important part of Maltese political life in the period from 1880 to 1921, and how did it affect the field of education?

Question 2

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

- [Either]** (a) What were the principal achievements of the French Revolution of 1789?
- [Or]** (b) What was the ‘Concert of Europe’, and what were the factors which undermined it?
- [Or]** (c) Was Germany principally responsible for World War I, and why?

SECTION B

Question 3

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

[*Either*] (a) Governor Richard More O’Ferrall to Earl Grey, 10 July 1848.

The events in neighbouring Countries necessarily produce daily more effect on opinion at Malta, and have rendered it more difficult to recommend a course of proceeding likely to meet your Lordship’s approbation and satisfy the desires of that portion of the Maltese who have long claimed an alteration in the Council of Government. So far as I have been able to observe, there is a great difference of opinion among the enlightened classes as to the extent of the alteration that would be desirable, but there is a general unanimity that some change is required. On the subject of municipal institutions there is also a great difference of opinion. Those, who desire an elective legislative Council, regard municipal institutions with indifference, some with hostility as purporting to be a substitute for an elective Assembly which they claim as a right.

- (i) Explain the reference to ‘*the events in neighbouring Countries*’ made by More O’Ferrall. (5 marks)
- (ii) Why were the Maltese requesting ‘*an alteration in the Council of Government*’? (5 marks)
- (iii) Comment on More O’Ferrall’s reference to ‘*the subject of municipal institutions*’. (5 marks)
- (iv) The author mentions Maltese *opinion* three times in this passage. How was Maltese public opinion shaped in this period? (5 marks)
- (v) How did the British address the political issue raised by More O’Ferrall? (5 marks)

[*Or*] (b) Extract from a debate in the House of Commons, 1899.

MR BUCHANAN (East Aberdeenshire) ... It is said, for instance, that Malta and Hong Kong are secondary naval bases; but there are other places on which a very much smaller expenditure of money has been made which also rank as secondary naval bases. ...If he does intend to embark on this expenditure in that sense, then I say this is the beginning of expenditure, not of thousands of pounds but of millions of money, and it is only right and proper that the House should take cognizance of the beginning of such expenditure.

[...]

SIR E.ASHMEAD-BARTLETT. The honourable Member for East Aberdeenshire makes statements as incorrect as his arguments were illogical. He talks about Malta being a secondary naval base. Why, Malta is a great naval arsenal, and one of the most important ports of defence in the line of our communications with India, and China, and Australia—a base possessing three dockyards, a place which is strongly fortified, and the centre of our great naval and military forces in the Mediterranean. To talk of Malta as a secondary naval base, therefore, is most incorrect. Gibraltar is also a position of great importance, and gaining in importance every day.

- (i) The second speaker stated that ‘*Malta is a great naval arsenal*’ of the British Empire. Which principal events in the nineteenth century had proved this, in your view? (5 marks)
- (ii) Comment on the description of Malta in the passage as ‘*one of the most important ports of defence in the line of our communications with India, and China, and Australia*’. (5 marks)
- (iii) Describe the role of the ‘*dockyards*’ in the Maltese economy. (5 marks)
- (iv) Why did Britain keep ‘*great naval and military forces in the Mediterranean*’ in this period? (5 marks)
- (v) Describe briefly how the British had contributed in making Malta ‘*strongly fortified*’. (5 marks)

Question 4

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

[*Either*] (a) Address to the Czar, composed by Father Gapon and signed by 135,000 persons, Sunday, 22 January 1905

Sire – We, working men and inhabitants of St Petersburg, our wives and our children and our helpless old parents, come to You, Sire, to seek for truth, justice and protection. We have been made beggars; we are oppressed; we are near to death.... The moment has come when death would be better than the prolongation of our intolerable sufferings. We have stopped work and have told our masters that we shall not work again until they comply with our demands. We ask but little; to reduce the working day to eight hours, to provide a minimum wage of a rouble a day, and to abolish overtime. Officials have brought the country to complete ruin and involved it in a shameful war. We working men have no voice in the way the enormous amounts raised from us in taxes are spent ... These things, Sire, have brought us to the walls of Your palace. We are seeking here our last salvation. Do not refuse to help Your people. Destroy the wall between Yourself and Your people. Give orders that elections to a Constituent Assembly be carried out under conditions of universal, equal and secret suffrage. If You will not give these orders and will not answer our prayers, we shall die here on this Square before Your Palace....

- (i) Write briefly the background to this ‘Address to the Czar’ in 1905. (5 marks)
- (ii) Comment on the principal demands being made by ‘*the working men and inhabitants of St Petersburg*’. (5 marks)
- (iii) Explain the statement: ‘*Destroy the wall between Yourself and Your people*’. (5 marks)
- (iv) Comment on the demand for ‘*universal, equal and secret suffrage*.’ (5 marks)
- (v) What were the principal consequences of this event? (5 marks)

Please turn the page.

[Or] (b) Bismarck on the victory of Prussia against Austria.

It was my object, in view of our subsequent relations with Austria, as far as possible to avoid cause for mortifying reminiscences, if it could be managed without prejudice to our German policy. A triumphant entry of the Prussian army into the hostile capital would naturally have been a gratifying recollection for our soldiers, but it was not necessary to our policy. It would have left behind it, as also any surrender of ancient possessions to us must have done, a wound to the pride of Austria, which, without being a pressing necessity for us, would have unnecessarily increased the difficulty of our future mutual relations. It was already quite clear to me that we should have to defend the conquests of the campaign in further wars, just as Frederick the Great had to defend the results of his two first Silesian wars in the fiercer fire of the Seven Years' war. That a war with France would succeed that with Austria lay in the logic of history, even had we been able to allow the Emperor Napoleon the petty expenses which he looked for from us as a reward for his neutrality. As regards Russia, too, it is doubtful what would happen if it were then made clear to her what accession of strength the national development of Germany would bring to us. ... Moved by this consideration, I had a political motive for avoiding, rather than bringing about, a triumphal entry into Vienna in the Napoleonic style.

- (i) Describe briefly the events leading to the war between Prussia and Austria. (5 marks)
- (ii) Why did Bismarck want to avoid 'a triumphant entry of the Prussian army into the hostile capital'? (5 marks)
- (iii) Explain Bismarck's statement: 'That a war with France would succeed that with Austria lay in the logic of history'. (5 marks)
- (iv) Comment on Bismarck's reference to 'the national development of Germany'. (5 marks)
- (v) How far did Bismarck's strategy with Austria prove successful in the long run? (5 marks)