LEAVING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION, 2024

HISTORY – ORDINARY LEVEL

FIELD OF STUDY: LATER MODERN, 1815-1993

Written examination: 400 marks
Pre-submitted Research Study Report: 100 marks

WEDNESDAY, 12 JUNE – AFTERNOON, 2.00-4.50

Use ONE of the following sets of instructions:

1. Usual instructions:

   Answer Sections 1, 2 and 3 inside.
   - **Section 1 (100 marks)**
     Documents-based question (Europe and the wider world: Topic 3)
     Answer all parts of this section.
   - **Section 2 (200 marks)**
     Ireland: Topics 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6. Answer on each of two topics from this section.
   - **Section 3 (100 marks)**
     Europe and the wider world: Topics 1, 2, 4, 5, 6.
     Answer on one topic from this section.

2. Alternative instructions for 2024 only:

   - **Section 1 (100 marks)**
     Documents-based question (Europe and the wider world: Topic 3)
     Answer all parts of this section.
   - **Sections 2 & 3 (300 marks)**
     Ireland: Topics 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and Europe and the wider world: Topics 1, 2, 4, 5, 6.
     - Answer parts A, B, and C from two topics in Sections 2 and 3.
     - Answer an extra part B and an extra part C from one of your two chosen topics.
     - Answer the part A questions on page 15.

Do not hand up this question paper.
It will not be returned to the State Examinations Commission.
SECTION 1: DOCUMENTS-BASED QUESTION

Europe and the wider world: Topic 3
Dictatorship and democracy in Europe, 1920-1945

Case study to which the documents relate:
Stalin’s show trials

Study the documents opposite and answer the questions below.

1. (a) According to document A, where in Moscow did the 1938 show trial take place?
   (b) According to document A, what was the main charge made against the defendants?
   (c) According to document A, what had the defendants attempted several times?
   (d) According to document B, how long did it take the judge to return to the court with the verdict?
   (e) According to document B, what verdict was reached?

2. (a) What was the role of Andrei Vsyshinsky according to the documents?
      Refer to both documents in your answer.
   (b) Which document, A or B, gives more information on the crimes alleged to have been committed by the prisoners?
      Refer to both documents in your answer.

3. (a) Is document A a primary source or a secondary source?
      Give a reason for your answer.
   (b) In document B, what evidence shows that Ambassador Davies believed the defendants were guilty?
      Refer to the document in your answer.

4. In what ways did the show trials affect Stalin’s Russia?
– Document A –

This is an edited extract from a memoir by the Russian scientist, Ilya Zbarsky, who attended the 1938 show trial in Moscow.

In March 1938 I was given a pass to a show trial which took place in the House of Trade, Moscow. At the end of a long room the prosecutor, Andrei Vyshinsky, made a long and bitter attack on the prisoners.

The main charge was that the defendants, made up of party leaders and doctors, had attempted to overthrow the Soviet government. Naturally, they were spies in the pay of foreign powers. Naturally, too, they had tried several times to assassinate Stalin.

The list of charges read out against them lasted a good two hours. Every accusation appeared to be so strongly backed by evidence that it seemed to me that it must be true. I became convinced that the accused men were guilty.


– Document B –

This is an edited extract from a historian’s recent book on Stalin.

Between 2-13 March 1938 there took place, in Moscow, the Trial of the Twenty-One. Asked by the prosecutor, Vyshinsky, if he was guilty of spying, the most prominent of the prisoners, Nicholai Bukharin, answered: ‘I am not.’

The judge left the courtroom at 9.25 p.m. on 12 March and returned with a verdict eighteen hours and thirty-five minutes later. All were found guilty and all except three were sentenced to be shot.

Joseph E. Davies, the American Ambassador to Moscow, believed the evidence. It is recorded that he said ‘they’re guilty’ in a private conversation. And, in a letter to President Roosevelt, he claimed that the trial had shown ‘a definite political conspiracy to overthrow the Soviet government.’

SECTION 2: IRELAND

Ireland: Topic 1

Ireland and the Union, 1815-1870

A (30 marks)
Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

This is an edited extract from a letter written by Archbishop Paul Cullen. Read it and answer the questions which follow.

Since my arrival in Ireland, from Rome, I have been ill because of extreme cold. I have, however, made a tour of my diocese of Armagh.

