



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit  
State Examinations Commission

Leaving Certificate Examination  
Sample 1

Ancient Greek

Higher 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.

| Section A | Capstone Text | 100 marks |
|-----------|---------------|-----------|
|-----------|---------------|-----------|

Answer Question 1 **and** Question 2.

### Question 1

50 Marks

Read Text A and answer **all** of the following questions.

**Text A:** Euripides, *Medea*

- Κρέων: ἀλλ' ἔξιθ' ὡς τάχιστα, μὴ λόγους λέγε·  
ὡς ταῦτ' ἄραρε, οὐκ ἔχεις τέχνην ὅπως  
μενεῖς παρ' ἡμῖν οὔσα δυσμενῆς ἐμοί.
- Μήδεια: μή, πρὸς σε γονάτων τῆς τε νεογάμου κόρης.
- Κρέων: λόγους ἀναλοῖς· οὐ γὰρ ἂν πείσais ποτέ. 5
- Μήδεια: ἀλλ' ἐξελᾷς με κούδεν αἰδέση λιτάς;
- Κρέων: φιλῶ γὰρ οὐ σέ μᾶλλον ἢ δόμους ἐμούς.
- Μήδεια: ὦ πατρίς, ὡς σου κάρτα νῦν μνείαν ἔχω.
- Κρέων: πλὴν γὰρ τέκνων ἔμοιγε φίλτατον πολύ.
- Μήδεια: φεῦ φεῦ, βροτοῖς ἔρωτες ὡς κακὸν μέγα. 10

(a) Identify the tense, voice, **and** mood of these two verbs in Text A.

| Verb              | Tense | Voice | Mood |
|-------------------|-------|-------|------|
| λέγε (line 1):    |       |       |      |
| πείσais (line 5): |       |       |      |

(b) Give these **four** principal parts for the verb φιλῶ (line 7).

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|-----------------|
| Present active: |
| Future active:  |
| Aorist active:  |
| Aorist passive: |

(c) Choose **any** noun in the genitive case in Text A. Explain why this noun is in the genitive case.

|                     |       |
|---------------------|-------|
| Ancient Greek noun: | Line: |
| Explanation:        |       |
|                     |       |

(d) Translate into English lines 6-9 of Text A.

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(e) Explain the meaning of line 10 in Text A, *φεῦ φεῦ, βροτοῖς ἔρωτες ὥς κακὸν μέγα*, with reference to the importance of eros in Euripides' *Medea*.

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**Question 2****50 marks**

Read Text B and answer the following questions.

**Text B:** Euripides, *Medea*

Μήδεια: ἐκ τῶν δὲ πρώτων πρώτον ἄρξομαι λέγειν·

ἔσωσά σ', ὡς ἴσασιν Ἑλλήνων ὅσοι

ταύτῳ συνεισέβησαν Ἀργῶν σκάφος,

πεμφθέντα ταύρων πυρπνόνων ἐπιστάτην

ζεύγλαισι καὶ σπεροῦντα θανάσιμον γύνῃ·

5

δράκοντά θ', ὃς πάγχρυσον ἀμπέχων δέρος

σπείραις ἔσωζε πολυπλόκοις ἄυπνος ὦν,

κτείνασ' ἀνέσχον σοὶ φάος σωτήριον.

αὐτὴ δὲ πατέρα καὶ δόμους προδοῦσ' ἐμούς

τὴν Πηλιῶτιν εἰς Ἴωλκὸν ἰκόμην

10

σὺν σοί, πρόθυμος μᾶλλον ἢ σοφωτέρα·

Πελίαν τ' ἀπέκτειν', ὥσπερ ἁλγιστον θανεῖν,

παίδων ὑπ' αὐτοῦ, πάντα τ' ἐξεῖλον δόμον.

καὶ ταῦθ' ὑφ' ἡμῶν, ὧς κάκιστ' ἀνδρῶν, παθῶν

προύδωκας ἡμᾶς, καινὰ δ' ἐκτήσω λέχη,

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παίδων γεγώτων· εἰ γὰρ ἦσθ' ἅπαις ἔτι,

συγγνώστ' ἂν ἦν σοὶ τοῦδ' ἐρασθῆναι λέχους.

