

MATRICULATION AND SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS BOARD
UNIVERSITY OF MALTA, MSIDA
MATRICULATION EXAMINATION
INTERMEDIATE LEVEL
SEPTEMBER 2013

SUBJECT:	CLASSICAL STUDIES
DATE:	6th September 2013
TIME:	4.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.

Answer ALL questions from Section A and Section B
Answer ONE question from Section C

Section A - 30 marks

1. Translate the following sentences into Latin (15 marks):

- a) I lead.
- b) Labienus has warned barbarians.
- c) The Roman soldiers heard the great cries of the enemy.
- d) The Romans will be attacked with arrows.
- e) I have been loved by (my) sons.

2. Translate the following sentences into Greek (15 marks):

- a) The country of the goddess.
- b) The men will chase the Muses into the land.
- c) The large horse is in the beautiful river.
- d) The leader of the city-state persuades the general to save the town.
- e) The young men wrote letters to the beautiful women.

Section B - 30 marks

3. Read the following passage and answer all the questions:

Nubes - incertum procul intuentibus ex quo monte; *Vesuvium* fuisse postea cognitum est - oriebatur, cuius similitudinem et formam non alia magis arbor quam pinus expresserit. Nam longissimo velut trunco elata in altum quibusdam ramis diffundebatur, credo quia recenti spiritu evecta, dein senescente eo destituta aut etiam pondere suo victa in latitudinem vanescebat, candida interdum, interdum sordida et maculosa prout terram cineremve sustulerat.

- a) What is the name of the work from which this extract is taken, and who wrote it? (2 marks)
- b) What is the name of the genre in which it was written? (2 marks)
- c) Where was *Vesuvius*? (2 marks)
- d) Give the case, gender, number, tense, voice and mood of *senescente*. (6 marks)
- e) Translate the extract accurately into English. (18 marks)

Section C - 40 marks

Answer Question 4 OR Question 5.

4. Write an essay of not less than 600 words on ONE of the following topics:

- a) Give an account of the development of Latin lyric and elegiac poetry.
- b) What do you know about the system of democracy as practised in ancient Athens?
- c) Narrate one Greek tragedy and describe your reactions on hearing it.
- d) What were Julius Caesar's most significant contributions to Western Civilization?
- e) Describe the nature of the crisis that led to the fall of the Roman Republic.
- f) Does Homer deserve the title of 'Father of Western Civilization'? Discuss.

5. Write an essay of not less than 300 words on TWO of the following topics:

- a) "Studying the Romans and writing about them and trying to convey that excitement to a general readership has been perhaps the happiest experience of my professional life" (Robert Harris, historical novelist, 2008). Discuss.
- b) How can knowledge of the Classics benefit a businessman?
- c) Do you think of a figure like Socrates as a modern kind of hero about whom it would be possible to create a commercially successful film? Discuss.