

MATRICULATION AND SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS BOARD

SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE LEVEL 2021 MAIN SESSION

SUBJECT: Classical Culture and Civilisation

PAPER NUMBER:

16th June 2021

DATE:

TIME:

9:00 a.m. to 11:05 a.m.

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

SECTION A: HISTORY OF GREECE

1. Explain why the Greeks were involved in the Persian War.

2. Write on the following: Cimon, Pericles, Nicias.

3. What type of historian was Thucydides?

4. Explain why Alexander of Macedon was called "Great".

SECTION B: HISTORY OF ROME

- 1. Discuss the origins of the Roman Republic.
- 2. Write an essay on the following: Sulla, Pompey, Tiberius.
- 3. What threat did Hannibal pose to Rome? Discuss.
- 4. Why was Rome frequently fighting outside of Italy?



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SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE LEVEL 2021 MAIN SESSION

SUBJECT: Classical Culture and Civilisation

PAPER NUMBER: IIA

DATE: 17th June 2021

TIME: 4:00 p.m. to 6:05 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. Achilles in Book 1 of the *Iliad* refuses to take further part in the war against the Trojans. Later in Book 16 his stubborness indirectly brings about the death of his friend Patroclus, he accepts to go back to battle. By the end of the story, his mercy has become more prominent than his anger. Discuss how Homer has turned this saga into a great and brilliant epic for all time.
- 2. Why is it said that with Sophocles Greek Tragedy reached its culmination? Discuss.
- 3. What outlook on life is described in Hesiod's poem Work and Days?
- 4. The *Aeneid* is a deliberate continuation of Homer's *Iliad* and *Odyssey*, emphasising the connection between Rome and the heroes of Troy on the one side, with strong echoes of the wanderings of Odysseus on the other. Elaborate.
- 5. Livy was a popular historian in that he concentrated on narrative and character and paid particular attention to the composition of the speeches. Elaborate, by giving examples from the *Histories*.

SECTION B: DAILY LIFE IN ANCIENT ROME

- "There was hardly any aspect of daily life, or of work or the leisure industry, in which slaves were not involved, and their treatment varied according to their skills." (A. Kamm, The Romans) Discuss.
- 2. Comment on the importance of shows and spectacles in Roman life. What function were they supposed to serve?
- 3. "Our ancestors, in their wisdom, considered that all women, because of their innate weakness, should be under the control of guardians." (Cicero, *Pro Murena*) Discuss.

SECTION C: GREEK MYTHOLOGY

- 1. What makes Classical Mythology such a powerful influence in the contemporary world, particularly to writers, readers and artists?
- 2. Discuss in brief the nature and qualities of: Hermes, Apollo, Aphrodite, Athena.
- 3. Discuss the many faces of Zeus in Greek mythology and his counterpart in the underworld, the god Hades.



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SUBJECT: Classical Culture and Civilisation

PAPER NUMBER: IIB

DATE: 17th June 2021

TIME: 4:00 p.m. to 6:05 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. Relate in detail the central story of the *Odyssey* in which Homer recounts the tale of the return of Odysseus from Troy and his wanderings and hardship before he finally regains his island home of Ithaca into a masterpiece of world literature.
- 2. Discuss any of the Greek tragedies that you have read, showing why these works have achieved such greatness.
- 3. Does Hesiod's poem Works and Days contain any practical advice about life? Discuss.
- 4. What is Vergil's epic, the *Aeneid*, all about? How would you assess its hero, Aeneas in terms of his qualities and character?
- 5. Livy's *Histories* were written as he says himself "to record the achievement of the Roman people from the founding of the city." Discuss.

SECTION B: DAILY LIFE IN ANCIENT ROME

- 1. What types of occupations were carried out by Romans during a normal working day in the cities and towns, and what was the day's routine?
- 2. Describe the different kinds of games which the Romans introduced to celebrate important events, making reference to theatrical events and events in the amphitheatre.
- 3. What can you say about the attitude of the Romans toward religion, prayer and sacrifice? Make reference to some of their many gods and goddesses.

SECTION C: GREEK MYTHOLOGY

- 1. Discuss **THREE** reasons for the importance of becoming acquainted with the chief gods and goddesses of Greek Mythology and their qualities.
- 2. Discuss in brief the nature and qualities of: Zeus, Aphrodite, Hades.
- 3. What were the circumstances of Athena's birth and what were her qualities?