



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

A Level Latin

H443/02 Prose Composition or Comprehension

Friday 8 June 2018 – Morning

Time allowed: 1 hour 15 minutes



You must have:

- the OCR 12-page Answer Booklet
(sent with general stationery)

Do not use:

- a dictionary

INSTRUCTIONS

- Use black ink.
- Complete the boxes on the front of the Answer Booklet.
- Answer **either** Section A **or** Section B.
- Write your answers in the Answer Booklet. 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 barcodes.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is **50**.
- The marks for each question are shown in brackets [].
- This document consists of **4** pages.



Answer **either** Section A or Section B.

Section A: Comprehension and Grammar

Read the passage below carefully and answer the questions which follow.

As the revolt against him spreads through the western provinces, the emperor Nero desperately tries to find a way out of the crisis.

nuntiata interim etiam ceterorum exercituum defectione, litteras sibi prudenti traditas concerpsit, mensam evertit, duos scyphos magni pretii in terram deiecit. tum veneno in aurea pyxide celato transiit in hortos Servilianos ubi, fidissimis libertorum Ostiam emissis ad classem praeparandam, tribunos centurionesque praetorii hortatus est ut socii in fuga essent. sed aliis dubitantibus, aliis aperte recusantibus, varie in animo agitavit utrum Parthos supplex peteret, an prodiret in forum et veniam scelerum a civibus precaretur ac, nisi animos eorum flexisset, oraret ut praefectura Aegypti sibi concederetur.

5

sic cogitatione ad posterum diem dilata, media fere nocte excitatus prosiluit e lecto. ut cognovit stationem militum discessisse, servos misit circum amicos et, quia nihil a quoquam renuntiabatur, domus eorum complures ipse adiit. verum portis omnium clausis et respondente nullo in cubiculum rediit, unde custodes iam diffugerant, direptis stragulis amotaque etiam pyxide veneni. deinde Spiculum gladiatorem vel quemquam alium, cuius manu periret, quaesivit et nemine reperto 'ergo ego' inquit 'nec amicum habeo nec inimicum?' procurritque, quasi praecipitaturus se in Tiberim.

10

15

Suetonius, *Nero* 47 (adapted)

Names

Servilianus, -a, -um
Ostia, -ae (f)
Parthi, -orum (m pl)
Aegyptus, -i (f)
Spiculus, -i (m)
Tiberis, *Tiberis* (m)

Servilian, of Servilius
 Ostia (the main port for Rome)
 the Parthians (Rome's enemies in the East)
 Egypt
 Spiculus
 the river Tiber

Words

defectio, -onis (f)
prandeo, -ere, *prandi*, *pransus*
concerpo, -ere, -cerpsi, -cerptus
scyphus, -i (m)
venenum, -i (n)
pyxis, -idis (f)
praetorium, -i (n)
supplex, -icis (m)
venia, -ae (f)
praefectura, -ae (f)
stragulum, -i (n)

revolt
 I eat lunch
 I tear up, tear into pieces
 drinking cup
 poison
 a box
 the Praetorian Guard (which guarded the emperor)
 a suppliant (someone who makes a humble request)
 forgiveness
 governorship
 a sheet, a bed-cover

- 1 *nuntiata ... deiecit* (lines 1–2):
- (a) what news did Nero receive? [1]
- (b) how did his behaviour show that he was very upset by this news? [3]
- 2 *tum ... essent* (lines 2–5): what actions did Nero take immediately? [5]
- 3 *sed aliis ... concederetur* (lines 5–8): what possible solutions to his problems did Nero consider? [6]
- 4 Translate *sic cogitatione ... adiit* (lines 9–11).
Please write your translation on alternate lines. [10]
- 5 *verum ... Tiberim* (lines 11–15): how does Suetonius describe Nero's increasing frustration and despair? [10]
- 6 State and explain the case of the following:
- (a) *prudenti* (line 1) [2]
- (b) *scelerum* (line 6) [2]
- 7 Give the present active infinitive of the following:
- (a) *emissis* (line 4) [1]
- (b) *quaesivit* (line 14) [1]
- 8 Which part of the verb are the following:
- (a) *praeparandam* (line 4)? [1]
- (b) *flexisset* (line 7)? [1]
- (c) *praecipitaturus* (line 15)? [1]
- 9 Explain, using a translation if you think it is helpful, the grammar of the following:
- (a) *aliis dubitantibus* (line 5) [2]
- (b) *cuius manu periret* (line 14) [4]

[Total: 50 marks]

Section B: Prose Composition

Do not answer this section if you have already answered Section A.

10 Translate this passage into Latin prose.

You are reminded that marks will be awarded for the style of your translation.

Please write your translation on alternate lines.

[50]

Tired by the long journey, when Alexander saw a river he immediately threw himself into the cold water. Then suddenly such stiffness seized his body that he could hardly move and was pulled out with great difficulty by his companions. None of the doctors could suggest a cure, except one, but Alexander had been warned in a letter to beware of this man, because he had been bribed by the enemy. Thinking, however, that it would be better to accept his help rather than to meet certain death, he began to drink the medicine which the doctor offered him in a cup. At the same time he handed the doctor the letter and watched his face as he read it. Since he showed no sign of fear, Alexander was sure that he could trust him.

Names

Alexander *Alexander, Alexandri (m)*

Words

stiffness	<i>rigor, -is (m)</i>
I bribe	<i>pecunia corrumpo, -ere, -rupi, -ruptus</i>
medicine	<i>medicina, -ae (f)</i>
cup	<i>poculum, -i (n)</i>

END OF QUESTION PAPER

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