The poverty of Catholics is very great. Their number is reduced by a third of what it was six years ago. Famine, disease and emigration have produced this reduction.

My tour took me to Armagh, to take possession of the cathedral. It is little more than a hovel, hardly twenty feet high. I may be without a cathedral, a home or an income, but I look forward to the synod which will take place in Thurles.


1. Why had the writer become ill?
2. Why had the Catholic population fallen?
3. Why was the writer disappointed with the cathedral?
4. Apart from a cathedral, what was the writer without?
5. What was one decision reached at the Synod of Thurles, 1850?

B (30 marks)
Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

Write a short paragraph on one of the following:

1. The Tithe War.
2. William Dargan.
3. Mother Mary Aikenhead.
4. Industrial development in Belfast.

C (40 marks)
Recommended maximum time: 15 minutes

Answer one of the following:

1. How did Daniel O’Connell campaign for Catholic Emancipation in 1829?
2. In what ways did CharlesTrevelyan and/or Asenath Nicholson respond to the Famine?
3. How did the writings of William Carleton contribute to our understanding of Irish life?
4. From your studies, what did you learn about James Stephens and Fenianism?
Ireland: Topic 2
Movements for political and social reform, 1870-1914

A (30 marks)
Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

In this edited extract the journalist and politician, Justin McCarthy, notes the introduction of the First Home Rule Bill (1886). Read it and answer the questions which follow.

Mr. Gladstone brought in his first Home Rule measure. It proposed to leave to Irishmen the management of their own affairs, in a Dublin parliament, and to have no Irish representation at Westminster.

The Irish Parliamentary Party [Parnell’s Party] was, for the most part, willing to accept this proposal. However, it was opposed by Irishmen living in England.

They argued that, if there were to be no Irish members in the London Parliament, there would be nobody there to look after the interests of the two or three million Irishmen living in Great Britain.


1. What measure had Gladstone introduced?
2. How did Parnell’s party react to the measure?
3. Who opposed it?
4. Why did they oppose it?
5. What was the outcome of the vote on the First Home Rule Bill?

B (30 marks)
Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

Write a short paragraph on one of the following:

1. The Home Rule movement under Isaac Butt.
2. Educational reforms: schools and universities.

C (40 marks)
Recommended maximum time: 15 minutes

Answer one of the following:

1. How did Charles Stewart Parnell and/or Michael Davitt contribute to the movement for land reform?
2. What developments took place within the GAA between 1884 and 1891?
3. What events took place in Dublin during the 1913 strike and lockout?
4. In what ways did Douglas Hyde and/or W.B. Yeats contribute to cultural revival in Ireland?
Ireland: Topic 3
The pursuit of sovereignty and the impact of partition, 1912-1949

A (30 marks)
Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

This edited extract refers to the execution of one of the leaders of the 1916 Rising. Read it and answer the questions which follow.

Because of the serious injuries he suffered in the GPO during Easter Week, James Connolly was imprisoned in a small ward in the hospital wing of Dublin Castle. It was there that he was court-marshalled and condemned to death on 9 May. Later that day he was visited by his wife, Lillie, and his daughter, Nora. They were hopeful that, because of his injuries, he might not be executed.

However, on the following day Connolly was informed that he would be executed at dawn on 11 May. ‘Execution suspended by Prime Minister’s order’ is written on Connolly’s file. This order was ignored by General Sir John Maxwell. At dawn on 11 May Connolly was brought by ambulance to Kilmainham Gaol. Because he was unable to stand, he was strapped in a chair and executed by firing squad.


1. In what building was Connolly located during Easter Week?
2. What happened to Connolly on 9 May?
3. Why were Connolly’s wife and daughter hopeful he would not be executed?
4. What order was given by the Prime Minister?
5. What group, founded by Connolly in 1913, took part in the 1916 Rising?

B (30 marks)
Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

Write a short paragraph on one of the following:

1. The impact of World War I on Ireland.
2. Countess Markievicz.

C (40 marks)
Recommended maximum time: 15 minutes

Answer one of the following:

1. How important was the role of Michael Collins in Irish affairs?
2. What preparations were made by Church and by State to ensure the success of the Eucharistic Congress, 1932?
3. How successfully did Éamon de Valera manage Irish affairs between 1932 and 1939?
4. What did the people of Belfast experience during World War II?
Ireland: Topic 4
The Irish diaspora, 1840-1966

A (30 marks)
Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

In this extract historian Oliver MacDonagh writes of Grosse Isle, Canada, 1847. Read it and answer the questions which follow.

