



WESTMINSTER
SCHOOL

The Challenge (Core)

Specimen Paper First Examination 2027

LATIN

Time: 60 minutes

Instructions to candidates. Answer all three sections. Section A tests grammatical accuracy; Section B tests reading and comprehension; Section C tests translation into Latin. The paper rises in difficulty, both between and within sections. Attempt every part: credit is available throughout, and you are not expected to complete every question.

Section	Time	Marks
A Error correction	10 mins	20
B Comprehension and translation	30 mins	40
C Translation into Latin	20 mins	30
TOTAL	1 hour	90

Section A Error correction [20 marks]

Each Latin sentence below has an English translation beneath it. Each **Latin** sentence contains the number of mistakes shown in brackets.

Underline each mistake and write the correct Latin in the space beside the sentence. There is one mark available for identifying a mistake and a second for writing the correct Latin.

1. *puella laetus in horto ambulabat.* [1]

The happy girl was walking in the garden.

2. *servi ad villa celeriter festinaverunt.* [1]

The slaves hurried quickly to the house.

3. *epistulam, quem heri in foro inveni, patrem tuo dedi.* [2]

I gave your father the letter which I found yesterday in the forum.

4. *naves insulam appropinquantis ab omnibus incolis visi sunt.* [2]

As the ships were approaching the island, they were seen by all the inhabitants.

5. *tot milites muros oppugnabant ut civites quam celerrime fugissent.* [2]

So many soldiers were attacking the walls that the citizens were fleeing as quickly as possible.

6. *urbe captus, Caesar nuntiavit hostes iam fugerant.* [2]

When the city had been captured, Caesar announced that the enemy had already fled.

[10 x 2 = 20 marks]

Section B Comprehension and translation [40 marks]

Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow. The questions guide you through the passage in order. **Take your answers from the Latin indicated in each question.**

The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse

rusticus mus et urbanus mus erant amici. rusticus urbanum in cavum ad cenam invitavit. cibum rusticum ei dedit. urbanus, cui cena non placuerat, 'quomodo' inquit 'hunc cibum consumere potes? nonne vis in urbem mecum venire? ibi homines notissimos videre, cibum optimum consumere possumus.' cum mures ad urbem advenissent, urbanus mus amico in villam civis divitis ducto cibum optimum ostendit. muribus laetissime cenam consumentibus, vox hominis irati subito audita est. deinde canes ingentes ingressi adeo latrabant ut mures, magnopere timentes, in cavum urbani fugerent. quo territus, rusticus amico dixit cibum in villis divitum inventum bonum esse sed pacem animi meliorem.

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Vocabulary

mus, muris (m.)	mouse
cavus -i (m)	mouse-hole
placet, placuit (+ dat)	it pleases
quomodo	how
dives -itis	rich
ingredior, ingredi, ingressus sum	I enter
adeo	to such an extent
latro -are (1)	I bark
ut	that
animus -i (m)	mind

Questions

1. *rusticus ... amici* (line 1): what are we told in the first sentence about the two mice? [2]

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2. *rusticus urbanum ... dedit* (lines 1–2): how did the country mouse entertain his visitor? Give **two** details. [2]

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3. *quomodo ... potes?* (lines 2–3):

a) what is the **first** question the visitor asks his host? [2]

.....

b) what does this question imply about his opinion of the hospitality he has received? [1]

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5. *nonne ... venire?* (line 3): what is the **second** question the visitor asks his host? [2]

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6. *ibi ... possumus* (lines 3–4): what does he add to make his invitation sound attractive? [4]

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7. *cum mures ... audita est* (lines 4–6): translate these three sentences into good English. [10]

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8. *canes ingentes ... urbani fugerent* (lines 6–7): how does this sentence emphasise the frightening effect of the dogs? Make **two** points, quoting the relevant Latin in your answer. [4]

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9. Give an English word derived from each of these Latin words, and state the meaning of the English word: [2]

(a) *civis* (line 5)

(b) *fugerent* (line 7)

10. From the passage, write down one example of each of the following. State the line in which it occurs. [4]

(a) a pronoun in the dative case

(b) an adjective in the genitive case

(c) a perfect participle

(d) a verb in the pluperfect subjunctive

11. quo territus ... meliorem (lines 7–8): what was the effect upon the country mouse of his experience and what opinion did he express to his friend? [5]

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12. Suggest a short conclusion **in Latin** to summarise the moral of this story. [2]

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Section C Translation into Latin [30 marks]

Translate the following sentences into Latin. The sentences rise in difficulty. **If you wish, you may instead join the sentences into a single connected Latin narrative**, using appropriate connectives and constructions: additional credit is available for fluent continuous prose, but you will not be penalised for translating the sentences separately.

1. The lazy slave-girls were not working in the house. [3]

2. Suddenly their mistress returned home from the forum. [3]

3. Because she had found them doing nothing, she scolded them angrily. [4]

4. 'What are you doing?' she asked, 'Didn't I order you to work for three hours?' [5]

5. Having been scolded by their angry mistress, the slave-girls were forced to work again. [5]

6. 'If we work very well,' they thought, 'the mistress will praise us; perhaps she will even give us a reward.' [5]

7. They all therefore worked as hard as they could until the end of the day to avoid being punished by their mistress. [5]

lazy *ignavus, -a, -um*
I scold *vitupero, vituperare, vituperavi, vituperatum*

END OF PAPER