- (a) Explain why Medea begins her speech with, 'ἐκ τῶν δὲ πρώτων πρώτον.' You may include a translation of line 1 to support your answer.

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

- (i)** Do you think that Medea's speech in Text B would have been shocking for an ancient Athenian audience? Support your answer with evidence from the Ancient Greek language in Text B **and** your study of Euripides' *Medea*.

**OR**

- (ii)** In your opinion, is Medea a sympathetic figure in Euripides' *Medea*? Support your answer with language-based analysis of Text B.

Optional Planning Space:

Answer for Question 2 (b), part





Additional Answer Space for Section A:

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

### Question 3

90 marks

Read Text C and answer **all** of the following questions.

Text C is from Euripides' tragedy *Alcestis*. Alcestis has agreed to die in the place of her husband, Admetus, so that he can continue to live. In this extract, Alcestis responds to Admetus' pleas that she not die in his place. Words in bold are listed alphabetically in the glossary below.

**Text C:** Euripides, *Alcestis*

**Ἄλκηστις:** **Ἄδμηθ'**, ὀρᾶς γὰρ τάμὰ πράγμαθ' ὥς ἔχει,  
λέξαι **θέλω** σοι πρὶν **θανεῖν** ἃ βούλομαι.  
ἐγὼ σε **πρεσβεύουσα** κἀντὶ τῆς ἐμῆς  
ψυχῆς **καταστήσασα** **φῶς** τόδ' εἰσορᾶν  
**θνήσκω**, **παρόν** μοι μὴ **θανεῖν** ὑπὲρ **σέθεν**, 5  
ἀλλ' ἄνδρα τε **σχεῖν** **Θεσσαλῶν** ὃν ἤθελον  
καὶ **δῶμα** **ναίειν** **ὄλβιον** τυραννίδι.  
κούκ ἠθέλησα **ζῆν** **ἀποσπασθεῖσα** σοῦ  
σὺν παισὶν **ὀρφανοῖσιν**, οὐδ' **ἐφεισάμην**  
**ἧβης**, ἔχουσ' ἐν οἷς **ἐτερπόμεν** ἐγώ. 10

Ἄδμητος, Ἄδμήτου, ὁ = Admetus

Ἄλκηστις, Ἀλκήστιδος, ἡ = Alcestis

ἀποσπασθεῖσα = 'having been torn away from' (+ gen.)

δῶμα, -ατος, τό = house

ζῆν = infinitive of ζάω, I live

ἧβη, -ης, ἡ = youth

θανεῖν = ἀποθανεῖν

θέλω = ἐθέλω

Θεσσαλός, -ή, -όν = Thessalian, person from Thessaly

θνήσκω = ἀποθνήσκω

καταστήσασα = 'having decided'

ναίω = I inhabit, live in

ὄλβιος, -α, -ον = wealthy, rich

ὀρφανός, -ή, -όν = orphaned

παρόν = 'although it was possible'

πρεσβεύω = I prioritise

σέθεν = σοῦ

σχεῖν = aorist active infinitive of ἔχω

τέρπομαι = I delight in

φείδομαι (+ gen.) = I spare

φῶς, φωτός, τό = light

ὥς = how

(a) Name **and** scan the metre of the second line of Text C.

Name:

λέξαι **θέλω** σοι πρὶν **θανεῖν** ἃ βούλομαι.

**(b)** Translate Text C into English.

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**(c)** Outline some stylistic features of Ancient Greek drama using examples from Text C.

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#### Question 4

80 marks

Read Text D and answer, in English, **any eight** of the ten questions which follow.

Text D is a speech from a court case. The unnamed defendant explains to the jury that his rival Simon forcibly entered his house due to a quarrel over a young man named Theodotus.

Words in bold are listed alphabetically in the glossary below.

**Text D:** based on Lysias, *Against Simon*

ἐπειδὴ **Σίμων** με εἰς τοιαύτην ἀνάγκην **κατέστησεν**, οὐδὲν **ἀποκρυψάμενος** ἅπαντα **διηγέσμαι** πρὸς ὑμᾶς τὰ **πεπραγμένα**. ἡμεῖς γὰρ **ἐπεθυμήσαμεν**, ὦ ἄνδρες, **Θεοδότου**, **Πλαταϊκοῦ μαιρακίου**, καὶ ἐγὼ μὲν εὖ ποιῶν αὐτὸν **ἡξίου** εἶναί μοι φίλον, οὗτος δὲ ὑβρίζων καὶ **παρανομῶν ᾧετο** ἀναγκάσειν αὐτὸν ποιεῖν ὃ τι βούλοιο.

