



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit
State Examinations Commission

Leaving Certificate Examination
Sample 1

Ancient Greek

Ordinary Level

2 hours 30 minutes

300 marks

Examination Number

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Date of Birth

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Instructions

Write your examination number and date of birth in the boxes on the front cover.

Write your answers in blue or black pen.

You may use pencil, including colouring pencils, **only** in drawings or diagrams.

Write all your answers in the spaces provided in this booklet. There is additional answer space at the end of each section, and a space for rough work at the end of the booklet. Label any such extra work clearly with the question number and part.

This examination booklet will be scanned and your work will be presented to an examiner on screen. Anything that you write outside of the answer areas may not be seen by the examiner.

There are **two** sections in this examination paper.

Section A: Capstone Text

100 marks

- Answer the questions presented.

Section B: Unseen Texts

200 marks

- Answer the questions presented.

The glossaries in this examination paper use the following abbreviations:

infin. = infinitive verb

nom. = nominative case

voc. = vocative case

acc. = accusative case

gen. = genitive case

dat. = dative case.

Answer Question 1 **and** Question 2.

Question 1

50 Marks

Read Text A and answer **all** of the questions which follow.

In Text A, Medea speaks to the chorus of Corinthian women and laments her situation. Words in bold are listed alphabetically in the glossary below.

Text A: Euripides, *Medea*

Μήδεια: ἀλλ' οὐ γὰρ αὐτὸς πρὸς σὲ κᾶμ' ἤκει λόγος·
 σοὶ μὲν πόλις θ' ἦδ' ἐστὶ καὶ πατὴρ δόμοι
 βίου τ' ὄνησις καὶ φίλων συνουσία,
 ἐγὼ δ' ἔρημος ἄπολις οὔσ' ὑβρίζομαι
 πρὸς ἀνδρός, ἐκ γῆς βαρβάρου **λελησμένη**, 5
 οὐ μητέρ', οὐκ ἀδελφόν, οὐχὶ συγγενῇ
μεθορμίσασθαι τῇσδ' ἔχουσα συμφορᾶς.

λελησμένη = 'carried off as a war prize'

μεθορμίσασθαι = 'to shelter me'

- (a) For **three** of the following Ancient Greek words in Text A, give the English meaning **and** give **one** English word which is derived from the Ancient Greek word.

Ancient Greek word in Text A	Meaning in English	English derivative
πόλις, πόλεως, ἡ		
ἀνὴρ, ἀνδρός, ὁ		
λόγος, λόγου, ὁ		
γῆ, γῆς, ἡ		

(b) Give the Ancient Greek first-person singular forms of the **two** verbs below from Text A.

Verb 1	ἐστὶ (line 2)	Verb 2	ἔχουσα (line 7)
Present Active Indicative		Present Active Indicative	
Future Active Indicative		Future Active Indicative	
Imperfect Active Indicative		Aorist Active Indicative	

(c) Choose **any four** words below from Text A and write down their meaning in English. An example is shown.

ἀλλ' βίου δόμοι ἐγὼ ἐστὶ
 πατὴρ ἐκ ὑβρίζομαι φίλων

Ancient Greek word	English meaning
ἐστὶ	to be; I am

(d) Based on Text A, give **three** reasons why Medea says she is different from the other Corinthian women.

Reason 1:
Reason 2:
Reason 3:

- (e) Translate into English the following lines, which are the last three lines in Text A. Words in bold are listed alphabetically in the glossary below.

ἐκ γῆς βαρβάρου **λελησμένη**,
οὐ μητέρ', οὐκ ἀδελφόν, οὐχὶ συγγενῇ
μεθορμίσασθαι τῆσδ' ἔχουσα συμφορᾶς.

λελησμένη = 'carried off as a war prize'
μεθορμίσασθαι = 'to shelter me'

Question 2

50 Marks

Read Text B and answer the following questions.
In Text B, Medea and Creon discuss Medea's exile.

Text B: Euripides, *Medea*

Μήδεια:	μή, πρὸς σε γονάτων τῆς τε νεογάμου κόρης.	
Κρέων:	λόγους ἀναλοῖς· οὐ γὰρ ἂν πείσαιοι ποτέ.	
Μήδεια:	ἀλλ' ἐξελᾷς με κούδεν αἰδέσῃ λιτάς;	
Κρέων:	φιλῶ γὰρ οὐ σὲ μᾶλλον ἢ δόμους ἐμούς.	
Μήδεια:	ᾧ πατρίς, ὥς σου κάρτα νῦν μνείαν ἔχω.	5
Κρέων:	πλὴν γὰρ τέκνων ἔμοιγε φίλτατον πολὺ.	
Μήδεια:	φεῦ φεῦ, βροτοῖς ἔρωτες ὥς κακὸν μέγα.	
Κρέων:	ὅπως ἂν, οἶμαι, καὶ παραστῶσιν τύχαι.	
Μήδεια:	Ζεῦ, μὴ λάθοι σε τῶνδ' ὅς αἴτιος κακῶν.	
Κρέων:	ἔρπ', ᾧ ματαία, καὶ μ' ἀπάλλαξον πόνων.	10

- (a) What is Medea doing in line 1 of Text B **and** why is this an important ancient Greek custom? You may include a translation to support your answer.

