



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit State Examinations Commission

LEAVING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION, 2025

HISTORY – ORDINARY LEVEL

FIELD OF STUDY: LATER MODERN, 1815-1993

Written examination: 400 marks

Pre-submitted Research Study Report: 100 marks

WEDNESDAY, 11 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.

OR 2. Alternative instructions for 2025 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:

The Jarrow March, October 1936

Study the documents opposite and answer the questions below.

1.
 - (a) In document A, where were prayers said?
 - (b) What was one way in which the men prepared for the march, according to document A?
 - (c) How did the men's army experience influence the march, according to document A?
 - (d) What caused unemployment in Jarrow to rise, according to document B?
 - (e) What did the petition demand, according to document B?

(40)

2.
 - (a) Do the documents suggest that the march was enjoyable or miserable? Explain your answer, referring to both documents.
 - (b) Which document provides more information about the role of Ellen Wilkinson in the Jarrow March? Refer to both documents in your answer.

(20)

3.
 - (a) Which document, A or B, is a primary source? Give a reason for your answer.
 - (b) What evidence is there in the documents to suggest that the marchers deserved public support? Explain your answer, referring to both documents.

(20)

4. Was the Jarrow March a success or a failure? Give reasons for your answer.

(20)

– Document A –

Ellen Wilkinson was elected as M.P. for Jarrow in 1935 and helped to organise the Jarrow March, October 1936. This is an edited extract from her book about Jarrow.

Prayers were said for the marchers on Sunday, 4 October, in every church and chapel in Jarrow. On Monday the men set out. They had done their best to look smart: faces carefully shaved; broken boots mended and polished; shabby clothes brushed and mended by the wives.

Typically, we started each morning at 9 o'clock, the bus with our supplies having gone ahead. Most of the men had been in the army, so we marched by army rules, fifty minutes to the hour and ten minutes to rest.

The field kitchen cooked us a midday meal – when the weather let it. A fine day meant stew, tinned fruit and tea. On wet days we stood under mackintosh capes eating sandwiches.

We had the steady support of journalists. Those who accompanied us bought some mouth organs and we had expert players who set up a mouth organ band.

Source: Ellen Wilkinson, *The Town That Was Murdered: The Life Story of Jarrow* (London, Gollancz, 1939).

– Document B –

In this edited extract, a historian comments on the Jarrow March.

Jarrow was a shipbuilding town and the closure of its yard, in 1935, caused unemployment to soar. Some 11,000 people signed a petition, demanding the opening of a steelworks, to bring jobs; and 200 carefully chosen men carried it, in an oak box, to London.

They marched with blue and white banners and a mouth organ band, led, at least some of the way, by their MP, the pint-sized, red-headed Ellen Wilkinson, and by a stray dog.

Everything was done to ensure the march was respectable and not threatening, appealing to the conscience of the nation. No drinking was allowed and the march had begun with a church service.

Source: Andrew Marr, *The Making of Modern Britain* (London, Macmillan, 2009).

SECTION 2: IRELAND

Ireland: Topic 1

Ireland and the Union, 1815-1870

A (30 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

These edited extracts from the diary of school teacher Amhlaoibh Ó Súilleabháin refer to Daniel O’Connell’s campaign for Catholic Emancipation. Read them and answer the questions which follow.

- 03/02/1829: *I have been appointed parish warden, Callan, Co. Kilkenny, in the Catholic Association, to collect the Catholic Rent.*
- 08/07/1829: *Every window in town is full of candles to celebrate Daniel O’Connell’s victory in the Clare Election.*
- 28/09/1829: *A drum calls O’Connell’s followers to march through Callan, wearing ribbons of green and other colours.*

Source: Tomás de Bhaldraithe (ed.), *Cín Lae Amhlaoibh* (Dundalk, Dundalgan Press, 1970).

1. For where was the writer appointed parish warden?
2. What was the function of the parish warden?
3. What was celebrated on 8 July, 1829?
4. What music was provided on 28 September, 1829?
5. What was one way that Catholics benefited from Emancipation?

