



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

A Level Latin

H443/01 Unseen Translation

Sample Question Paper

Version 1.1

Date – Morning/Afternoon

Time allowed: 1 hour 45 minutes



You must have:

- the OCR 8-page A Level Latin Answer Booklet
(*sent with general stationery*)

Do not use:

- a dictionary

Other materials required:

- None



INSTRUCTIONS

- Use black ink.
- Complete the boxes on the front of the Answer Booklet.
- Answer **all** the questions.
- Additional paper may be used if required but you must clearly show your candidate number, centre number and question number(s).
- Do **not** write in the bar codes.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is **100**.
- The marks for each question are shown in brackets [].
- This document consists of **4** pages.

Section A: Unseen Prose

Passage 1

King Philippus attacks the town of Abydos; when the townsfolk face defeat, they decide that death is preferable to surrender.

At first the citizens of Abydos, placing artillery along the walls, prevented the attackers from approaching. Then part of the wall was breached and tunnels were driven as far as the inner defences.

Abydeni legatos ad regem de condicionibus tradendae urbis miserunt. poscebant ut sibi liceret urbe excedere cum singulis vestimentis. quibus cum Philippus nullam pacem fore nisi omnia permittentibus respondisset, hoc responsum iram adeo accendit ut matronas omnes in templo Dianae, pueros virginesque, infantes etiam cum suis nutricibus in gymnasio includi iuberent. ibi 5 viri delecti sunt qui, ubi caesam aciem suorum pro diruto¹ muro pugnantes vidissent, extemplo coniuges liberosque interficerent. tum milites adeo pertinaciter pugnaverunt ut, cum proelium nox diremptura² esset, Philippus prior, territus rabie³ eorum, pugna abstineret. principes, quibus atrocior pars facinoris delegata erat, cum paucos confectos vulneribus superesse proelio 10 viderent, luce prima sacerdotes ad urbem dedendam Philippo mittunt. qui, auro argentoque accepto, hominum praedam omnem amisit. tanta enim rabies³ multitudinem invasit ut repente omnes ad caedem coniugum liberorumque discurrerent seque ipsi interficerent. obtudefactus eo furore rex triduum⁴ se ad moriendum Abydenis dare dixit; nec quisquam vivus in potestatem regis venit. 15

Livy XXXI.17–18 (adapted)

Names

Abydeni, -orum (m pl)

the citizens of Abydos

Philippus, -i (m)

Philippus

Words

¹ *diruo, -ere, -rui, -rutus*

I ruin

² *dirimo, -ere, -remi, -remptus*

I interrupt

³ *rabies, -ei* (f)

madness

⁴ *triduum, -i* (n)

three days

1 Translate Passage 1 into English.

[50]

Please write your translation on alternate lines.

Section B: Unseen Verse

Passage 2

The mortal Niobe, who thinks herself superior to the goddess Latona, is punished by her: after killing all Niobe's sons and her husband, the goddess shoots her three daughters one by one; Niobe, at first defiant, is finally left paralysed by grief.

The last son vainly stretched out his arms in prayer, but fell smitten by a wound to the heart. The grief of the people made Niobe aware of the terrible events.

corporibus gelidis incumbit¹ et ordine nullo
 oscula dispensat natos suprema per omnes.
 'pascere,² crudelis, nostro, Latona, dolore!' 5
 dixerat: insonuit contento³ nervus⁴ ab arcu;
 qui, praeter Nioben unam, conterruit omnes:
 illa malo est audax. stabant cum vestibus atris
 ante toros⁵ fratrum demisso crine sorores;
 e quibus una trahens haerentia viscere⁶ tela
 imposito fratri moribunda relanguit⁷ ore;
 altera solari miseram conata parentem 10
 conticuit subito duplicataque⁸ vulnere caeco est. 11
 ultima restabat; quam toto corpore mater
 tota veste tegens, 'unam minimamque relinque!
 de multis minimam posco' clamavit 'et unam.'
 dumque rogat, pro qua rogat occidit: orba⁹ resedit 15
 exanimes inter natos natasque virumque
 deriguitque malis; nullos movet aura capillos.

Ovid, *Metamorphoses* VI, 277ff.

Names

Latona, -ae (f)

Latona

Niobe, -es (acc. -en) (f)

Niobe

Words

¹ *incumbo*, -ere, -cubui, -cubitus (+ dat.)

I throw myself upon

² *pascor*, -i, *pastus sum* (+ abl.)

I feast upon

³ *contentus*, -a, -um

taut

⁴ *nervus*, -i (m)

string (of a bow)

⁵ *torus*, -i (m)

funeral bier

⁶ *viscus*, -eris (n)

flesh

⁷ *relanguesco*, -ere, *relanguui*

I sink down

⁸ *duplico*, -are, -avi, -atus

I double up

⁹ *orbus*, -a, -um

childless

- 2 (a) Translate Passage 2 into English.

