

Annual Examinations for Middle Schools 2024

YEAR 8	SOCIAL STUDIES	TIME: 1 hour
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Name: _____ Class: _____

This examination paper consists of SIX Sections (A, B, C, D, E and F). Students are requested to attempt ALL sections. Marks for each section appear between brackets or at the end of each exercise.

Section A: Fill in the blanks by choosing the correct answer.

pluralistic	local	equality	population	consumer
social	adverts	values	democratic	change

1. Civic _____ are principles which are learnt in order to be a good citizen.
2. Due to _____ consumption of products and services increases.
3. The _____ council takes care of a particular town or village.
4. The frequent use of technology in our daily lives is an example of social _____.
5. Citizens living in a _____ country have the right to vote.
6. The global _____ reached eight billion in 2022.
7. In a _____ society we find different groups and different media.
8. Learning how to play together and communicate together are examples of _____ development.
9. A responsible _____ takes care of the environment when buying products and services.
10. _____ is both a right and a responsibility, and should be respected in a democracy.

(10 marks)

Section B: Choose by marking ONE correct answer only.

1. **One of the main environmental problems we are facing at the moment is**
 - a) lack of education
 - b) climate change
 - c) unemployment
2. **With sustainable development we will**
 - a) ensure that the world will be enjoyed by the next generations
 - b) be increasing buildings and urbanisation
 - c) be encouraging more workers to come to the country
3. **Education, medicine and food are**
 - a) needs
 - b) wants
 - c) values
4. **Mobile phones, cars and stylish clothes are**
 - a) needs
 - b) wants
 - c) values
5. **Equal opportunities, pluralism and participation are characteristics of a**
 - a) monarchy
 - b) dictatorship
 - c) democracy
6. **Work in factories is work which produces**
 - a) services
 - b) products
 - c) distribution
7. **Information technology is important because it**
 - a) helps family members keep in contact even when they are abroad
 - b) offers a lot of games
 - c) replaces face to face communication
8. **Malta is a member state within the**
 - a) United States
 - b) Benelux
 - c) European Union
9. **As a consumer, I have the right to**
 - a) lifelong education
 - b) leisure time
 - c) a choice of products and services
10. **Voluntary work is**
 - a) obligatory
 - b) not paid
 - c) a fundamental human right

(10 marks)

Section C: Mark ✓ whether the statement is TRUE or FALSE

		TRUE	FALSE
1.	An increase in population will have a negative effect on natural resources.		
2.	A revolutionary change happens very slowly over a period of years.		
3.	In an industrial zone we find factories.		
4.	In Malta there are only 10 factories.		
5.	In a monarchy, the king is chosen through an election.		
6.	The producer is the person who creates the product.		
7.	The Maltese people vote to elect the commissioner at the European Commission.		
8.	It is good practice to buy plastic bags every time we go shopping.		
9.	The European Parliament is the voice of the European citizen.		
10.	Industrialisation happened when lots of shops opened in villages.		

(10 marks)

Section D: Read these situations and then answer ALL the questions by giving TWO examples for each situation.

1. Janet went shopping for fruit and vegetables which were out of season. She was amazed that these fruit and vegetables were so expensive. The fruit vendor explained why the price was so high. Mention **two** of the things the shopkeeper might have told her during his explanation.

i. _____

ii. _____

_____ (4)

2. Julian entered a fair trade shop. Mention **two** aims of fair trade.

- i. _____

ii. _____
_____ (4)

3. Greg is obsessed with computer games. He spends all his free time playing and is also eating while he is playing. Mention **two** effects this behaviour might have on his health.

- i. _____

ii. _____
_____ (4)

4. Sharon would like to become a student council member. How can she get her message across so that the other students vote for her?

- i. _____

ii. _____
_____ (4)

5. Samuel, a year 8 student, is not yet decided about the option subjects he is going to choose. What can he do in order to make a more informed decision?

- i. _____

ii. _____
_____ (4)

(20 marks)

Section E: Read the following passage and then answer ALL the questions.

"Here you are seeing four generations, from our great-grandmother to the little one who is three months old. Do you know how we manage to meet altogether? We just say: 'Not working on Monday?' Then let us meet and go for a walk. And we do the same in summer; when we are not working, we meet and go to the beach.



What does it mean to be a great-grandmother? To have more people to give to. I am a great-grandmother to seven. I have been widowed for a long time but I still have my children to take care of me. If it were not for them taking me out I would stay at home." – Nanna Ġuża, Mary Grace, Sylvia, Marthese and baby Thomas

Adapted passage from:

<https://www.facebook.com/thepeopleofmalta/photos/pb.100064074637878.-2207520000/4436258649808925/?type=3>

Questions

1. Give a title to this passage.

_____ (1)

2. Why does the family has great importance in society? Give **four** reasons.

_____ (4)

3. What is the difference between a nuclear family and an extended family?

_____ (4)

4. Mention **three** differences between the lifestyle of today's family and that of forty years ago.

(6)

5. Explain what is a symmetrical family.

(3)

6. Give **three** examples of activities families can do in their free time.

(3)

7. Mention **two** rights and **two** responsibilities of children in the family.

Rights:

(2)

Responsibilities:

(2)

(25 marks)

Section F: Choose ONE of the following titles and write around 120 words about it.

1. Describe the three factors which bring about a change in population.
2. Work changed along the years: from manual, to mechanical to technological. Discuss.
3. Write about the characteristics of two types of governance in different countries.

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(25 marks)

Total: 100 marks

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