B (30 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

Write a short paragraph on **one** of the following:

1. Emigration from Ireland, 1815-1870.
2. William Carleton.
3. Young Ireland.
4. James Stephens.

C (40 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 15 minutes

Answer **one** of the following:

1. How did Daniel O’Connell conduct the Repeal campaign and why did it fail?
2. How did Charles Trevelyan and/or Asenath Nicholson respond to Famine in Ireland?
3. What industrial development took place in Belfast, 1815-1870, and how did it affect the people of the area?
4. What did Mother Mary Aikenhead and/or Cardinal Paul Cullen contribute to Irish affairs?

Ireland: Topic 2
Movements for political and social reform, 1870-1914

A (30 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

This is an edited extract from a newspaper account of Parnell's arrest, 13 October, 1881. Read it and answer the questions which follow.

On Thursday morning, 13 October, 1881, Parnell was arrested at Morrison's Hotel, Dawson Street, Dublin. He was lodged in Kilmainham prison before the citizens of Dublin were fully awake.

There was no disturbance in the streets for no one knew why the four-wheeled cabs waited so long before the hotel. It was not until some police constables added themselves to the procession that suspicions arose.

Parnell himself swore the servants of the hotel to secrecy as if he knew that the arrest was coming.

Source: quoted in M.E. Collins, *The Land Question, 1879-1882* (Dublin, The Educational Company, 1974).

1. Where was Parnell arrested?
2. After arrest, where was Parnell lodged?
3. When did suspicions arise that something was going on?
4. How is it suggested that Parnell was aware of his likely arrest?
5. What was the role of Dublin Castle in Irish affairs at that time?

B (30 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

Write a short paragraph on **one** of the following:

1. The Co-operative Movement.
2. W.B. Yeats.
3. Douglas Hyde.
4. The Irish Volunteers.

C (40 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 15 minutes

Answer **one** of the following:

1. What part did Michael Davitt play in Irish affairs?
2. Why was the GAA established and what problems did it face in its early years?
3. How did Edward Carson campaign against Home Rule for Ireland?
4. What did Isabella Tod and/or Hanna Sheehy-Skeffington contribute to Irish affairs?

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 Northern Ireland's war effort during World War II. Read it and answer the questions which follow.

In December 1940 an economist compiled a report on Northern Ireland's contribution to the war effort for the War Cabinet in London.

He concluded that, to date, its role had been negligible, although it had suffered less from enemy action than any other part of the United Kingdom. Since 1939, he noted, the siren [warning of an air raid] had sounded only five times in Belfast, and each time it was a false alarm, in marked and deadly contrast to other British cities.

That was changed by the massive German air raids on Belfast on the nights of 15-16 April and 4-5 May, 1941.

Source: Thomas Bartlett, *Ireland: A History* (Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 2010).

1. When was the economist's report compiled?
2. What was the subject of the report?
3. What did the report say about air raids?
4. What did Belfast experience in April-May, 1941?
5. Briefly, what was one contribution of Richard Dawson Bates to the affairs of Northern Ireland?

B (30 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

Write a short paragraph on **one** of the following:

1. Countess Markievicz.
2. Evie Hone.
3. The economy of Northern Ireland, 1920-1939.
4. Developments in education, 1922-1949.

C (40 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 15 minutes

Answer **one** of the following:

1. What was the role of Michael Collins in Irish affairs?
2. What did W.T. Cosgrave achieve in his handling of the economy and/or Anglo-Irish relations, 1923-1932?
3. What took place during the Eucharistic Congress, 1932, and what was its importance?
4. What did Éamon de Valera achieve as head of government, 1932-1948?

Ireland: Topic 4
The Irish diaspora, 1840-1966

A (30 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

After his escape from Lincoln Jail in February, 1919, Éamon de Valera announced his decision to go to America to seek support for the Irish cause. This edited extract reveals the reaction of IRA Volunteers to his decision. Read it and answer the questions which follow.

We felt de Valera's departure would be a fatal mistake, that the country would misunderstand his motives and regard it as selfish, or even cowardly desertion.

When this view was expressed, Collins replied: 'I told him so, but you know what it is to try to argue with Dev. He feels the place where he can be useful is America.'

The Volunteers took the view that the place for an Irish leader was in Ireland.

Source: quoted in Ronan Fanning, *Éamon de Valera: A Will to Power* (London, Faber & Faber, 2015).

