



L-Università
ta' Malta

MATRICULATION AND SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE
EXAMINATIONS BOARD

**SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE LEVEL
2026 MAIN SESSION**

SUBJECT:	European Studies
PAPER NUMBER:	I – Level 1-2-3
DATE:	25 th May 2026
DURATION:	2 hours 5 minutes

Answer ALL Questions.

1. a. Mention **THREE** authors **AND** their literary work from the European Canon.

(6)

b. Mention **ONE** philosophical/political work from the European Canon.

(1)

c. Briefly describe **FOUR** visual artistic works from the European Canon.

(8)

This question continues on next page.

d. Explain the unique features of **ONE** major architectural work in Europe.

(4)

e. Explain the contribution of a major European musical artist to the global music scene.

(6)

(Total: 25 marks)

2. a. Mention **ONE** article of the European Convention on Human Rights by the Council of Europe.

(1)

b. Mention **TWO** examples of human rights.

(4)

c. List **TWO** characteristics of the Charter of Fundamental Rights by the European Union.

(2)

d. Briefly explain the need for human rights.

(2)

e. Explain the achievements of the Council of Europe in respect of:

i. Freedom of expression:

(2)

ii. Protection of children's rights:

(2)

iii. Quality healthcare:

(2)

f. Discuss how human rights developed after the Second World War.

(10)

(Total: 25 marks)

Please turn the page.

3. a. Define a trade bloc.

(2)

b. Define the Lomé Convention.

(2)

c. Define the OECD.

(2)

d. Define an open economy.

(2)

e. Outline **TWO** functions of the European Union within the OECD.

(4)

f. What social changes were brought about by civil society in modern-day Europe?

(3)

g. Discuss **ONE** disadvantage of the European Single market in an open economy.

(4)

h. Analyse the European Union's role in world trade. Support your answer with official statistics.

(6)

(Total: 25 marks)

4. a. Identify the main proposals of the Schuman Declaration.

(2)

b. List **TWO** of the founding Treaties of the European Union.

(2)

c. Identify **TWO** features of democratic citizenship.

(2)

This question continues on next page.

d. Define human migration.

(2)

e. Describe equity in contemporary European society.

(2)

f. Outline the main reasons for the scramble for Africa in the nineteenth century.

(5)

g. In the nineteenth century, nationalism was the main cause for the Greek War of Independence. Discuss.

(10)

(Total: 25 marks)

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PAPER NUMBER:	II – Level 1-2
DATE:	25 th May 2026
DURATION:	2 hours 5 minutes

SECTION A

Answer ALL Questions.

1. a. List **ONE** characteristic of Athenian democracy.

_____. (1)

b. Briefly describe how Athenian democracy paved the way for the democratic concept.

_____. (2)

2. a. Identify **ONE** cultural artefact that forms part of the European Cultural Heritage.

_____. (1)

b. Define European Cultural Heritage.

_____. (2)

3. a. Define inclusive education.

_____. (2)

b. Describe the accountability and transparency of institutions.

_____. (2)

(Total: 10 marks)

SECTION B**Answer ALL questions.**

4. a. i. What are human rights?

(2)

ii. Mention **TWO** main types of human rights.

(2)

b. List **TWO** causes that led to the creation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

(2)

c. i. What is the European Convention on Human Rights?

(2)

ii. Describe **ONE** of its key articles.

(1)

d. i. Explain **TWO** major achievements of the Council of Europe.

(4)

ii. List **TWO** key facts about the Council of Europe.

(2)

(Total: 15 marks)

5. a. i. Name **ONE** of the pioneers of European unity.

(1)

ii. Name **ONE** founding country of the European Union.

(1)

b. Identify **TWO** founding treaties of the European Union.

(2)

c. List the **FOUR** freedoms of the European Union.

(4)

d. Describe the main ideals for a united Europe.

(3)

This question continues on next page.

e. Explain the purpose of the Copenhagen Criteria.

 (4)

(Total: 15 marks)

6. a. i. Define the secondary and tertiary sector of production.

(4)

ii. List **TWO** industries found in today's European economy covering the main sectors of production listed in 6ai.

(2)

b. i. What is an open economy?

(2)

ii. Outline **TWO** advantages and **ONE** disadvantage of an open economy.

(3)

c. What is the EEA?

(2)

d. Outline the main function of the WTO.

(2)

(Total: 15 marks)

SECTION C

Answer all THREE questions. Follow the instructions given in each question.

7. Answer **EITHER** Part A **OR** Part B.

EITHER

Part A

i. Explain **TWO** factors leading to changes in population.

(4)

This question continues on next page.

ii. Explain the social realities associated with living in urban periphery.

(5)

iii. List **THREE** pull factors and **THREE** push factors for migration.

(6)

(Total: 15 marks)

OR

Part B

i. Explain the terms internal migration and asylum seekers.

(4)

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ii. Describe **THREE** factors leading to an ageing population in Europe.

 (6)

iii. Describe the impact of the Second World War on the post-war economy and the modernisation of the European continent.

(5)

(Total: 15 marks)

8. Answer **EITHER** Part A **OR** Part B

EITHER

Part A

i. Define globalisation.

_____ (2)

ii. Define multiculturalism.

(2)

This question continues on next page.

iii. Define citizen empowerment.

