

# MATRICULATION AND SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS BOARD

#### INTERMEDIATE MATRICULATION LEVEL 2021 SECOND SESSION

SUBJECT: **History** 

DATE: 9<sup>th</sup> October 2021 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), OR part (d).

- **[Either]** (a) 'Press freedom was granted in 1839, and by 1880 party politics were born. Yet the British resisted Maltese political demands throughout the period from 1800 to 1887.' Discuss this statement.
- **[Or]** (b) Why was the 'Language Question' mainly about Italian and English, and not principally about the Maltese language?
- **[Or]** (c) Why was nineteenth century Malta considered a strategic island colony of the British empire?
- **[Or]** (d) What were the main recommendations made by the Royal Commissioners of the late 1870s for Malta?

# Question 2

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

- [Either] (a) Discuss the reasons and causes leading to Napoleon Bonaparte's rise to power.
- **[Or]** (b) What was the Paris Commune, and why is it significant in European history?
- **[Or]** (c) How and why did Giuseppe Garibaldi play such a significant role in the unification of Italy?
- [Or] (d) What was the Eastern Crisis of the 1870s, and how was it resolved?

Please turn the page.

#### **SECTION B**

#### **Question 3**

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

[Either] (a) Publication of the Letters Patent, the Palace, Valletta, 23 June 1849.

Victoria by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland Queen, Defender of the Faith. To all to whom these Presents shall come, Greeting.

Whereas it is expedient with a view to the better government of Our Island of Malta and its Dependencies that there should be constituted therein a Body Politic to be called the Council of Government of Malta, and that the said Council of Government should enjoy and exercise such powers and franchises as are hereinafter mentioned. Now Know Ye that of Our special grace certain knowledge and mere motion We have granted and ordained and do hereby grant and ordain, that there shall be within Our said Island of Malta and its Dependencies a Body Politic to be called and known by the name of The Council of Government of Malta. And We do hereby grant and ordain that the said Council of Government shall consist and be composed of Eighteen persons all such persons being Our natural born or naturalized Subjects, and each of them being of the age of Twenty one years or upwards. And We do hereby grant and ordain that the Governor of Malta for the time being shall at all times be one of the Members of the said Council of Government, and that nine other Members of the said Council shall always be persons to be nominated or designated by Us, and that the remaining eight Members of the said Council shall always be persons holding their places therein in virtue of Elections to be for that purpose made by the Inhabitants of Malta and its Dependencies, all which nominations, designations and elections of Members of the said Council shall be made in pursuance of and according to the provisions hereinafter contained and not otherwise.

- (i) Briefly describe the constitutional situation of Malta between 1800 and 1849. (5)
- (ii) What led to the publication of this Letters Patent in 1849? (5)
- (iii) Which important change was introduced by this Letters Patent? (5)
- (iv) Outline key facts about the Governor of Malta in the period mentioned in the text. (5)
- (v) To what extent did the new Council of Government satisfy Maltese demands? (5)

(Total: 25 marks)

## [Or] (b) A letter by an American in Malta, 12 November 1870.

The geographical position of the island gives it a commercial importance altogether peculiar. It is the most convenient port for coals and provisions for all steamships between the east and ports west of the Mediterranean ports of France (viz, Nice, Toulon, and Marseilles), which, of course, includes nearly the whole intercourse of England with Eastern Asia by the Mediterranean. New routes have been established ... which have withdrawn trade from Malta, but the general increase of commerce has been great enough to compensate, partially at least, for all such losses. So far, the opening of the Suez Canal has benefited Malta [as shown by] the number and aggregate tonnage of steamers bound both ways which have touched here each month since the canal was opened, ... Malta has become a depot for storage and transshipment of a larger portion of the commerce of all countries bordering the Mediterranean and Black Sea.

(i) Which events showed Malta's 'commercial importance' up to 1870?	(5)
(ii) Why does the author describe Malta as 'the most convenient port'?	(5)
(iii) Explain the reference to 'the opening of the Suez Canal'.	(5)
(iv) How did Malta benefit as 'a depot for storage and transshipment'?	(5)
(v) Which later events confirmed Malta's commerical and strategic value?	(5)

(Total: 25 marks)

# Question 4 Answer EITHER part (a), or part (b).

**[Either]** (a) Etienne Dumont's Account of the Renunciation of Privileges, French National Assembly, 4 August 1789.

But if the Assembly lost a lot of time in discussing the rights of man, it certainly made up for it during the night session of 4 August. Never was so much business accomplished in so short a time. What needed a year's care and attention was proposed, discussed, voted and decided by general acclamation. I do not know how many laws were decreed: the abolition of feudal dues, the abolition of the tithe, the abolition of provincial privileges, three matters which by themselves alone embraced a whole system of jurisprudence and policy, were decided, along with ten or twelve others, in less time than it takes in the English Parliament for the first reading of a bill of any importance. You could compare the Assembly to a dying man who makes his will in haste, or to put it better, each liberally gave away that which did not belong to him, and took pride in being generous at the expense of others.

- (i) Describe the events that happened in France in 1789 leading to the renunciation of privileges described in the source.
  (5)
  (ii) Explain the significance of the 'French National Assembly'.
  (5)
  (iii) Explain the reference to 'the abolition of feudal dues'.
- (iv) Comment on the reference to the Assembly's discussion of 'the rights of man'. (5)
- (v) Was the author's description of the Assembly as 'being generous at the expense of others' reasonable? (5)

(Total: 25 marks)

Please turn the page.

# **[Or]** (b) Proclamation by the King of Prussia, 18 January 1871.

We, William, by God's grace King of Prussia, hereby announce that the German princes and free towns have addressed to us a unanimous call to renew and undertake, with the reestablishment of the German empire, the dignity of Emperor, which now for 60 years has been in abeyance; and the requisite provisions having been inserted in the constitution of the German Confederation, we regard it as a duty we owe to the entire Fatherland to comply with this call of the united German princes and free towns, and to accept the dignity of Emperor. Accordingly, we and our successors to the crown of Prussia henceforth shall use the imperial title in all our relations and the affairs of the German empire; and we hope to God that it may be vouchsafed to the German nation to lead the Fatherland on to a blessed future under the auspices of its ancient splendour.

We undertake the imperial dignity conscious of the duty to protect with German loyalty the rights of the empire and its members, to preserve peace, to maintain the independence of Germany, and to strengthen the power of the people. We accept it in the hope that it will be granted to the German people to enjoy, in lasting peace, the rewards of its arduous and heroic struggle, within boundaries which will give to the Fatherland that security against renewed French attacks which it has lacked for centuries.

May God grant to us and our successors to the imperial crown that we may be the defenders of the German empire at all times, not in martial conquests, but in works of peace, in the sphere of national prosperity, freedom, and civilisation.

(i) Describe briefly the historical context of this declaration.
(ii) Explain the reference to 'the German Confederation'.
(iii) What enabled the King of Prussia to declare the German empire?
(iv) Comment on the reference to 'the German nation' and 'the Fatherland'.
(v) How could Germany ensure her 'security against renewed French attacks'?
(5)

(Total: 25 marks)