By the end of May 1847, more than 12,000 Irish emigrants were living in Grosse Isle – and they kept coming.

Some were already infected with typhus. The reluctance of healthy members of a family to desert the others spread disease still further.

At least 20,000 immigrants (about 30%) had died by the close of 1847.

Another 30,000 had crossed to the United States, despite barriers which the Americans had raised against them.


1. How many Irish were on Grosse Isle at the end of May 1847?
2. How many had died by the end of 1847?
3. What disease is mentioned?
4. Did the Americans welcome Irish emigrants? Give a reason for your answer.
5. What was assisted emigration?

B (30 marks)
Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

Write a short paragraph on one of the following:

1. John Devoy.
2. The Molly Maguires.
3. The Orange Order in Canada and Australia.

C (40 marks)
Recommended maximum time: 15 minutes

Answer one of the following:

1. How successful was Éamon de Valera’s mission to America, June 1919 – December 1920?
2. What were the achievements of Archbishop Daniel Mannix and/or Mother Mary Martin?
3. What was the experience of Domhnall Mac Amhlaigh as an Irish immigrant in Britain?
4. In what ways did Maureen O’Hara and/or Paul O’Dwyer illustrate the Irish-American experience?
In this edited extract an *Irish Times* journalist paints a gloomy picture of Derry (19 February 1965). Read it and answer the questions which follow.

*Nowhere does one feel decay like in Derry where 25% of the male population is unemployed. Fine houses are run down. Streets where businesses have collapsed show former shop fronts curtained over.*

*It is hard to avoid the conclusion that the refusal to give it a university is because the authorities feel that Derry cannot be saved.*


1. According to the writer, what does one feel in Derry?
2. What percentage of the male population is unemployed?
3. Why are shop fronts curtained over?
4. What attitude of the authorities to Derry is suggested?
5. What was one argument made in favour of building a new university in Coleraine?

B (30 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

Write a short paragraph on one of the following:

1. Bernadette Devlin.
2. James Molyneaux.
3. Cultural response to the “Troubles”.

C (40 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 15 minutes

Answer one of the following:

1. What reforms were introduced in health and housing, 1949-1969?
2. What did the Apprentice Boys of Derry celebrate and why did their celebrations cause controversy?
3. What was the Sunningdale Agreement, 1973, and was it successful?
4. How did one of the following influence events in Northern Ireland: John Hume; Gerry Adams; Ian Paisley?
Ireland: Topic 6
Government, economy and society in the Republic of Ireland, 1949-1989

A (30 marks)
Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

This is an edited extract from a note, dated 29 April 1967, from T.K. Whitaker, Secretary, Department of Finance, to Taoiseach Jack Lynch who was about to visit British Prime Minister, Harold Wilson. Read it and answer the questions which follow.

It would be important to make it clear to Mr. Wilson that our support for British entry to the EEC is based on the understanding that both our countries become members.

A very difficult situation would arise if they entered, and we did not. We are quite exceptional in having the great bulk of our trade with Britain.

Appalling economic disruption would follow if we found ourselves adrift without either our trading connection with Britain or EEC membership.


1. What position was held by T.K. Whitaker?
2. Who was to meet Harold Wilson?
3. On what condition would the Irish support British entry to the EEC?
4. According to Whitaker, what would cause appalling economic disruption?
5. What was one important achievement of T.K. Whitaker?

B (30 marks)
Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

Write a short paragraph on one of the following:
2. Irish involvement in the UN.
3. Charles Haughey.
4. Breandán Ó hEithir.

C (40 marks)
Recommended maximum time: 15 minutes

Answer one of the following:
1. What was the impact of RTÉ on Irish life, 1962-1972?
2. Did membership of the EEC help or hinder the development of Irish fisheries? Argue your case.
3. From your studies, how significant was the contribution of Sylvia Meehan and/or Mary Robinson to Irish life?
4. What did Garrett FitzGerald achieve during his two terms in office as Taoiseach?
SECTION 3: EUROPE AND THE WIDER WORLD

*Europe and the wider world: Topic 1*

Nationalism and state formation in Europe, 1815-1871

A (30 marks)

*Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes*

This edited extract refers to police reform introduced by Sir Robert Peel. Read it and answer the questions which follow.

