



GOVERNMENT OF MALTA
MINISTRY FOR EDUCATION, SPORT, YOUTH
RESEARCH AND INNOVATION
DEPARTMENT OF EXAMINATIONS

Qualifying Examination for the Post of Security Guard in the Malta Public Service

Subject: English
Date: Thursday, 20th April 2023
Time: 11:00 – 12:30 (One and a half hours)

This examination paper consists of THREE sections. Candidates are requested to attempt ALL sections and to read carefully the instructions within each section.

ALL answers are to be written on the booklet provided.

Section A: Composition

- a) The day that changed my life.
- b) My favourite actor/singer.
- c) 'I was digging in my garden when the spade hit something.' Continue the story.
- d) Describe your dream house.
- e) Imagine you are a journalist invited to a popular concert. Describe what happened by writing a special report on this concert.
- f) The person I would never want to meet. **(40 marks)**

Section B: Comprehension

Read the following passage carefully and then answer the questions set below.

About midnight the shipmen deemed that they drew near to some country; and sounded, and found it twenty fathoms: and when they had gone a little further, they sounded again and found it fifteen fathoms. Then fearing lest we should have fallen upon rocks, they cast four anchors out of the stern, and wished for the day.

And while the day was coming on, Paul besought them all to take meat. And when they had eaten enough, they lightened the ship, and cast out the wheat into the sea. And when they had taken up the anchors, they committed themselves unto the sea, and loosened the rudder bands, and hoised up the mainsail to the wind, and made toward shore. And falling into a place where two seas met, they ran the ship aground; and the forepart stuck fast, and remained unmovable, but the hinderpart was broken with the violence of the waves.

And the soldiers' counsel was to kill the prisoners, lest any of them should swim out, and escape. But the centurion, willing to save Paul, kept them from their purpose; and commanded that they which could swim should cast themselves first into the sea, and get to land. And so it came to pass, that they escaped all safe to land.

- a) What word in the passage means 'sailors'?
- b) What cargo was the ship carrying?
- c) Who advised the sailors to take food?
- d) Why did the centurion wish to save the prisoners?
- e) What made the sailors think that they were going on the rocks?
- f) What words tell you that everybody was saved?
- g) How did the sailors try to prevent the ship from hitting the rocks?
- h) What was the sailor's counsel?

(40 marks)

Section C: Language

- 1. Choose and write the correct article to complete the following sentences.**

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a. What _____ amazing day! Let's go for _____ walk in _____ countryside. I know _____ nice place where we can have _____ picnic. It's near _____ lake where I go sailing.

b. We need _____ holiday. We'd love to go on _____ incredible cruise around _____ Caribbean. We love _____ sea.

(10 marks)

2. Choose and write the correct word/phrase from the two in brackets.

- a) Jack is more helpful (**from/than**) Jane.
- b) Dave is (**far/the**) kindest boy in class.
- c) Pam is (**enough/too**) tired to continue studying.
- d) I don't have (**too/much**) time to visit them today
- e) Carla is (**a bit/very**) more understanding than Sandy.

(10 marks)

Total: 100 marks

END OF EXAMINATION PAPER