Middle Eastern Studies

Date               Time

MES. 41  COMPARATIVE SEMITIC LINGUISTICS

Answer three questions.

All questions carry equal marks.

Write your number not your name on the cover sheet of each answer booklet.

STATIONERY REQUIREMENTS   SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS
20 Page Answer Book x 1  None
Rough Work Pad

You may not start to read the questions printed on the subsequent pages of this question paper until instructed that you may do so by the Invigilator.
Answer three of the following questions

1. Describe how Semitic languages are classified and the justification for the place of Arabic and Hebrew in the classification.

2. How far is the historical development of the dorsal and guttural consonants in Semitic reflected by the Semitic alphabets?

3. How conservatively have the proto-Semitic interdental and sibilant consonants been preserved in Arabic in comparison with other Semitic languages?

4. To what extent do the modern Semitic languages reflect the original pronunciation of the proto-Semitic emphatic consonants?

5. Describe the various nominal inflections in Semitic languages and their historical background.

6. Assess the various views concerning the historical background of the forms of definite articles that are found in Semitic languages.

7. What is the historical background of the suffix verbal conjugation and the prefix verbal conjugation in Semitic languages?

8. Describe the historical development of the nominal clause in Semitic languages.

END OF PAPER