_Sir Robert Peel, as Home Secretary, decided that the time had come to replace the parish watchmen with a properly organised police force. The Metropolitan Police Act, 1829, set up a single police force over most of the area within a 20km radius from Charing Cross, London._

_Peel copied parts of the old watch system: there was a patrol area for watchmen and a central headquarters [police station]._

_A decade later the new London police force took over the River Police, Horse Police and detective service. Peel believed that the best way to deal with crime was to present it with such a tight network of patrols that criminals could not operate._


1. What did Sir Robert Peel believe was needed?
2. What was one part of the older system kept by Peel?
3. What was one extra duty taken over by the Metropolitan Police a decade after its formation?
4. What did Peel hope a tight network of patrols would achieve?
5. What was one other reform associated with Sir Robert Peel?

B (30 marks)

*Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes*

Write a short paragraph on one of the following:

1. The system of Metternich, 1815-1848.
2. Developments in science.
4. Serfdom in Russia.

C (40 marks)

*Recommended maximum time: 15 minutes*

Answer one of the following:

1. What did Robert Owen hope to achieve at New Lanark and did he succeed?
2. For what reasons did the 1848 Revolution in Germany end in failure?
3. In what ways did Baron Haussmann improve the city of Paris?
4. From your studies, what did you learn about Karl Marx and/or Mikhail Bakunin?
Europe and the wider world: Topic 2
Nation states and international tensions, 1871-1920

A (30 marks)
Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

This is an edited extract from a memorandum (June 1897) from Germany’s Admiral von Tirpitz which influenced the naval policy of Wilhelm II. Read it and answer the questions which follow.

For Germany, the most dangerous naval enemy is England. There is a shortage of naval bases on our side and a large number available to England.

Our military situation demands battleships in as great a number as possible. We must expand our military harbours and shipyards. Our armour and armament industries must be developed further. We must train the necessary personnel and make available the necessary funds.

Only then, by 1905, can we create more than two full squadrons of eight battleships, each ready for mobilisation.


1. According to the writer, who was Germany’s greatest enemy?
2. What did the German navy need?
3. What types of industry must be developed?
4. What did the German navy hope to have by 1905?
5. Briefly, how did Britain respond to German naval expansion?

B (30 marks)
Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

Write a short paragraph on one of the following:
1. Anti-Semitism in France.
2. Pope Leo XIII.
3. The Second International.
4. Wilfred Owen.

C (40 marks)
Recommended maximum time: 15 minutes

Answer one of the following:
1. What were the successes and failures of Bismarck as Chancellor of Germany?
2. How did the invention and early history of the motor car change life in Europe?
3. What did women contribute to the war effort during World War I?
4. What was significant about the life and work of Marie Curie and/or Rosa Luxemburg?
A (30 marks)  
*Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes*

Ian McDougall, a BBC foreign correspondent, covered the 1960 May Day celebrations in Red Square, Moscow. In this edited extract, he recalls conditions in Moscow. Read it and answer the questions which follow.

*The ancient National Hotel was quite civilised. It was still possible there to order a separate room to dine in – although, of course, there was no guarantee of privacy. And, on arrival, a list of regulations deprived you of your passport for two days.*

*The hotel lacked ventilation. Every corner was bugged and the entire staff, from the women who got you theatre tickets to the man who polished the steps, was under the control of the KGB [secret police].*


1. What could be requested in the National Hotel?  
2. What did the hotel lack?  
3. Why was there no guarantee of privacy?  
4. Who controlled the hotel staff?  
5. What was the policy of ‘peaceful coexistence’ associated with Nikita Khrushchev?

B (30 marks)  
*Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes*

Write a short paragraph on one of the following:

1. Marshall Aid.  
2. Jean Monnet.  
4. Pope John Paul II.

C (40 marks)  
*Recommended maximum time: 15 minutes*

Answer one of the following:

1. How significant was the role of Imre Nagy and/or Nikita Khrushchev during the Hungarian Uprising, 1956?  
2. What impact did Jacques Delors and/or Margaret Thatcher have on European affairs?  
3. In what ways did Mikhail Gorbachev attempt to reform Soviet Russia?  
4. What did Simone de Beauvoir and/or John Lennon contribute to modern culture?
This edited extract records reactions to Indian independence. Read it and answer the questions which follow.

