

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

**SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE LEVEL**

**MAY 2017 SESSION**

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SUBJECT:	<b>Classical Culture and Civilisation</b>
PAPER NUMBER:	I
DATE:	11 <sup>th</sup> May 2017
TIME:	9:00 a.m. to 11:05 a.m.

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Answer **TWO** questions from **EACH** section. Each question carries 25 marks.

**SECTION A: HISTORY OF GREECE**

1. Provide a brief account of Greek colonization and emigration in Ancient times. Give examples of Greek expansion beyond Greece of today.
2. Write an essay which includes information on the following: Solon, Peisistratus, Themistocles.
3. In what ways can Sparta be said to have been better than Athens? Discuss.
4. Was Thucydides a better historian than Herodotus? Discuss.

**SECTION B: HISTORY OF ROME**

1. What were the predominant qualities of the Roman Republic? Elaborate.
2. Write an essay which includes information on the following: Romulus, Tiberius Gracchus, Octavian.
3. What threat did Pyrrhus present to Rome? Discuss.
4. Why was Rome beset by so many civil wars? Discuss.

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**MAY 2017 SESSION**

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SUBJECT:	<b>Classical Culture and Civilisation</b>
PAPER NUMBER:	IIA
DATE:	18 <sup>th</sup> May 2017
TIME:	9:00 a.m. to 11:05 a.m.

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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. The dramatic theme of the *Iliad* is ‘the Anger of Achilles’, but this is just an excuse for Homer to tell us the extraordinary story of the Trojan War. Discuss this epic work in terms of the importance and dignity of human life.
2. Discuss, referring to at least **ONE** of their works, the quality of tragedy which Aeschylus and Sophocles wrote in fifth-century Athens.
3. A careful look at the *Histories* clearly shows us what a great teacher Herodotus was, and that he was not just recording the facts of the Persian wars, but also dealing with many other matters. Discuss how Herodotus handles his subject and why his work is so curious and fascinating.
4. The *Aeneid* may be described as a tale about the wanderings of Aeneas after the fall of Troy, and his fight to establish a city in Italy which would foreshadow the founding of Rome. Discuss the way Vergil deals with these **TWO** themes.
5. Livy’s history of Rome was very concerned with offering moral lessons from the past and with much geographical and military detail. Discuss his contention that history, by offering precedents, can help you to change your character.

*Please turn the page.*

## **SECTION B: DAILY LIFE IN ANCIENT ROME**

1. Discuss the emphasis of the Romans on the rights of the *paterfamilias* in the context of their class system.
2. Why were games and spectacles such an intrinsic part of Roman life? Give examples to substantiate your answer.
3. Comment on the institution of marriage in the Roman world.

## **SECTION C: GREEK MYTHOLOGY**

1. Discuss the importance of Greek mythology to the contemporary world, and give some examples of its use and presence in popular culture.
2. Describe briefly the nature and qualities of the following: Athena, Aphrodite, Apollo, Dionysus.
3. How did Greek mythology represent the beginning of creation and the dawn of the gods?

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SUBJECT:	<b>Classical Culture and Civilisation</b>
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DATE:	18 <sup>th</sup> May 2017
TIME:	9:00 a.m. to 11:05 a.m.

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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. Do you agree that the *Iliad* is Homer's way of giving us a picture of the importance and dignity of human life? Discuss.
2. Discuss in a general way any work of Greek tragedy that you have read.
3. Would you say that Herodotus, in the way he handles his subject, was a great teacher? Discuss.
4. How does the *Aeneid* deal with the journey of Aeneas and the story of the founding of Rome? Discuss.
5. How does Livy present his account of the history of Rome? Discuss.

**SECTION B: DAILY LIFE IN ANCIENT ROME**

1. What did the position of the *paterfamilias* mean in the Roman family? Discuss.
2. Comment on the importance of games and spectacles in Roman society.
3. What is meant by marriage in the Roman world?

**SECTION C: GREEK MYTHOLOGY**

1. How is Greek mythology present in today's popular culture? Discuss.
2. Describe what the following gods/goddesses stood for: Athena, Aphrodite, Hades.
3. How did the Olympian gods and the creation come into being, according to Greek mythology?