[45]

Please write your translation on alternate lines.

- (b) Write out and scan lines 10–11 from Passage 2.

*altera solari miseram conata parentem
 conticuit subito duplicataque⁸ vulnere caeco est.*

[5]

Summary of updates

Date	Version	Details
September 2021	1.1	Updated copyright acknowledgements.

Copyright Information:

Livy XXXI.17–18 (adapted)

Ovid's *Metamorphoses*, Translated by Joseph Davidson; G. and W. B. Whittaker, 1822.

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...day June 20XX – Morning/Afternoon

A Level Latin

H443/01 Unseen Translation

SAMPLE MARK SCHEME

Duration: 1 hour 45 minutes

MAXIMUM MARK 100

DRAFT

This document consists of 12 pages

Guidance on applying the marking grids

The general principle in assessing each section should be the **proportion** (out of 5) of sense achieved.

One approach for each section is given. Acceptable alternatives will be illustrated during Standardisation, but examiners should assess on its own merits any approach that satisfactorily conveys the meaning of the Latin – the crucial consideration being the extent to which every Latin word is satisfactorily rendered in some way in the English.

The determination of what a “slight” error is only necessary when it is the only error in a translation; this distinction will then determine whether a mark of 5 or 4 is appropriate. Where marks of 4, 3, 2, 1 and 0 are applicable, the overall proportion of meaning conveyed in the section is the only consideration. The term “major” error has been used here to determine an error which is more serious than a “slight” error.

The classification below should be seen only as a general guide, the intention of which is to maintain standards year-on-year. Lead markers should consider each instance on its own merits in the context of the passage and the section.

1. Wrong past tenses are generally considered a “slight” error, but other tense errors are “major”. Note, however, that perfect participles can often be correctly translated as present. Note also that allowance must be made for differences of idiom (e.g. *ubi venerunt*: ‘when they had come’ would be correct; similarly ‘when they came’ for *cum venissent*). Where there are historic presents, the candidate should consistently use the past or present; if the candidate is inconsistent, the error should be counted once only, as a “slight” error. If a candidate repeatedly makes the same error of tense, the error should be counted once only."
2. Vocabulary errors that are close to the right meaning are “slight” errors; any wrong meaning that alters the sense is “major”. (e.g. *amicis suasit*: ‘he persuaded his friends’ would be a “slight” error; ‘he spoke to his friends’ would be “major”).
3. Omission of particles (e.g. conjunctions) that add nothing to the sense (e.g. *autem*) may be ignored; those that add little to the sense (e.g. *sed, tamen, igitur*) are “slight” errors; omission of other words is generally a “major” error. All likely omissions should be categorised at Standardisation.
4. Errors of number are usually “major”, but where the difference is minimal, they are “slight” (e.g. *vinis consumptis*: ‘the wine having been consumed’); sometimes they can be ignored altogether (e.g. *haec dixit* ‘he said this’; *maximi labores* ‘very great work’; *curae iraeque* ‘anxiety and anger’). Each instance should be categorised at Standardisation.
5. Errors of construction are always “major”, unless a construction has been successfully paraphrased (e.g. *promisit se celeriter adventurum esse*: ‘he promised a swift arrival’).
6. Errors of case are always “major”, unless the containing clause has been successfully paraphrased. (e.g. *tribus cum legionibus venit*: ‘he brought three legions with him’).
7. Change from active to passive is allowable if the agent is expressed or if the agent is omitted and the sense is not compromised. If the agent is omitted and the sense is compromised, it is a “slight” error (e.g. *regem interfecerunt*: ‘the king was killed’ would be allowable if it were obvious from the preceding sentence who killed the king; if it were not clear who killed him, a “slight” error should be indicated).

The final decisions on what constitutes a “slight” and “major” error will be made and communicated to assessors via the standardisation process (after full consideration of candidates’ responses) and these decisions will be captured in the final mark scheme for examiners and centres.

Marks	Description
5	Accurate translation with one slight error allowed
4	Mostly correct
3	More than half right
2	Less than half right
1	Little recognisable relation or meaning to the Latin

0 = No response or no response worthy of credit.

