An oral of about 20 minutes and two 3 hour papers are set.
In Paper I which is the oral examination, candidates must show ability in handling a listening comprehension and in speaking fluent Arabic on a given topic.
In Papers II and III which are written examinations, candidates must show competence in advanced Arabic grammar and vocabulary. Where the essay is concerned, they must show creativity and ability in dealing with various types of topics, e.g. descriptive, argumentative, narrative. They must also show ability in reading unpointed Arabic and in supplying all vowel marks on unpointed Arabic text. Clarity, and orderly presentation of all the answers will be expected.
Unless otherwise specified, as in Question (d) of Paper II where vocalisation is obligatory, the Arabic script used in answers may be presented in pointed or unpointed form, i.e. fully vocalised or not.
The questions to Section A and Section B in Paper III Questions 1 - 6 in Paper II may be answered in Arabic, English, or Maltese.

Paper I - (approximately 20 minutes) (20 marks)
(a) An oral examination consisting of a passage for listening comprehension with oral questions asked by the examiner.
(b) A 3-minute talk in Arabic by the candidate on one of the following topics:
   Television/Video
   Drugs
   Sports
   The Influence of the Press
   The Role of women
   The Contribution of Youth to Society.

Paper II (3 hours) (40 marks)
Language
(a) Essay in Arabic of about 250 words, with a wide choice of subjects (15 marks)
(b) Translation of a passage from Classical Arabic into English or Maltese (10 marks)
(c) Translation of a passage from English into Classical Arabic (10 marks)
(d) A passage in Arabic to be fully vocalised (5 marks)

Recommended Books

Paper III - (3 hours) (40 marks)
Arabic Civilisation and Literature
Three questions are to be answered in all: One from each Section. Answers for Sections A and B may be given in Arabic, English, or Maltese; the translation in Section C may be given in English or Maltese.
Section A - History of the Arabs
   Al-Hijaz on the eve of the rise of Islam; the Orthodox Caliphs; the Umayyad Caliphate. (12 marks)
Recommended Books

Section B - History of Arabic Literature
Pre-Islamic poetry, with special references to the Mu'alla:qat and the Qasidas; 
Literature under the Umayyads. (12 marks)

Recommended Books

Section C - Literature
One of the following textbooks is to be read and studied. A relatively short text from each book is given in this Section for translation into English or Maltese.