1. From where did de Valera escape?
2. What did de Valera announce in February, 1919?
3. What did de Valera feel, according to Collins?
4. What did the Volunteers feel about de Valera's decision?
5. What was one achievement of de Valera in America, June 1919 - December 1920?

B (30 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

Write a short paragraph on **one** of the following:

1. Ulster-Scottish emigration to North America.
2. The Molly Maguires.
3. Boss Croker.
4. The impact of John F. Kennedy.

C (40 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 15 minutes

Answer **one** of the following:

1. How did Grosse Isle cope with the arrival of Irish immigrants at the time of the Great Famine?
2. What part did the GAA and/or the Catholic Church play in sustaining a sense of Irishness among emigrants?
3. What did you learn about the life and work of Domhnall Mac Amhlaigh?
4. What were the achievements of Maureen O'Hara and/or Paul O'Dwyer?

Ireland: Topic 5
Politics and society in Northern Ireland, 1949-1993

A (30 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

In this edited extract historian Marianne Elliott, who grew up in Belfast, notes the impact of the National Health Service (NHS). Read it and answer the questions which follow.

The National Health Service was introduced on 5 July, 1948. It transformed the lives of families such as ours. Suddenly, everything we could not afford before was free.

There was a rush for dental treatment and spectacles and there was over-prescription of the now-free drugs.

Unfortunately, the health legislation did not permit hospitals with religious links to maintain their ethos within the health service. So the Catholic-run Mater Hospital, Belfast, was excluded from state funding.

Source: Marianne Elliott, *Heartlands: A Memoir of the White City housing estate in Belfast* (Belfast, Blackstaff Press, 2017).

1. What was introduced on 5 July, 1948?
2. For what services was there a rush?
3. What over-prescription took place?
4. Why was the Mater Hospital excluded from state funding?
5. Apart from health-care, what was one way in which Northern Ireland benefitted from the British Welfare State?

B (30 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

Write a short paragraph on **one** of the following:

1. Terence O'Neill.
2. The activities of the Apprentice Boys of Derry.
3. Seamus Heaney.
4. The emergence of the Provisional IRA.

C (40 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 15 minutes

Answer **one** of the following:

1. What part was played by Conn and Patricia McCluskey in the affairs of Northern Ireland?
2. What arguments were put forward for and against the choice of Coleraine as the site of Northern Ireland's second university?
3. What was agreed at Sunningdale, 1973, and why did the power-sharing executive fail, 1974?
4. How did Ian Paisley influence events in Northern Ireland?

Ireland: Topic 6
Government, economy and society in the Republic of Ireland, 1949-1989

A (30 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

In this edited extract, Garret FitzGerald reflects on the impact of the EEC on Irish fisheries. Read it and answer the questions which follow.

The Irish application to join the EEC was turned down by General de Gaulle, with that of Britain, in January 1961.

By the time Ireland, Britain and Denmark joined in 1973, the original six members had brought about an arrangement that gave them access to British, Danish and Irish fish stocks.

The disadvantages of this arrangement for Ireland were lessened by a deal that I secured, as Foreign Minister, in 1976. This enabled Ireland to double its fish catches and increase their value by 40% within a few years.

Source: Garret FitzGerald, *Reflections on the Irish State* (Dublin, Irish Academic Press, 2002).

1. Why did the Irish attempt to join the EEC fail in January 1961?
2. With whom did Ireland join the EEC in 1973?
3. What arrangement was already in place?
4. What was one way in which FitzGerald's effort benefitted Ireland?
5. What was one other contribution by Garret FitzGerald to Irish life?

B (30 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

Write a short paragraph on **one** of the following:

1. Irish involvement in the UN.
2. Changes in Irish education, 1949-1989.
3. Jack Lynch.
4. Changing attitudes towards the Irish language, 1949-1989.

C (40 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 15 minutes

Answer **one** of the following:

1. What did Seán Lemass achieve as Taoiseach?
2. What was the impact of RTÉ on Irish life?
3. How did Archbishop John Charles McQuaid influence Irish life?
4. What was the contribution to Irish affairs of Sylvia Meehan and/or Mary Robinson?

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 deals with the difficulties faced by Emperor Francis II of Austria during the Congress of Vienna, 1815. Read it and answer the questions which follow.