Section A: Unseen Prose

Question		Answer	Marks	Guidance
1		The passage has been divided into 10 sections, each worth 5 marks. Award up to 5 marks per translated section according to the 5-mark marking grid above.	5	The below are intended as examples of “slight” and more serious “major” errors, others may be identified at standardisation.
	(i)	<i>Abydeni legatos ad regem de condicionibus tradendae urbis miserunt.</i> The citizens of Abydos sent ambassadors to the king about / to discuss terms for handing over / surrendering the city.		As this is a short section, almost all errors are likely to be major; the only error that is likely to be considered slight is a wrong past tense for <i>miserunt</i> . ‘Trading the city’ is major.
	(ii)	<i>poscebant ut sibi liceret urbe excedere cum singulis vestimentis.</i> They demanded / asked that they be allowed to leave the city with one garment each / single garments.	5	This too is a short section, and so all errors are likely to be major.
	(iii)	<i>quibus cum Philippus nullam pacem fore nisi omnia permittentibus respondisset, hoc responsum iram adeo accendit</i> When / since Philippus (had) replied to them that there would be no peace unless they permitted everything / surrendered unconditionally, this reply aroused such anger / inflamed their anger so much	5	‘To whom’ is a slight error; ‘there was no peace’ is major; ‘unless permitting all’ is major; ‘with this response’ is major.

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
	(iv) <i>ut matronas omnes in templo Dianae, pueros virginesque, infantes etiam cum suis nutricibus in gymnasio includi iuberent.</i> that they ordered all the married women / matrons be shut up in(side) the temple of Diana, (and) the boys and girls, even / also infants with their nurses, (be shut up) inside the gymnasium.	5	'All the women' is a slight error; 'all the married women in the temple' is major.
	(v) <i>ibi viri delecti sunt qui, ubi caesam aciem suorum pro diruto¹ muro pugnantem vidissent, extemplo coniuges liberosque interficerent.</i> There men were chosen who, when they saw the battle line / army of their men cut down while fighting in front of the ruined wall, were at once to kill their wives and children.	5	'Their battle line' is a slight error; 'for the wall' is a slight error; omission of <i>ibi</i> is a slight error; 'men were delighted' is major; 'at once killed' is major.
	(vi) <i>tum milites adeo pertinaciter pugnaverunt ut, cum proelium nox diremptura² esset, Philippus prior, territus rabie³ eorum, pugna abstiterit.</i> Then the soldiers fought so stubbornly that, when night was about to interrupt the battle, Philippus first withdrew from the battle, terrified by their madness.	5	Omission of <i>tum</i> is a slight error; 'bravely' (<i>pertinaciter</i>) is a slight error; 'fought stubbornly so that...' is major; 'with night about to interrupt the battle' is major.
	(vii) <i>principes, quibus atrocior pars facinoris delegata erat, cum paucos confectos vulneribus superesse proelio viderent, luce prima sacerdotes ad urbem dedendam Philippo mittunt.</i> The leaders, to whom the more atrocious part of the crime / deed had been assigned, when they saw that few men, overcome with wounds, (had) survived the battle, at dawn sent priests to surrender the city to Philippus.	5	'Was assigned' is a slight error; 'give / hand over' is a slight error; 'sent priests to Philippus' is a slight error; 'atrocious' / 'most atrocious' is major; 'were over the battle' is major; 'to the city' is major.

Question		Answer	Marks	Guidance
	(viii)	<i>qui, auro argentoque accepto, hominum praedam omnem amisit.</i> He, although he received gold and silver, lost all booty (consisting) of men.	5	'Who' is a slight error; 'since' is a slight error; 'the man lost all the booty' is major.
	(ix)	<i>tanta enim rabies³ multitudinem invasit ut repente omnes ad caedem coniugum liberorumque discurrerent seque ipsi interficerent.</i> For so great a madness took possession of the multitude that suddenly everyone ran off to kill their wives and children and committed suicide / killed each other.	5	Omission of <i>enim</i> is a slight error; 'invaded' is a slight error; 'ran' is a slight error; 'regretfully' = major.
	(x)	<i>obtupefactus eo furore rex triduum⁴ se ad moriendum Abydenis dare dixit; nec quisquam vivus in potestatem regis venit.</i> The king, astounded by this madness, said he was giving the citizens of Abydos three days to die; and no one alive came into the power of the king.	5	Omission of <i>eo</i> is a slight error; 'said he would give' is a slight error; 'the furious king' is major.

