



WESTMINSTER SCHOOL
THE CHALLENGE 2021
LATIN

Tuesday 27 April 2021

Time allowed: 2 hours

Answers to each of the three sections should be handed in on separate sheets of paper provided.

You should answer all questions in Sections A and B, but please note that in Section C there is a choice between a comprehension and a prose composition, and you should only answer ONE of these.

- **Please write in black or blue ink. Answer all questions in the answer sheet provided – do not answer in the exam paper.**

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Section A – Unseen Translation (40 marks)

Translate the following passage into English. Please write your translation on alternate lines.

The story of Coriolanus, a brilliant and proud general who, to take vengeance on his personal enemies, led an enemy army against his own people only to be turned back by the tearful appeal of some women.

Coriolanus, vir superbus, qui dux optimus Romanus fuerat, fugit ad Volscos, hostes Romanorum, et iam ipse contra patriam pugnabat. cives Romani, propter virtutem illius magnopere territi, armis urbem defendere nolebant.

feminas igitur emittere constituerunt ut pacem a Volscis peterent. hae tamen quarum viri non inter Volscos pugnabant ad matrem uxoremque Coriolani ipsius appropinquaverunt. nam eis persuadere volebant ut in castra hostium secum venirent: “nolite manere! nam servabimus urbem lacrimis et precibus,” clamabant.

ubi omnes feminae ad castra venerunt, amicus Coriolani eum monuit: “nonne feminas appropinquantes vides?” inquit. “inter eas, sicut ego credo, mater tua et uxor adsunt.” Coriolanus exiit ut matri osculum daret, sed illa magna ira mota “a filio” inquit “osculum accipiam, non ab hoste. dic mihi: uter es?” itaque duci saevissimo mater persuasit ut copias reduceret et ab hostibus mortem acciperet potius quam a feminis suis hostis vocaretur.

Names

Coriolanus, -i m. – Coriolanus (a Roman general)

Volsci, -orum m.pl. – the Volscians (enemies of Rome)

Vocabulary

secum = cum + se

prex, precis f. – prayer, entreaty

sicut (adverb) – as

osculum, -i n. – a kiss

uter, utra, utrum – which (of two)

potius quam – rather than

Section B – Comprehension (50 marks)

Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow. The questions will help you to work your way through the passage. Take your answers from the Latin indicated in each question. Do not translate unless asked to do so.

Verres, a corrupt Roman official, disgraces himself while in charge of Sicily.

olim erat praetor Romanus, Verres nomine, qui a consulibus missus erat ad Siciliam ut incolas eius insulae regeret. hic cives expectabant praetorem bonum et sapientem, quod plurimos annos fuerant Romanorum socii fideles et fortiter contra hostes eorum pugnaverant. ille tamen, postquam advenit, mox se ostendebat superbiorem et crudeliorem praetoribus ceteris esse.

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nam primum magnopere voluit sibi capere multum argentum et multas tabulas quas in templis et apud principes Siculos conspexerat. unus principum igitur, quem Verres semper rogabat ut sibi argentum daret, ex oppido discessit ne praetor id haberet. Verres autem iratus ei epistulam scripsit: “cur me fugis? festina ad urbem et fer mihi statim omnia dona quae cupio!”

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deinde Verres, quamquam laborare debebat, totum diem in litore cum mulieribus pulchris bibens et ludens manebat. septimo die volebat etiam comitem aliam colligere, quae erat uxor maxima virtute Cleomenis Siculi nobilis. Verres audax Cleomeni sic persuasit: “num tristis es? dum tua coniunx prope mare relicta cum amicis meis ridebit, tu felix cum nautis et militibus fortibus navigabis!” et ei imperavit ut naves Romanas duceret ut praedones saevi qui Siciliam oppugnabant pellerentur. sed omnes naves celeriter aut tempestate aut a praedonibus deletae sunt. o Verres! quid fecisti?

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Names

Verres, -is m. – Verres (a Roman official)

Sicilia, -ae f. – Sicily (an island in the Mediterranean)

Cleomenes, -is m. – Cleomenes (a Sicilian)

