

GCSE (9-1)

Examiners' report

LATIN

J282

For first teaching in 2016

J282/02 Summer 2022 series

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Introduction

Our examiners' reports are produced to offer constructive feedback on candidates' performance in the examinations. They provide useful guidance for future candidates.

The reports will include a general commentary on candidates' performance, identify technical aspects examined in the questions and highlight good performance and where performance could be improved. A selection of candidate answers are also provided. The reports will also explain aspects which caused difficulty and why the difficulties arose, whether through a lack of knowledge, poor examination technique, or any other identifiable and explainable reason.

Where overall performance on a question/question part was considered good, with no particular areas to highlight, these questions have not been included in the report.

A full copy of the question paper and the mark scheme can be downloaded from OCR.

Advance Information for Summer 2022 assessments

To support student revision, advance information was published about the focus of exams for Summer 2022 assessments. Advance information was available for most GCSE, AS and A Level subjects, Core Maths, FSMQ, and Cambridge Nationals Information Technologies. You can find more information on our [website](#).

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Paper 2 series overview

The quality of candidates' answers was on the whole very impressive with the vast majority of candidates having a firm knowledge of the text. It is essential for candidates to understand the meaning of the text fully. All answers stem from such knowledge, including the analysis questions. The short comprehension questions were very well answered and candidates scored highly in these questions. The 4-mark and 8-mark literary comment questions were good differentiators and candidates who did not have a firm understanding of the text found these more challenging. Some candidates did not refer to the Latin when asked to do so in the question and so lost marks. In the questions where quotation of the Latin is required, the candidates must be sure to quote, translate and answer the question explicitly. Candidates who simply quoted and translated the Latin but did not give any personal response in order to answer the question, lost marks in the 4- and 8-mark questions. The translation question was challenging for some and showed that there is no substitution for knowing in detail the meaning of the Latin text. In the translation question the commonest error was the omission of words. Candidates must make sure that they check through their work carefully in order to avoid such omissions. The overarching 10-mark question was generally well answered and candidates seemed to have enjoyed showing the examiner the extent of their knowledge of the set texts. Candidates must avoid vague answers.

Candidates who did well on this paper generally did the following:	Candidates who did less well on this paper generally did the following:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to the Latin when asked to do so. • Use the line references and Latin lemma given in the question for guidance. • Give a range of style and content points in the eight-mark question, including at least 2 style points. • Give specific references to the text in the 10-mark overarching question. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Did not use the Latin lemma and line references in the questions for guidance • Omitted words in the translation question • Did not refer to all three texts in the 10-mark question.

Question 1

- 1 Read the passage and answer the question.

sicut saluberrimam navigationem, domine, usque Ephesum expertus ita inde, postquam vehiculis iter facere coepi, gravissimis aestibus atque etiam febriculis vexatus Pergami substiti. rursus, cum transissem in orarias naviculas, contrariis ventis retentus aliquanto tardius quam speraveram, id est xv kal. Octobres, Bithyniam intravi.

5

Pliny, *Letters* 10.17a, lines 2–7

How does Pliny draw attention to the difficulty of his journey to Bithynia? Make **two** points, each referring to the **Latin**.

- 1
-
-
-
- 2
-
-
-

[4]

This 4 mark question was generally well answered. This 4 mark question, without the English translation, allows both content and style answers, so there was a wide range of available answers. For content points, the candidate should think about what the author has written, for the style points, they should think about how the author has expressed their point.

Key point call out (Four mark question without English translation)

Candidates must remember to quote the Latin in the 4 mark questions. A number of candidates did not do so and accordingly lost marks. Candidates should also make sure that they show the examiner that they know the meaning of their Latin quotation.

Question 2

2 Read the passage and answer the question.

his dimissis, et ventum et aestum uno tempore nactus secundum, dato signo et sublatiis ancoris, circiter milia passuum septem ab eo loco progressus aperto ac plano litore naves constituit.

Caesar, *A difficult landing*, lines 6–8

Translate this passage into English.

.....

.....

.....

.....

..... [5]

Most candidates performed well on the translation question. The most common error was omission of words, particularly *uno tempore*, *circiter* and *eo*. There was also some confusion over the meaning of the word *constituit*. Some candidates only translated one of the pair of adjectives *aperto* and *plano*.

Question 3 (a)

3 Read the passage and answer the questions.

atque nostris militibus cunctantibus, maxime propter altitudinem maris, qui decimae legionis aquilam ferebat, contestatus deos, ut ea res legioni feliciter eveniret, 'desilite,' inquit, 'milites, nisi vultis aquilam hostibus prodere: ego certe meum rei publicae atque imperatori officium praestitero.'

Caesar, *A difficult landing*, lines 22–26

(a) *atque ... maris* (line 1): why were Caesar's soldiers hesitating?

..... [1]

Almost all candidates answered correctly.

Question 3 (b)

(b) *qui ... eveniret* (lines 1–2): what did the eagle-bearer do before shouting at the soldiers?

..... [1]

Generally well answered, but some candidates did not look carefully at the Latin text and relied on their general understanding of the story. The Latin lemma is put in the question to guide candidates. It should not be ignored!

Question 3 (c)

(c) *desilite ... prodere* (line 3): how do you think the eagle-bearer was feeling at this time? Give a reason for your answer.

