



**L-Università
ta' Malta**

**MATSEC
Examinations Board**



Examiners' Report

IM Classical Studies

First Session 2024

TABLE OF CONTENTS

A.	STATISTICAL INFORMATION	2
B.	COMMENTS ON PAPER I	2
	Section A: History	2
	Section B: Language.....	2
	Section C: Mythology.....	2
	Section D: Literature.....	2
	Section E: Art and Architecture	3

A. STATISTICAL INFORMATION

A total of **69** candidates applied to sit for this session of the examination, which constitutes a **16%** drop from May 2023. Of the 69 candidates, **13** (18.8 %) were absent on the day of the exam.

The examination paper consists of five sections: A, B, C, D, and E. Each section carries a maximum of 20 marks.

Table 1 shows the distribution of grades for the First 2024 Session of the examination

GRADE	A	B	C	D	E	F	ABS	TOTAL
NUMBER	3	11	15	7	10	10	13	69
% OF TOTAL	4.3	15.9	21.7	10.1	14.5	14.5	18.8	100

Table 1: Distribution of grades for IM Classical Studies, First Session 2024

B. COMMENTS ON PAPER I

Section A: History

Candidates are given two essay questions, to answer one. One question was about the Second Persian War, while the other question concerned Alexander the Great. In Question 1 the essays provided about the aftermath of the Second Persian War were too brief. However, more balanced answers were provided to Question 2.

Section B: Language

In this section, candidates had to translate five Latin sentences and five Greek sentences into English.

As observed in previous years, some candidates still focused on just one language instead of both Latin and Greek. Nonetheless, the attempted translations were generally correct and several candidates scored a high mark.

Section C: Mythology

Candidates had to write an essay either on three Olympian gods of their choice, or about three of the most important challenges Odysseus faced on his return home. Some of the candidates who answered the first question included Hades who, strictly speaking, was not an Olympian god. However, the answer was still accepted. The question about Odysseus was not attempted by anyone.

Section D: Literature

Candidates had to answer five questions on the opening lines of Homer's Iliad. In this section a number of responses confused epic and tragedy, and treated the passage as a tragedy.

Section E: Art and Architecture

Candidates had to answer five questions on an image of the Augustus of Prima Porta. On the whole, this section was satisfactorily answered, although some responses mistakenly identified the statue as Julius Caesar instead of Augustus.

Chairperson

Examination Panel 2024