

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

SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE LEVEL

MAY 2012 SESSION

SUBJECT:	Classical Culture and Civilisation
PAPER NUMBER:	I
DATE:	30 th May 2012
TIME:	9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Answer TWO questions from each section. (Each question carries 25 marks.)

SECTION A: HISTORY OF GREECE

1. “When Sparta emerges into the full light of history, we find her under an iron discipline which invades every part of a man’s life and controls all his actions from his cradle to his deathbed.” Comment on this statement in the light of what you know about the Spartan constitution.
2. How was the dismantling of the Council of the Areopagus a first step towards the democratic reforms which were to characterise the political system of fifth-century Athens under the leadership of Pericles?
3. J.B. Bury has written that the death of Alexander the Great was a natural consequence of his character and his deeds, having compressed the energies of many lifetimes into thirteen years. Comment on this statement, quoting episodes from Alexander’s life and his military exploits.
4. To what extent was the Peloponnesian War a struggle between a power which was mainly continental and a power which was mainly maritime?

SECTION B: HISTORY OF ROME

1. Describe the main elements which defined the first Roman Republican Constitution, following the end of Etruscan monarchy in Rome.
2. How did the weaknesses of the early Republican Constitution give rise to the conflict of the Orders?
3. Why were the four emperors following the death of Augustus termed the "Julio-Claudian Emperors"? Write briefly about the reign of two of these rulers.
4. Describe in brief the claim to fame of two of the following rulers in the context of Roman history: Augustus, Marcus Aurelius, Trajan, Hadrian.

SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE LEVEL

MAY 2012 SESSION

SUBJECT:	Classical Culture and Civilisation
PAPER NUMBER:	IIA
DATE:	30 th May 2012
TIME:	4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Answer TWO questions from Section A and any TWO questions from the other two Sections. (Each question carries 25 marks.)

SECTION A : GREEK AND ROMAN LITERATURE

1. What is the theme of Homer's *Odyssey*, and what are the distinguishing features of the Homeric world portrayed here, and in the *Iliad*?
2. What are the characteristic elements of Homeric epic, and why has all subsequent Greek and Western literature been so strongly influenced by Homer?
3. Discuss briefly the works of two Greek authors of Tragedy writing in fifth-century Athens.
4. How was Vergil's epic work a national patriotic epic for the Romans of his day?
5. Would you agree with the statement that Livy in his work on the history of Rome has interpreted history in terms of individuals and their characters or personalities? Discuss.

SECTION B : DAILY LIFE IN ANCIENT ROME

1. Would it be correct to speak of religion for the Romans as a series of relationships between men and the forces which were believed to control people's existence and well-being?
2. What was the position of women in Roman society, and did marriage play an important function in their lives?
3. Discuss either (a) trades and occupations engaged in by Romans of various classes or (b) shows and spectacles provided for the entertainment of urban Romans.

SECTION C : GREEK MYTHOLOGY

1. How was the pantheon of Greek gods organised around its chief lord in the shape of Zeus?
2. Discuss the nature and powers attributed to two of the following Greek deities:
(i) Hera (ii) Artemis (iii) Hephaestus (iv) Aphrodite.
3. Narrate the events surrounding the tale of:
(i) Zeus and Europa OR (ii) Ares and Aphrodite OR (iii) the birth of Athena.
What symbolic significance do you think these myths have?