

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

SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE LEVEL

MAY 2015 SESSION

SUBJECT:	Classical Culture and Civilisation
PAPER NUMBER:	I
DATE:	21 st May 2015
TIME:	4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

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

SECTION A: HISTORY OF GREECE

1. What was the response of the Spartans in the Greek defence against the Persians?
2. What place do the following persons have in Classical Greek history: Cleisthenes, Peisistratus, Dionysius?
3. Discuss the importance Athens gave to ship building and financing.
4. Which aspects of the character of Alexander the Great helped in uniting the Greeks?

SECTION B: HISTORY OF ROME

1. Discuss the Sabine component in the development of the Roman people.
2. What can you say on the following provinces in the Roman world: Cisalpine Gaul, Latium, Samnium?
3. What threat did Antiochus the Great present to Rome?
4. "The comparatively unstable character of the earlier régime was partly due to the haphazard method of selecting emperors". Discuss.

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SUBJECT:	Classical Culture and Civilisation
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DATE:	22 nd May 2015
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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. Homer's *Iliad* is based on saga while the *Odyssey* is a folk-tale or a legend about a hero's return after the war of Troy. Do you agree with this? Discuss.
2. With reference to one or more Greek tragedies by Sophocles or Euripedes, highlight the elements which made Athenian fifth-century drama of such timeless importance and relevance.
3. Why does Herodotus' account of the Persian Wars and the events connected with the Persian Wars make such fascinating reading, and what was actually the scope of the writer?
4. "The story of the *Aeneid* is a deliberate continuation of Homer's *Iliad* to stress the connection between Rome and the heroes of Troy, with strong echoes of the wanderings of Odysseus ...". Is this a fair assessment of Vergil's purpose in the *Aeneid*?
5. What may be said in appraisal of: either (a) Cicero's works or (b) Caesar's narratives?

SECTION B: DAILY LIFE IN ANCIENT ROME

1. How was Roman society organised in terms of social classes, and what part did education play in this arrangement?
2. Comment on the importance of holidays and public entertainments in the Roman calendar.
3. "Our ancestors, in their wisdom, considered that all women, because of their innate weakness, should be under the control of guardians" (Cicero). In reality, did women have any influence in Roman society? Discuss.

SECTION C: GREEK MYTHOLOGY

1. Who was Athene in Greek mythology, and why did the father play a more important part than the mother at her birth?
2. What do you know about Hephaestus, and what was his parentage?
3. Discuss the attributes and personality of Zeus in Greek mythology.