(2)

iv. Explain **ONE** political effect of globalisation on society.

(2)

v. Outline the social changes brought about by civil liberties in Europe.

(3)

vi. Describe the impact of intercultural dialogue and cultural awareness on multiculturalism.

(4)

(Total: 15 marks)

OR

Part B

i. Define extremism in Europe.

(2)

ii. Give **TWO** examples of active participation.

(2)

iii. Define populism.

(2)

iv. Outline **ONE** European Union key target for 2030.

(2)

v. Outline the changes brought about by information society in contemporary Europe.

(3)

vi. Explain the importance of implementing the SDGs holistically.

(4)

(Total: 15 marks)

Please turn the page.

9. Answer **EITHER** Part A **OR** Part B.

EITHER

Part A

i. Define the European Social Model.

_____. (2)

ii. Define poverty.

_____. (2)

iii. Give **TWO** examples of gender-induced poverty in Europe.

_____. (2)

iv. Explain why the risk of poverty increases for minority ethnic groups.

_____. (3)

v. Describe free collective bargaining and the market economy.

_____. (6)

(Total: 15 marks)

OR

Part B

i. Define social exclusion.

(2)

ii. Define welfare society.

(2)

iii. Define solidarity.

(2)

iv. Explain why the risk of poverty increases for people with low level of education and skills.

(3)

v. Describe **THREE** main causes of poverty in Europe.

(6)

(Total: 15 marks)

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SECTION A

Answer ALL Questions.

1. a. Briefly describe **ONE** main feature of the Roman Period.

_____ (1)

b. In what way do humanist values shape contemporary European Culture?

_____ (2)

2. a. Define culture.

_____ (1)

b. Explain **ONE** philosophical/political work from the European Canon.

_____ (2)

3. a. Explain why early childhood education forms an integral part of educational policies in Europe.

_____ (2)

This question continues on next page.

b. Provide **TWO** ways in which democracies can be more inclusive.

(2)

(Total: 10 marks)

SECTION B

Answer ALL Questions.

4. a. Explain why human rights are considered both rights and obligations.

(2)

b. List the **THREE** main types of human rights and give **ONE** example for **each**.

(6)

c. Discuss the strengths and limitations of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

(4)

d. Assess the role of the European Court of Human Rights in safeguarding fundamental freedoms.

(3)

(Total: 15 marks)

5. a. Describe how the proposals of the Schuman Declaration contributed to the idea of a united Europe.

(2)

b. Explain **THREE** freedoms of the European Union.

(6)

c. i. Outline the main aims of the Lisbon Treaty.

(2)

This question continues on next page.

-
- ii. Explain why these reforms were important for making the European Union more democratic and efficient.

(5)

(Total: 15 marks)

6. a. Outline **ONE** advantage and **ONE** disadvantage of an open economy in the European Union context.

(2)

- b. List **TWO** European industries and state which sector of production **each** belongs to.

(4)

- c. Explain the importance of specific sectors of production for individual European regions, using **ONE** case study from the following (underline the case study chosen):

- i. Forestry in Sweden;
- ii. Manufacturing in Germany;
- iii. Tourism in Malta;
- iv. Research & Development in Finland;
- v. European Union institutions in Brussels.

(4)

d. Discuss a main factor that influences the 'openness' of trade in the European Union.

(3)

e. Evaluate **ONE** advantage and **ONE** disadvantage of European Single Market in the context of an open economy.

(2)

(Total: 15 marks)

SECTION C

Answer all THREE questions. Follow the instructions given in each question.

7. Answer **EITHER** Part A **OR** Part B.

EITHER

Part A

i. Discuss **ONE** factor that has affected population distribution in recent years.

(4)

This question continues on next page.

ii. Discuss measures that can mitigate the effects of an ageing population in Europe.

(5)

iii. Discuss the infrastructural and social effects of Industrialisation.

(6)

(Total: 15 marks)

OR

Part B

i. Briefly discuss the features of migration in the European Union.

(4)

ii. Discuss **TWO** ways how to mitigate the effects of urbanisation on rural areas.

(5)

iii. Discuss mass tourism and cultural tourism.

(6)

(Total: 15 marks)

8. Answer **EITHER** Part A **OR** Part B.

EITHER

Part A

i. Explain **ONE** political effect of globalisation on society.

(2)

This question continues on next page.

ii. Describe the impact of intercultural dialogue and cultural awareness on multiculturalism.

(4)

iii. Discuss the challenges of multiculturalism on societies.

(9)

(Total: 15 marks)

OR

Part B

i. Outline **ONE** key target of the European Union for 2030.

(2)

ii. Explain the importance of implementing the SDGs holistically.

(4)

iii. Explain **THREE** challenges faced in the implementation of the SDGs.

(9)

(Total: 15 marks)

Please turn the page.

9. Answer **EITHER** Part A **OR** Part B.

EITHER

Part A

- i. Describe free collective bargaining and the market economy.

[illegible]

- ii. Compare and contrast the European Social Model to the US Social System.

[illegible]

(Total: 15 marks)

OR

Part B

- i. Describe **THREE** main causes of poverty in Europe.

(6)

- ii. By making reference to SDGs 1: No Poverty and 2: Zero Hunger, discuss how the SDGs aim to eradicate poverty.

[illegible]

(Total: 15 marks)

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