

MATRICULATION AND SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS BOARD
UNIVERSITY OF MALTA, MSIDA
MATRICULATION EXAMINATION
INTERMEDIATE LEVEL
SEPTEMBER 2017

SUBJECT:	HISTORY
DATE:	1st September 2017
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) ‘Before the introduction of Self-Government, Maltese politicians had very limited say in local affairs.’ To what extent is this true, and why?

[*Or*] (b) Why were Maltese politicians divided on the ‘Language Question’, and what were the main issues involved?

[*Or*] (c) To what extent did nineteenth century Malta benefit economically in times of war, and why? Give examples.

Question 2

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

[*Either*] (a) Why did the French Revolution of 1789 turn against the monarchy, and what were the consequences?

[*Or*] (b) How did Prussia achieve German unification, and how was the problem of Austria solved?

[*Or*] (c) Was nationalism the main cause of World War I, and why?

Please turn the page.

SECTION B

Question 3

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

[*Either*] (a) Debate in the House of Lords, 1838.

The Duke of Wellington - Now, in regard to this matter of a free press in Malta, I crave your Lordships' attention to the facts of the case for a moment, and I beg the House to bear them in mind. What is Malta? It is a fortress and a seaport—it is a great naval and military arsenal for our shipping and forces in the Mediterranean. We hold it by conquest, and by treaty after conquest. We hold it as an important post, as a great military and naval arsenal, and as nothing more. My Lords, if these are the facts, we might as well think of planting a free press on the fore deck of the admiral's flag ship in the Mediterranean, or in the casernes of the batteries of Gibraltar, or in the camp of Sir John Colborne in Canada, as of establishing it in Malta. A free press in Malta in the Italian language is an absurdity. Of the hundred thousand individuals who compose the population of Malta, three-fourths at least speak nothing but the Maltese dialect, and do not understand the Italian language. Of the one hundred thousand inhabitants of the island, at least three-fourths can neither read nor write. What advantages, then, can accrue to the people of Malta from the establishment of a free press? We do not want to teach our English sailors and soldiers to understand Italian. A free press will find no readers among them either. Who, then, is it for? ... My Lords, I cannot help thinking that it is wholly unnecessary and greatly unbecoming of the Government to form such an establishment, of such a description, in such a place as Malta; and the more particularly, as the object for which it is made, must be both of a dangerous tendency to this country, and fraught with evil to others. The free press which they propose is to be conducted, not by foreign Italians, but by Maltese, subjects of her Majesty, enjoying the same privileges as we do. Now, what does this mean? It means that the licence to do wrong is unlimited. If it were conducted by foreign Italians you could have a check upon them if they acted in such a manner as would tend to compromise us with our neighbours—you could send them out of the island—you could prevent their doing injury in that manner by various ways. But here you have no such check—you have no check at all—your free press, in that respect, is uncontrollable. If the free press chooses to preach up insurrection in Italy from its den in Malta you have no power of preventing it.

- (i) Who demanded the introduction of press freedom in Malta, and who opposed it? (5)
- (ii) What were the Duke of Wellington's concerns, expressed in this speech, and how far did they represent general British concerns about the introduction of constitutional freedoms in Malta? (5)
- (iii) Comment on the Duke of Wellington's reference to the Italian and Maltese languages. What measures had recently been proposed with regard to education in Malta? (5)
- (iv) In what way, and why, is the speaker's description of Malta a good example of the British colonial attitude towards the island? (5)
- (v) To what extent did the introduction of press freedom assist the Maltese in their constitutional demands? (5)

(Total: 25 marks)

[Or] (b) Debate in the House of Commons, 1882.

Mr Anderson - The Maltese had hoped great things from a Liberal Government; they thought that a Tory Government would only give them reforms grudgingly, while a Liberal Government would do it cordially; but, in place of reform, they found the new Government was rather reactionary in its character. A Petition had come from Malta in 1879, signed by 9,000 people; but, finding nothing was being done, a second Petition and an Address were sent in 1880, but the reply sent by Lord Kimberley in August, 1880, created a most painful impression among the friends of England; it was most discouraging, telling the Maltese in plain words they were nobody and nothing, that the fortress was everything, and the welfare of the people was of little consequence indeed. That was the spirit, not, of course, the words, in which the despatch was written, and that spirit had continued until quite recently, and the discontent continued. The right hon. Baronet the Member for East Gloucestershire when in Office was so satisfied that reforms were needed that he sent out Mr. Rowsell, Sir Penrose Julyan, and Mr. Keenan as successive Commissioners, all three reporting in favour of very great reforms in the administration; but those reforms, so far, had never been carried out. The Maltese, however, believed that if the late Government had remained in power they would have been carried out. Consequently, they were disappointed with the present Government for not carrying them out. The only reform given of any importance was in 1881, when Her Majesty's Government appointed an Executive Council to assist the Government; but in place of being a reform it made matters worse, because the wrong men were appointed... They knew they were not friendly to reforms, therefore the reforms never would and never could be properly carried out. It was the business of the Government either to put better men in their places, or to strengthen the Executive Council by appointing men who were known to be imbued with a reforming spirit. At present, all those in the Island, known to be in favour of reform were looked upon with an unfriendly eye; and, as proof of that, he might remind the House that at the time Mr. Rowsell reported in favour of the abolition of the Bread Tax the better classes got up riots against him; and the instigator of the riots, a man of the name of Gatt, had been made the chief of the Government printing office, so that he had been rewarded in place of having been punished. That office, he might also say, was a great abuse, and was one of the things the Commissioners recommended the abolition of. Under these circumstances, discontent was growing, and everyone of position and independence of character shunned the Legislative Council, six of the Members the other day having threatened to send in their resignations in consequence of the desires of the Maltese people being entirely neglected. In fact, matters had gone so far that the Maltese the other day elected a man known to be utterly unfit for the post, simply as a snub to Sir Victor Houlton, because Sir Victor Houlton had set up one of his own nominees.