During the Congress Emperor Francis had to entertain many royal visitors with balls, banquets and theatrical entertainments.

Every night dinner at his palace was laid at forty tables. Special liveries and carriages were provided for all his guests. The horses in the stable numbered no less than 1,400.

Each monarch had brought with him a crowd of followers and the royal wives were attended by ladies-in-waiting. Francis was driven to distraction by providing amusement for them and by problems of precedence.

Source: based on material in Charles Breunig, *The Age of Revolution and Reaction, 1789-1850* (New York and London, Norton, 1977).

1. What was one form of entertainment provided by the Emperor?
2. What transport was provided?
3. Who attended the royal wives?
4. What was one problem faced by the Emperor in providing for his guests?
5. What was one political decision reached at the Congress of Vienna?

B (30 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

Write a short paragraph on **one** of the following:

1. Serfdom in Russia.
2. Otto von Bismarck's contribution to German unity.
3. Victor Hugo.
4. Changes in agriculture in Europe, 1815-1871.

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 how successful was he?
2. What did Giuseppe Mazzini contribute to Italian unity?
3. What changes were made by Haussmann in Paris and how did they affect the people of the city?
4. What was the importance of the work of Karl Marx and/or Charles Darwin?

Europe and the wider world: Topic 2
Nation states and international tensions, 1871-1920

A (30 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

This edited extract deals with women in the workforce in Britain during World War I. Read it and answer the questions which follow.

Even before World War I women were moving into commerce and the professions. By 1914 a quarter of all clerks were women.

After the beginning of conscription for men on 2 March, 1916, the government began an active drive to fill the places of the men with female labour. Over a million women, for the first time, embarked on paid work. They drove trams, worked on the land, took on munitions work and nursed the sick.

In this way working-class women escaped from the drudgery of domestic service. Middle-class women escaped stifling pre-war conventions. They became more aware of employment opportunities and now had their own income.

Source: John Stevenson, *British Society, 1914-1945* (London, Penguin Books, 1986).

1. What was introduced on 2 March, 1916?
2. How many women took up paid work?
3. What were two forms of work that they did?
4. What was one way in which women benefited from being in the workforce?
5. Did most of the women taken on during World War I remain in the workforce when the war was over? Briefly explain your answer.

B (30 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

Write a short paragraph on **one** of the following:

1. Anti-Semitism in France.
2. Economic crisis in Tsarist Russia.
3. Why European countries wanted to expand their overseas empires.
4. Woodrow Wilson and Europe.

C (40 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 15 minutes

Answer **one** of the following:

1. What problems arose from the naval policy of Wilhelm II?
2. What did you learn about the invention and early history of the motor car, 1871-1920?
3. What part was played in World War I by Wilfred Owen or Douglas Haig?
4. What was the importance of Rosa Luxemburg and/or Marie Curie?

Europe and the wider world: Topic 4
Division and realignment in Europe, 1945-1992

A (30 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

This edited extract deals with the Second Vatican Council (1962-1965). Read it and answer the questions which follow.

Assembled by Pope John XXIII, the Second Vatican Council was held in Rome in 1962-1965 and attempted to adapt the Catholic Church to a changing world.

It abolished the compulsory use of Latin for church services which could now be carried on in the language of the worshippers.

It aimed to eliminate anti-Semitism and to establish better relations with other churches.

The Pope and his successor, Pope Paul VI, abandoned the papal triple crown and complex styles of dress in an attempt to engage with the modern world.

Source: C. Cook and J. Stevenson (eds.), *The Cambridge Dictionary of Modern World History* (Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 2018).

1. What was attempted by the Second Vatican Council?
2. What was the result of the ending of compulsory Latin?
3. With whom were better relations to be established?
4. Why did the Pope give up wearing a crown?
5. What was one way in which Pope John Paul II contributed to change in Europe?

B (30 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

Write a short paragraph on **one** of the following:

1. The Berlin Airlift, 1948-1949.
2. Marshall Aid.
3. Moves towards European unity, 1945-1957.
4. John Lennon.

C (40 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 15 minutes

Answer **one** of the following:

1. What part was played by Imre Nagy and/or Nikita Khrushchev in the Hungarian Uprising, 1956?
2. What was the 1973 Oil Crisis and in what ways did it affect the lives of people in Europe?
3. What did Mikhail Gorbachev hope to achieve and how successful was he?
4. What were the achievements of Margaret Thatcher and/or Simone de Beauvoir?