Vocabulary

praetor, -is m. – praetor (a senior Roman official)

consul, -is m. – consul (a more senior Roman official)

fidelis, fidele – faithful, loyal

argentum, -i n. – silver

tabula, -ae f. – (*here*) painting

apud (+ acc.) – (*here*) at the house of
Siculus, -a, -um – Sicilian

epistula, -ae f. – letter

litus, -oris n. – seashore

praedo, -onis m. – pirate

1. *olim erat ... regeret* (lines 1-2): why did Verres go to Sicily? [2]
2. *hic cives ... pugnaverant* (lines 2-4): what kind of praetor did the citizens expect, and why? [4]
3. *ille tamen ... esse* (lines 4-5): how did Verres behave after arriving in Sicily? [3]
4. Translate from *nam primum* to *epistulam scripsit* (lines 6-9). [20]
5. "*cur me ... cupio!*" (lines 9-10): what were Verres's instructions to the leading citizen? [4]
6. *deinde ... debebat* (line 11): what should Verres have been doing at this point? [1]
7. *totum diem ... manebat* (lines 11-12): what was he doing instead? [4]
8. *septimo ... nobilis* (lines 12-13): what are we told about Cleomenes's wife? [2]
9. *dum tua ... navigabis* (lines 14-15): what did Verres tell Cleomenes that Cleomenes would be doing while his wife was with Verres? [2]
10. *et ei ... fecisti* (lines 15-17): what do you think the author means when she asks the question at the end? [2]
11. Write down one example from the passage of each of the following:
 - a. a present participle;
 - b. an imperfect subjunctive;
 - c. a passive subjunctive;
 - d. a perfect passive participle;
 - e. a comparative adjective;
 - f. an adverb. [6]

Section C – You should do **EITHER** the comprehension **OR** the prose composition.

Comprehension (60 marks) – Read what is written below carefully first.

Much information is given to you in each question; use it sensibly. Remember that the questions are asking you to look carefully at the Latin words and to show your knowledge of basic grammar (declension of nouns, adjectives and verbs) and of sentence structure.

Some words in the passage may be unfamiliar to you. Use the information given below the passage and in the questions, along with the overall sense of the passage and your knowledge of English derivations, to help you. The passage is introduced by a title and then a translation of the Latin that precedes it.

Cicero is making fun of the prosecution's argument. The prosecution have claimed that a figure called Licinius was to hand over a small box with poison in it in the public baths; this poison was to be used to murder a Roman noblewoman. She found out about the plan, and set a trap so that Licinius would be caught red-handed as he passed the poison over. Things did not go according to plan, and Cicero treats the whole story as a fabricated farce.

For this is their story: Licinius had arrived, and was holding the box of poison in his hand, and was endeavouring to deliver it to them, but had not yet delivered it, then suddenly those splendid witnesses sprung out; Licinius, when he had already put out his hand to give them over the box of poison, drew it back again, and took to his heels. O how great is the power of truth!

haec tota fabella similis est veteris poe^triae quae est sine argumento, quae nullum invenire exitum potest! quid enim? isti tot viri – nam necesse est fuisse non paucos ut et comprehendi Licinius facile posset et res multorum oculis esset testatior – cur Licinium de manibus amiserunt? nonne enim Licinius minus potuit comprehendi cum se retraxit ne pyxidem traderet, quam si tradidisset? erant enim illi positi ut comprehenderent Licinium, ut manifesto Licinius teneretur aut cum retineret venenum aut cum tradidisset. hoc fuit totum consilium mulieris, haec istorum provincia qui rogati sunt: non reperio quidem quam ob rem hos temere prosiluisse tu dicas atque ante tempus. fuerant ad hoc rogati, fuerant ad hanc rem conlocati, ut venenum, ut insidiae, facinus denique ipsum ut manifesto comprehenderetur; potueruntne magis tempore prosilire quam cum Licinius venisset, cum in manu teneret veneni pyxidem? in quo cum clausula non invenitur, fugit aliquis e manibus, dein scabilla concrepant, aulaeum tollitur.

Cicero, *In defence of Marcus Caelius*, chapters 64-65 (slightly adapted)

Names

Licinius, -i m. – Publius Licinius (a young aristocrat and friend of the defendant, Marcus Caelius)

Vocabulary

vetus, -eris – old-fashioned

poetria, -ae f. – poetess

iste, ista, istud – this (*used with critical intonation*)

comprehendo, -ere, -i, comprehensum – I seize

testatus, -a, -um – witnessed

amitto, -ere, amisi, amissum – I lose

retraho, -ere, retraxi, retractum – I pull back

pyxis, -idis f. – a small box

manifesto (indecl. adverb) – (*here*) red-handed

venenum, -i n. – poison

provincia, -ae f. – (*here*) task

reperio, -ire, repperi, repertum – (*here*) I

understand

quidem – indeed

temere (indecl. adverb) – rashly

prosilio, -ire, prosilui – I jump out

ad (lines 7 and 8) – for the purpose of

facinus, -oris n. – criminal act

denique (indecl. adverb) – ultimately, in sum

tempore – (*here*) at the right time

in quo – (*here*) at this moment

clausula, -ae f. – conclusion

dein (indecl. adverb) – next, thereupon

scabillum, -i n. – (*here*) a gong (to mark the end of a play)

concrepo, -are, concrepui, concrepitem – I resound

aulaeum, -i n. – curtain

1. *haec ... potest* (lines 1-2): Cicero exclaims that the story is like the product of a poetess of long ago.
 - i. What **two** features of the story does he suggest make it appear old-fashioned?
 - ii. Identify the **two** different ways that he has expressed the negative qualities of the story.