- (b) Write a note about the character of Creon **or** his daughter (princess Glauke). You may include examples from Text B to support your answer.

- (c) Answer **one** of the following questions.

- (i) How does Medea create sympathy in this passage? Explain your answer with examples from Text B.

OR

- (ii) How does this scene influence the events which follow it? Explain your answer with reference to Text B.

OR

- (iii) Do you think that an ancient Athenian would have liked Medea's character? Give reasons for your answer based on your study of the literary, cultural, **and/or** historical context of Euripides' *Medea*. You may use examples from Text B.

Optional Planning Space:

Answer for Question 2 (c), part

Additional Answer Space for Section A:

Section B**Unseen Texts****200 marks**

Answer Question 3, Question 4, **and** Question 5.

Question 3**80 marks**

Answer (a) **and** (b).

- (a) Translate Text C into English. In Text C, Jason and the Argonauts sail in search of the Golden Fleece. Words in bold are listed alphabetically in the glossary below.

Text C: based on Apollodorus, *Library*

ὁ μὲν **Ἰάσων** καὶ οἱ **Ἀργοναῦται** ἔπλευσαν εἰς τὸν **Εὐξείνιον**, καὶ **δι’** **ὀλίγου** πρὸς τὴν **Κολχίδα** ἦλθον. ἐκεῖ ὁ **Αἰήτης** βασιλεὺς ἦν. ὁ δὲ **Ἰάσων** εἶπε τῷ βασιλεῖ· “**ζητῶ** τὸ **πάγχρυσον δέρος** καὶ **δεῖ με** πρὸς τὴν **Ἑλλάδα** αὐτὸ ἄγειν.”

ὁ δὲ βασιλεὺς ἐκέλευσε τὸν **Ἰάσωνα** ἔργα χαλεπὰ πράσσειν. **δράκων** γάρ τις τὸ **δέρος** ἐφύλασσεν, ἀλλὰ ὁ **Ἰάσων** τὸν **δράκοντα** ἀπέκτεινε καὶ τὸ **δέρος** ἔλαβεν. ἔπειτα δὲ μετὰ τῶν **Ἀργοναυτῶν** πρὸς τὴν **Ἑλλάδα** ἔπλευσεν.

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Αἰήτης, -ου, ὁ = Aeetes

Ἀργοναῦται, -ῶν, οἱ = the Argonauts

δεῖ με = ‘I must’

δέρος, δέρους, τό = fleece

δι’ ὀλίγου = soon

δράκων, δράκοντος, ὁ = dragon, snake

Ἑλλάς, Ἑλλάδος, ἡ = Greece

Εὐξείνιος, -ου, ὁ = the Black Sea

ζητῶ = ‘I seek’

Ἰάσων, Ἰάσονος, ὁ = Jason

Κολχίς, Κολχίδος, ἡ = Colchis

πάγχρυσος, -ον = golden, all-golden

Optional Planning Space:

(b) Answer **one** of the following questions.

- (i) How is the portrayal of Jason in Text C similar or different to his portrayal in Euripides' *Medea*? Give reasons for your answer. You may refer to the images below.

OR

- (ii) Why do you think that stories about heroes like Jason were so popular in ancient Greece? Give reasons for your answer. You may refer to the images below **and/or** any text you have read, including Text C.



Image A: Jason and Medea



Image B: the Argonauts

Optional Planning Space:

Answer for Question 3 (b), part

Question 4

80 marks

Read Text D and answer, in English, **any eight** of the following questions.

In Text D, the Athenians are about to be invaded by the Persians. They receive an oracle from Delphi which Themistocles correctly interprets. Words in bold are listed alphabetically in the glossary below.

Text D: based on Herodotus, *Histories*

οἱ μὲν Ἀθηναῖοι, ἐπεὶ ἤκουσαν ὅτι οἱ Πέρσαι εἰς τὴν **Ἑλλάδα εἰσβάλλουσιν**, ἄνδρας πρὸς τοὺς **Δελφοὺς** ἔπεμψαν. ἐβούλοντο γὰρ μανθάνειν **τί χρή** ποιεῖν. ὁ δὲ θεὸς εἶπεν ὅτι **χρή** τοὺς Ἀθηναίους πιστεύειν τῷ **ξύλινῳ** τείχει.