Europe and the wider world: Topic 5
European retreat from empire and the aftermath, 1945-1990

A (30 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

This is an edited extract from *The Irish Times* which notes developments in the newly-independent Democratic Republic of the Congo. Read it and answer the questions which follow.

The most serious news is that Mr. Tshombe, the Prime Minister of Katanga province, has announced that he will declare his province independent.

Katanga has the Congo's copper and uranium mines, and it contributes some 65% of the entire national income of the Congo.

If the Prime Minister carries out his plan – and he will probably be supported by the huge Belgian financial interests which control the industry of the area – he will leave the rest of the Congo in a critical economic situation.

Source: *The Irish Times*, 11/07/1960

1. What was the full name of the newly-independent state?
2. Who was Moise Tshombe?
3. What announcement did he make?
4. Why would his announcement cause economic problems?
5. What was one example of international involvement in the Congo up to 1965?

B (30 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

Write a short paragraph on **one** of the following:

1. The Lomé Conventions.
2. The Suez Crisis, 1956.
3. Julius Nyerere and the policy of ujamaa.
4. Charles de Gaulle's response to the demand for Algerian independence.

C (40 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 15 minutes

Answer **one** of the following:

1. What problems arose from British withdrawal from India, 1945-1947?
2. What problems faced the Indonesian leader, Achmad Sukarno, and how did he tackle them?
3. What problems arose in race relations in France in the 1980s and how did French governments respond?
4. What did you learn about the life and work of Nadine Gordimer?

Europe and the wider world: Topic 6
The United States and the world, 1945-1989

A (30 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

In this edited extract, journalist Edwin Diamond comments on the media coverage of the Apollo 11 mission. Read it and answer the questions which follow.

Less than a decade ago space launchings were secret events held behind high security barriers. Not so today when, at Cape Kennedy, a media city springs up for each launching.

For Apollo 11 there were 4,000 reporters. A trailer city of radio and TV vans brought the event live to a world-wide audience.

After the launching, much of the news corps was flown to Houston, Texas, where NASA kept them informed of developments twenty-four hours a day.

Source: Edwin Diamond, "The dark side of the moonshot coverage", *Columbia Journalism Review*, Vol. 8, Issue 3 (Fall, 1969).

1. How were space launches carried out a decade before?
2. How many reporters attended the launch of Apollo 11?
3. What sort of audience was reached by the media?
4. What happened at Houston, Texas?
5. What was the outcome of the Apollo 11 launch?

B (30 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

Write a short paragraph on **one** of the following:

1. The fortunes of US multinational corporations, 1945-1968.
2. Betty Friedan.
3. Norman Mailer.
4. Star Wars (the Strategic Defence Initiative).

C (40 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 15 minutes

Answer **one** of the following:

1. In what ways did Korea and/or Cuba present problems for the US?
2. Why did the Montgomery bus boycott (1955-1956) take place and did it achieve its aims?
3. Why did the US become involved in Vietnam and why did it, eventually, withdraw from Vietnam?
4. What were the achievements of Muhammad Ali and/or Marilyn Monroe?

Answer the questions below if you are following the **Alternative Instructions** for 2025 only on the front cover of this examination paper.

A (30 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

In this edited extract, a Soviet official comments on working for Stalin. Read it and answer the questions which follow.

Am I happy in my work? Yes and no. On the one hand, I'm learning what's going on, at home and abroad. Stalin is training me. I'm gaining discipline and precision in my work.

On the other hand, the work is tedious. And you can't slacken off under Stalin's firm hand. Stalin has really shaken things up here.

But, under his stern appearance, he has a heart and respects people's dignity.

Source: quoted in Oleg V. Khlevniuk, *Stalin: New Biography of a Dictator* (New Haven and London, Yale University Press, 2015).

1. What was one advantage of the work?
2. What was one disadvantage of the work?
3. What had Stalin achieved, according to the writer?
4. Overall, was Stalin a good employer, according to the writer? Briefly explain your answer.
5. Give one reason why Stalin established show trials.

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 11 June
Afternoon 2:00 - 4:50