2. *isti ... amiserunt* (lines 2-3): Cicero expresses disbelief that these men lost Licinius from their grasp.
 - i. Translate the main clause in this sentence.
 - ii. Cicero stresses that there must have been a quantity of men there to grab Licinius. How does he generate his emphasis on their number by his choice and position of words here?
 - iii. He gives two reasons why there must have been a good number of men in waiting. Translate the **two** Latin phrases which express these reasons.

3. *nonne ... tradidisset* (lines 3-4): Cicero expresses disbelief that the men lying in wait chose the best time to seize Licinius.
 - i. What does the use of “nonne” suggest about the tone of this sentence? Explain why.
 - ii. Which word earlier in the sentence does “quam” (line 4) pick up? In the light of this, how should ‘quam’ be translated?
 - iii. In which tense and mood is “traderet”? Explain why this form is used here. Translate the phrase “cum ... traderet”.

4. *erant enim ... rogati sunt* (lines 4-6): Cicero clarifies explains in emphatic terms what the function of the men lying in wait was supposed to have been.
 - i. In which tense is the verb “erant ... positi”?
 - ii. Identify how the two clauses expressing the purpose of the positioning of the men differ from each other. Suggest a reason why Cicero has varied his manner of expression in this way.
 - iii. Explain the difference in the tenses of the verbs “retineret” and “tradidisset” in this context.
 - iv. Suggest the basic meaning of “provincia” (line 6) and explain why it comes to have the meaning given to you in this context.

5. *non reperio ... tempus* (lines 6-7): Cicero questions the prosecution’s evaluation of the men’s timing.
 - i. What does he claim the prosecution has said?
 - ii. Which part of their verbs are respectively a. “prosiluisse” and b. “dicas”? In each case explain why this part has been used.

6. *fueraut ... comprehenderetur* (lines 7-8): Cicero reiterates his disbelief that the men could have made such a mess of their task.

Consider the positioning of words and the way Cicero balances his phrasing to bring out important words and then identify **three** different ways that he has made his disbelief emphatically clear in this sentence.

7. *potueruntne ... pyxidem?* (lines 9-10): Cicero expresses his belief that in fact the men could not have chosen a better time to leap out of their hiding-place.
 - i. What **two** reasons does he give for considering that this was a good moment for them to act? Answer by translating the appropriate part of the Latin sentence.
 - ii. In your own words, explain Cicero’s point here.

8. *in quo ... tollitur* (lines 10-11): Cicero speaks of the farcically amateur conclusion to which the events of the prosecution’s story are brought.
 - i. What **three** things does he say mark the end of this particular production?
 - ii. Identify **two** elements of a Roman theatrical production, even a tacky one like this, which are significantly different from a modern equivalent.

9. From the whole extract, identify the principal ways that Cicero tries to persuade his jury.

Prose Composition (60 marks)

Translate the following passage into Latin. The words given underneath are for your guidance only: you do not have to use them if you do not wish to. Please write your Latin version on alternate lines.

Once upon a time in the province of Judaea there was a great rebellion among the Jews. The Emperor Nero sent out an army led by the general Vespasian. He took with him his son Titus so that he might learn about the life which soldiers were living in camp.

In the province was a famous queen called Berenice whom Titus saw and immediately loved. When his father found this out, he ordered Titus to leave the province.

Although he obeyed his father, Titus said to himself, "I will return to Judaea one day and marry that woman."

For five years, Titus worked in Rome and was praised for his kindness. However, when it was reported suddenly that Berenice had arrived in the city, the common people became angry because they did not trust her.

Titus asked his freedman to prepare a meeting by night. As soon as the young man saw the queen, his love was restored and they decided to flee the next day.

"Rome will not accept our love and we will never find peace here," said Berenice.

Names

Judaea – Iudaea, -ae f.

Jews – Iudaei, -orum m.

Nero – Nero, -onis m.

Vespasian – Vespasianus, -i m.

Titus – Titus, -i m.

Berenice – Berenice, -is f.

Rome – Roma, -ae f.

Vocabulary

province – provincia, -ae f.

rebellion – seditio, -onis f.

I obey – pareo, -ere, parui, paritum (+ dat.)

I marry – duco, -ere, duxi, ductum (+ acc.) in matrimonium

kindness – benevolentia, -ae f.

the common people – plebs, plebis f.

meeting – congressus, -us m.

I restore – reficio, -ere, refeci, refectum

the next day – postridie