Section B: Unseen Verse

Question		Answer	Marks	Guidance
2(a)		The passage has been divided into 9 sections, each worth 5 marks. Award up to 5 marks per translated section according to the 5-mark marking grid above.	5	The below are examples only, further “slight” and more serious “major” errors may be identified at standardisation. ‘Through (<i>per</i>) is a slight error; ‘with cold body she fell’ is major; ‘in no line’ is major; ‘her last sons’ is major.
	(i)	<i>corporibus gelidis incumbit¹ et ordine nullo oscula dispensat natos suprema per omnes.</i> She threw herself / fell / leaned upon the cold bodies and in no order bestowed final kisses upon all her sons.		
	(ii)	<i>‘pascere,² crudelis, nostro, Latona, dolore!’ dixerat:</i> ‘Feast upon our / my grief, cruel Latona!’ she (had) said:	5	This is a short section, and all errors are likely to be major. e.g. ‘Latona had said’.
	(iii)	<i>insonuit contento³ nervus⁴ ab arcu; qui, praeter Nioben unam, conterrit omnes:</i> The string reverberated / sounded from the taut bow; this frightened everyone except for Niobe alone:	5	‘Which’ is a slight error; ‘except for one Niobe’ is a slight error; ‘the taut string’ is major; ‘who / she’ is major.

Question		Answer	Marks	Guidance
	(iv)	<i>illa malo est audax. stabant cum vestibus atris</i> <i>ante toros⁵ fratrum demisso crine sorores;</i> she was emboldened by the misfortune. The sisters were standing before the biers of the brothers, wearing / with black clothes and with their hair unpinned / let down;	5	'She was bold with evil' is a slight error; 'they stood' is major; 'with their hair cut off' is major.
	(v)	<i>e quibus una trahens haerentia viscere⁶ tela</i> <i>imposito fratri moribunda relanguit⁷ ore;</i> one of them, drawing (out) the arrow(s) / missiles stuck in the flesh, sank down dying with her face (placed) on (top of) her brother;	5	'Out of whom' is a slight error; 'drawing one weapon' is major; 'placed them on her brother' is major; 'her brother having been placed upon them' is major; 'dying brother' is major.
	(vi)	<i>altera solari miseram conata parentem</i> <i>conticuit subito duplicataque⁸ vulnere caeco est.</i> a second one / another, trying to console her wretched mother, suddenly fell silent and doubled over with an unseen wound.	5	'Blind' is a slight error; 'another wretched one' is major; 'fell silent and suddenly...' is major; 'was blinded by a wound' is major.
	(vii)	<i>ultima restabat; quam toto corpore mater</i> <i>tota veste tegens, 'unam minimamque relinque!</i> The last one remained; her mother, covering her with her whole body (and) all her dress, 'Leave one, (and) the smallest!'	5	'Whom' is a slight error; 'covering her whole body' is major.

Question		Answer	Marks	Guidance
	(viii)	<p><i>de multis minimam posco' clamavit 'et unam.'</i></p> <p><i>dumque rogat, pro qua rogat occidit:</i></p> <p>Out of the many, I ask for the smallest,' she shouted, 'and (just the) one.' And while she asked, the one for whom she asked died / fell:</p>	5	Omission of <i>que</i> is a slight error; 'about many' is major; 'she died in front of the one for whom she asked' is major.
	(ix)	<p><i>orba⁹ resedit</i></p> <p><i>exanimis inter natos natasque virumque</i></p> <p><i>deriguitque malis; nullos movet aura capillos.</i></p> <p>childless, she sank down among her lifeless sons and daughters and husband and she became rigid because of the terrible events; the breeze moved none of her hair.</p>	5	'Sat down again' is a slight error; 'the man' is a slight error; 'with evil' is a slight error; 'and her husband became rigid' is major; 'she moved no hair in the breeze' is major.

Question		Answer	Marks	Guidance												
2(b)		<p>- v v - - - v v - - - v v - x altera solari miseram conata parentem</p> <p>- v v - v v - v v - v v - v v - - - conticuit subito duplicataque⁸ vulnere caec(o) est.</p>	5	<p>Two lines give 12 feet; each correct foot should be ticked and the number of ticks converted to a mark out of 5, as to the right.</p> <p>Foot divisions should be ignored. This means that credit should be given for two or three adjacent syllables correctly marked, if they make up a correct foot, even if the candidate has split them into separate feet.</p> <table><tr><td>5</td><td>11 – 12 feet correct</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>9 – 10 feet correct</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>7 – 8 feet correct</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>5 – 6 feet correct</td></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>3 – 4 feet correct</td></tr><tr><td>0</td><td>0 – 2 feet correct</td></tr></table>	5	11 – 12 feet correct	4	9 – 10 feet correct	3	7 – 8 feet correct	2	5 – 6 feet correct	1	3 – 4 feet correct	0	0 – 2 feet correct
5	11 – 12 feet correct															
4	9 – 10 feet correct															
3	7 – 8 feet correct															
2	5 – 6 feet correct															
1	3 – 4 feet correct															
0	0 – 2 feet correct															

APPENDIX 1: ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVE GRID

Question	Distribution of marks for each Assessment Objective		
	AO1	AO2	AO3
1	50	–	–
2	45	–	–
3	5	–	–
Total	100	–	–

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