The government wanted no one to be unhappy on Independence Day. Political prisoners were freed. All death sentences were reduced to life imprisonment.

In New Delhi people rejoiced. The town was gay, with orange, white and green. Bullocks’ horns and horses’ legs were painted in the new national colours, and silk merchants sold tri-coloured saris.

After dawn, half a million thronged the Grand Vista, near the government buildings, in New Delhi. Even in Calcutta violence turned to rejoicing. Muslims and Hindus danced together in the streets.

Source: Time Magazine (25 August 1947).

1. What was being celebrated?
2. In what way did prisoners benefit?
3. What did the silk merchants sell?
4. Who danced together, and where?
5. Briefly, what was one problem facing India after independence?

B (30 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

Write a short paragraph on one of the following:

1. The Suez Crisis, 1956.
2. Charles de Gaulle and Algeria.
3. The Lomé Conventions.

C (40 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 15 minutes

Answer one of the following:

1. How did David Ben-Gurion and/or Gamal Abdul Nasser deal with Arab-Israeli conflict?
2. For what reasons did Katanga break away from the Congo and why did this lead to war?
3. What problems did development workers encounter in Africa, 1945-1990?
4. How did the government of Britain and/or France deal with problems in race relations?
Europe and the wider world: Topic 6
The United States and the world, 1945-1989

A (30 marks)
Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

This is an edited extract from a historian’s account of a Viet Cong tunnel system near Saigon, capital city of South Vietnam. Read it and answer the questions which follow.

The [North Vietnamese] Viet Cong base in Cu Chi District, outside Saigon, was an underground tunnel system running several miles next to a major US air base. It included nursing stations, operating rooms, and kitchens. Dining, resting and storage areas were also provided. It allowed the Viet Cong to function under the nose of American forces, to attack them without warning, and then, to disappear quickly.


1. Who set up the tunnel system?
2. Where was it set up?
3. What facilities did the tunnel system include?
4. What was one military advantage of the tunnel system for its builders?
5. Give one reason why the U.S. became involved in Vietnam.

B (30 marks)
Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

Write a short paragraph on one of the following:

1. Joe McCarthy.
2. The Cuban Missile Crisis.
4. SALT and Star Wars.

C (40 marks)
Recommended maximum time: 15 minutes

Answer one of the following:

1. What part was played by Martin Luther King in the Montgomery bus boycott, 1956?
2. During the 1960s and 1970s, how did the anti-war movement develop in the United States?
3. How was a successful moon landing achieved in 1969 and what was its importance?
4. What did Betty Friedan and/or Marilyn Monroe contribute to American life?
This edited extract refers to a newspaper report in The Manchester Guardian on the Jarrow March, October 1936. Read it and answer the questions which follow.

_The men set off at 8.45 a.m. each morning on the 25-day march to London. It is expected that they will reach London on 1 November. They walk for 50 minutes at a time, followed by a 10-minute rest. With eggs and salmon and such sandwiches as I saw today, it is definitely not a hunger march._

_The organisation of the march seems almost perfect. It includes a transport wagon – a second-hand bus bought for £20 and converted to carry essential supplies such as food, blankets and waterproofs for wet days. Accommodation at night is provided in drill halls, schools and church institutions._

Source: _The Manchester Guardian, 13 October 1936._

1. At what time each morning does the march begin?
2. For how long would the men march before getting a rest?
3. Why does the reporter consider it ‘not a hunger march’?
4. What accommodation is provided at night?
5. Briefly, why was unemployment so high in Britain in the 1930s?
Copyright notice

This examination paper may contain text or images for which the State Examination Commission is not the copyright owner, and which may have been adapted, for the purpose of assessment, without the author’s prior consent. This examination paper has been prepared in accordance with Section 53(5) of the Copyright and Related Rights Act, 2000. Any subsequent use for a purpose other than the intended purpose is not authorised. The Commission does not accept liability for any infringement of third-party rights arising from unauthorised distribution or use of this examination paper.

Do not hand up this question paper.
It will not be returned to the State Examinations Commission.

Leaving Certificate - Ordinary Level

History

Wednesday 12th June
Afternoon 2:00 - 4:50