- (i) Name briefly the 'very great reforms in the administration' proposed by the Commissioners Rowsell, Julyan and Keenan. (5)
- (ii) Comment on the significance of the proposed 'abolition of the Bread Tax'. (5)
- (iii) Why did the 'better classes' lead the resistance against the removal of the Bread Tax? (5)
- (iv) Which were the main political groups active in Malta at this time, and what did they stand for? (5)
- (v) The passage implies that the political stalemate blocked necessary reforms. But were reforms achieved once the constitutional situation of Malta was improved? Elaborate. (5)

(Total: 25 marks)

Question 4

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

[Either] (a) Abbé Sieyès, *What is the Third Estate?* 1789.

What is a nation? A body of associates, living under a common law, and represented by the same legislature, etc.

Is it not evident that the noble order has privileges and expenditures which it dares to call its rights, but which are apart from the rights of the great body of citizens? It departs there from the common law. So its civil rights make of it an isolated people in the midst of the great nation. This is truly imperium in imperia.

In regard to its political rights, these also it exercises apart. It has its special representatives, which are not charged with securing the interests of the people. The body of its deputies sit apart; and when it is assembled in the same hall with the deputies of simple citizens, it is none the less true that its representation is essentially distinct and separate: it is a stranger to the nation, in the first place, by its origin, since its commission is not derived from the people; then by its object, which consists of defending not the general, but the particular interest.

The Third Estate embraces then all that which belongs to the nation; and all that which is not the Third Estate, cannot be regarded as being of the nation.

What is the Third Estate?

It is the whole.

- (i) Which circumstances led the Abbé Sieyès to write this pamphlet in January 1789? (5)
- (ii) To what extent did the French Revolution give the word 'nation' a new significance? (5)
- (iii) Comment on the description of 'the noble order' in this text. (5)
- (iv) To what extent, and in what way, did the French Revolution realize the expectations of the 'Third Estate' as defined here? (5)
- (v) Drawing on your knowledge of later revolutions in France, was the same appeal of Abbé Sieyès found relevant in the nineteenth century? Give examples. (5)

(Total: 25 marks)

[Or] (b) The Russian Czar's proclamation to the Bulgarians, 1877.

Inhabitants of Bulgaria! The aim of Russia is to build up, not to destroy. She is called by the decrees of Providence to pacify and conciliate all races and all denominations in the Bulgarian territory, which is inhabited by people of various origin and belief. Henceforward the arms of Russia will protect all Christians against violence of all kind; no attack will be made by any one with impunity upon either their persons or their property; every crime will be followed by punishment; the life, liberty, honour, and property of every Christian will be equally guaranteed, to whatever sect he may belong. Vengeance will not guide our actions; a sentiment of strict equity will alone preside over them, as well as the firm intention of developing order and law in regions where disorder and despotism are now rampant.

And to you, Muslims of Bulgaria, I address a salutary warning. It is painful for me to evoke the memory of the crimes and violence of which many of you have been guilty toward defenseless Christians. These horrors cannot be forgotten, but the Russian authorities do not wish to hold all responsible for the crimes of a few. A regular and impartial administration of justice will overtake only the criminals who have remained unpunished, although their names were perfectly well known to our government. Recognize to-day that it is the justice of God which overtakes you; bend before his will; submit yourselves to the lawful demands of the authorities who will be appointed whenever my troops appear; become peaceful citizens of a society which is ready to accord to you the benefits of a regular organization. Your religion will remain to you intact; your existence, your property, the life and property of your families, will be held sacred by us.

Christians of Bulgaria! You are passing through a memorable period. The hour of deliverance from Muslim despotism has at length struck. Give the world an illustration of Christian love; forget former internal dissensions, and respect scrupulously the legitimate rights of each nationality; unite yourselves, as brothers in religion, in a sentiment of concord and brotherly love, which alone offers foundations, for a solid and lasting edifice; gather closely under the shadow of the Russian flag, whose victories have so often resounded upon the Danube and among the Balkans. As the Russian troops advance into the interior of the country, the Turkish rule will be replaced by a regular organization, the native inhabitants will be at once summoned to take an active part therein under the supreme direction of special and newly appointed authorities. Obey the Russian authorities. Follow their directions faithfully. Therein lies your strength and your safety.

- (i) Why did Russia intervene in the Balkans in these years? (5)
- (ii) The proclamation accuses the Ottoman authorities of 'crimes and violence' against Christians. Comment on Russia's role as 'Protector' of Christians in the Balkans. (5)
- (iii) Russia soon realized the 'deliverance' of Bulgarian Christians 'from Muslim despotism', together with other Balkan nations. Describe the terms of the preliminary treaty concluded at the end of the Russian-Ottoman war. (5)
- (iv) Describe the international reaction to the Russian intervention in the Balkans, and the subsequent revision of terms. (5)
- (v) Comment on the view among historians that these events in the Balkans sowed the seeds of the conflicts which led to World War I. (5)

(Total: 25 marks)