οἱ οὖν ἄνδρες τοῖς Ἀθηναίοις τοὺς τοῦ θεοῦ λόγους ἠγγειλαν. οἱ δὲ Ἀθηναῖοι πολὺν χρόνον ἐθαύμαζον. ὁ δὲ **Θεμιστοκλῆς**, στρατηγὸς ἀγαθὸς ὢν, ἔφη, “αἱ νῆες εἰσὶ τὸ **ξύλινον** τεῖχος. 5 πιστεύετε οὖν ταῖς ναυσίν. τὸ γὰρ ναυτικὸν τὴν πόλιν **σώσει**.”

Δελφοί, -ῶν, οἱ = Delphi

εἰσβάλλω = I invade

Ἑλλάς, Ἑλλάδος, ἡ = Greece

Θεμιστοκλῆς, -έους, ὁ = Themistocles

ξύλινος, -η, -ον = wooden

σώσει = future tense of σώζω

τί χρή = ‘what they ought...’ (line 2)

χρή = it was necessary (+ acc. and infin.)

(a) What did the Athenians hear about the Persians?

οἱ μὲν Ἀθηναῖοι, ἐπεὶ ἤκουσαν ὅτι οἱ Πέρσαι εἰς τὴν **Ἑλλάδα εἰσβάλλουσιν**. (line 1)

(b) Identify the case of τὴν **Ἑλλάδα** in line 1 **and** explain why this case is used here.

(c) What did the Athenians want?

ἐβούλοντο γὰρ μανθάνειν **τί χρή** ποιεῖν. (line 2)

(d) What did the god reply to the Athenians?

ὁ δὲ θεὸς εἶπεν ὅτι **χρὴ** τοὺς Ἀθηναίους πιστεύειν τῷ **ξύλινῳ** τείχει. (lines 2-3)

(e) How did the Athenians react to the message from the god?

οἱ δὲ Ἀθηναῖοι πολὺν χρόνον ἐθαύμαζον. (lines 4-5)

(f) How is Themistocles described?

ὁ δὲ **Θεμιστοκλῆς**, στρατηγὸς ἀγαθὸς ὢν. (line 5)

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(g) Translate the following sentences from Text D into English.

ἔφη, “αἱ νῆες εἰσὶ τὸ **ξύλινον** τεῖχος. πιστεύετε οὖν ταῖς ναυσίν. (lines 5-6)

(h) Identify the gender, number **and** case of τὸ ναυτικόν. (line 6)

Gender:	
Number:	Case:

(i) Identify **one** Ancient Greek definite article in Text D. Explain the function of a definite article. You may refer to Text D to support your answer.

Ancient Greek definite article in Text D:	Line:
Explanation:	

(j) What does this story tell us about how oracles were viewed in ancient Greece?

Question 5

40 marks

Answer (a), (b), **and** (c).

- (a)** The following images are from an article titled: 'Apple Music's new playlist Alpha celebrates music's greatest women'. Answer parts (i), (ii), **and** (iii) below.



- (i)** Explain the connection between the English word 'Alpha' and the Ancient Greek language.

- (ii)** Transliterate the English word 'Alpha' into Ancient Greek.

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- (iii)** Why do you think that companies or brands like Apple Music use words from Ancient Greek in their products? Explain your answer.

- (b)** The following images show a t-shirt using an Ancient Greek quote, designed by Mark Zuckerberg, the founder of Facebook. Answer parts (i), (ii), **and** (iii) below.



- (i)** Write the two Ancient Greek words on the t-shirt using lower case Ancient Greek letters.

ΠΑΘΕΙ:

ΜΑΘΟΣ:

- (ii)** The quote ΠΑΘΕΙ ΜΑΘΟΣ translates as ‘learning from suffering’. In the box below, draw a line from the Ancient Greek word to its English meaning.

ΠΑΘΟΣ:

suffering

ΜΑΘΟΣ:

learning

- (iii)** Based on your study of Greek tragedy, what is your interpretation of this quote?

(c) Answer **one** of the following questions.

- (i) What has learning Ancient Greek taught you about the world today?
Explain your answer.

OR

- (ii) Which ancient Greek custom, belief or value do you find most interesting?
Give reasons for your answer.

Optional Planning Space:

Answer for Question 5 (c), part

Additional Answer Space for Section B:

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Leaving Certificate Examination – Ordinary Level

Ancient Greek

Sample 1

2 hours 30 minutes