ὁ **Σίμων** γὰρ πυθόμενος ὅτι τὸ **μειράκιον** ἦν παρ' ἐμοί, ἐλθὼν ἐπὶ τὴν οἰκίαν τὴν ἐμὴν **νύκτωρ** **μεθύων**, **ἐκκόψας** τὰς θύρας εἰσῆλθεν εἰς τὴν **γυναικωνῖτιν**, ἔνδον οὐσῶν τῆς τε ἀδελφῆς τῆς ἐμῆς καὶ τῶν **ἀδελφιδῶν**, αἱ οὕτω κοσμίως **βιοῦσιν** ὥστε καὶ ὑπὸ τῶν οἰκείων ὀρώμεναι αἰσχύνονται.

ἀδελφιδῆ, -ῆς, ἡ = niece

ἀποκρύπτομαι = I hide

βιώω = I live

γυναικωνῖτις, -ιδος, ἡ = women's quarters

διηγέομαι = I describe, tell

ἐκκόπτω = I knock down

ἐπιθυμέω (+ gen.) = I desire, lust for

ἡξίου = 'I thought it fitting' (+ acc. and infin.)

Θεόδοτος, -ου, ὁ = Theodotus

κατέστησεν = 'he put'

μεθύω = I am drunk

μειράκιον, -ου, τό = young man

νύκτωρ = by night

παρανομέω = I act unlawfully

πεπραγμένα = 'what happened'

Πλαταϊκός, -ή, -όν = Plataean, person from Plataea

Σίμων, Σίμωνος, ὁ = Simon

ᾧετο = 'he intended' (+ future infin.)

(a) In lines 1-2, what does the defendant say he will do?

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(b) What type of word is ἡμεῖς (line 2)? Give the gender, case, **and** number of ἡμεῖς.

|                           |
|---------------------------|
| Type:                     |
| Gender, case, and number: |

(c) What does the defendant feel towards **and** think about Theodotus?

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(d) In line 3, what does ὑβρίζων mean **and** why is this word important in ancient Greek culture?

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(e) How does the defendant say that Simon would act towards Theodotus?

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(f) Translate into English this clause: ὁ Σίμων γὰρ πυθόμενος ὅτι τὸ **μειράκιον** ἦν παρ' ἐμοί. (line 5)

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(g) What did Simon do when he arrived at the house?

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(h) Name the following construction **and** explain how it is used.

ἔνδον οὐσῶν τῆς τε ἀδελφῆς τῆς ἐμῆς καὶ τῶν **ἀδελφιδῶν**. (lines 6-7)

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(i) Why does the defendant think that Simon's behaviour at the house was so inappropriate?

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*This question continues on the next page.*

- (j) Write down **two** English derivatives which come from **any** Ancient Greek words in Text D. Explain how the meaning of each English word relates to the meaning of the Ancient Greek word that it derives from.

|                       |                     |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| English derivative 1: | Ancient Greek word: |
| Explanation:          |                     |
|                       |                     |
| English derivative 2: | Ancient Greek word: |
| Explanation:          |                     |
|                       |                     |

### Question 5

30 marks

Answer **one** of the following questions.

- (a) Choose **at least one** text from Section B (Text C, Text D). What have you learned about the values of ancient Athenians from the text(s)? Support your answer with language-based analysis.

OR

- (b) Choose **any** Ancient Greek text you have read **other than** Euripides' *Medea*. What have you learned about Hellenic culture from this text? In your answer, you may refer to people, places, historical events, values, customs, etc. Identify the text with information such as the author's name, topic or title of text, date of the text, genre, etc.

Optional Planning Space:

Answer for Question 5, part

Additional Answer Space for Section B:



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Leaving Certificate Examination – Higher Level

**Ancient Greek**

Sample 1

2 hours 30 minutes