.....

 [2]

The first of the empathetic questions. Most candidates answered well. Candidates should try to be specific in their answer and avoid giving vague answers such as '*he was feeling bad*' or '*he didn't feel good*'. Candidates should aim to give a specific reason given in the text to back up their answer.

Question 3 (d)

(d) *ego ... praestitero* (lines 3–4): what did the eagle-bearer say here that demonstrated his loyalty?

.....

 [2]

Well answered on the whole, although some candidates confused *imperator* with *imperium*.

Question 4 (a) (i)

4 Read the passage and answer the questions.

nostri, simul in arido constiterunt, suis omnibus consecutis, in hostes impetum fecerunt atque eos in fugam dederunt; neque longius prosequi potuerunt, quod equites cursum tenere atque insulam capere non potuerunt. hoc unum ad pristinam fortunam Caesari defuit.

Caesar, *A difficult landing*, lines 31–35

(a) *nostri ... dederunt* (lines 1–2):

(i) when did Caesar's men make the attack on the enemy?

..... [1]

Generally well answered, although the word *arido* caused problems for some.

Question 4 (a) (ii)

(ii) what was the result of this attack?

..... [1]

Most candidates answered this question well, but some candidates did not appear to look at the Latin and made a guess based on their knowledge of the text as a whole.

Question 4 (b) (i)

(b) *neque ... non potuerunt* (lines 2–3):

(i) why did the cavalry not take part in the battle?

.....
..... [2]

The commonest error was for candidates to answer only one part of the question. Candidates should look carefully at the Latin lemma to make sure they answer the question fully.

Question 4 (b) (ii)

- (ii) what effect on the battle did the lack of Roman cavalry have?

..... [1]

The commonest error was candidates ignoring the comparative *longius*. 'Further' and 'very far' were accepted in the MS. Candidates should look out for comparatives and superlatives in the Latin and make sure that their answers reflect the meaning of the word.

Question 4 (c)

- (c) *hoc ... defuit* (lines 3–4): how do you think Caesar was feeling at this time? Give a reason for your answer.

.....
.....
..... [2]

This was the second of the empathetic questions. Candidates generally answered well, but they must remember to give a specific reason for the second part of the question, using the Latin given in the lemma to help guide them.

Question 5 (a)

5 Read the passage and answer the questions.

elephanti sicut per artas vias magna mora agebantur, ita tutum ab hostibus quacumque incederent, quia insuetis adeundi propius metus erat, agmen praebebant. nono die in iugum Alpium perventum est. biduum in iugo stativa habita fessisque labore ac pugnando quies data militibus.

Livy, *Hannibal crosses the Alps*, lines 1–6

(a) *elephanti ... agebantur* (line 1): what slowed the elephants down?

..... [1]

Very few incorrect answers. 'Streets' was not allowed as the context shows that the *viae* are mountain paths high up in the mountains.

Question 5 (b)

(b) *ita ... praebebant* (lines 1–3): what does Livy say about the advantages provided by the Carthaginians' elephants?

.....

 [3]

Well answered although a few candidates only gave one or two out of the three answers. Again, the Latin lemma was not always used effectively by candidates.

Question 5 (c)

(c) *biduum ... militibus* (lines 3–4): pick out and translate the **Latin** word which shows how the soldiers were feeling at this point.

Latin word:
 English translation:

[2]

Generally very well answered.

Question 6

6 Read the passage and answer the question.

praegressus signa Hannibal in promunturio quodam, unde longe ac late prospectus erat, consistere iussis militibus Italiam ostentat subiectosque Alpinis montibus Circumpadanos campos, moeniaque eos tum transcendere non Italiae modo sed etiam urbis Romanae; cetera plana, proclivia fore; uno aut summum altero proelio arcem et caput Italiae in manu ac potestate habituros.

5

Translation:

Hannibal went ahead of the standards to a particular viewpoint, from where the view was far and wide and, having ordered the soldiers to stop, he pointed out Italy and the lands of the Po Valley at the foot of the Alps, and he told them that they were at that moment climbing over not only the walls of Italy, but also of Rome itself; he said that the rest would be flat, downhill; and that after one or at the most a second battle they would have in their hand and hold in their power the citadel and head of Italy.

Livy, *Hannibal crosses the Alps*, lines 11–17

How does Livy, by his style of writing, make this an inspiring and motivating scene? Make **two** points, each referring to the **Latin**.

1

.....

.....

.....

2

.....

.....

.....

[4]

In this 4 mark question, with the English translation provided, candidates must provide style points. There was a wide range of style points available. The commonest answers were the alliteration of *longe ac late*, the asyndeton / alliteration of *plana, proclivia* and the metaphor of *in manu ac potestate*. Candidates must remember to make it clear that they understand the meaning of the quotations given. Some candidates, including some very strong candidates, did not translate or paraphrase the meaning of their quotations and accordingly lost marks.

Key point call out (The 4 mark question with English translation included)

In the 4 mark question with the English translation provided, only style points are accepted. Content points are not allowed. The Latin must also be quoted and the candidate must show the examiner that they understand the meaning of the Latin.

Exemplar 1

2 Secondly, Livy also does this by "cetera plana proclina fore".....
this is an example of livian brevity, and it's a further attempt
by Hannibal to inspire his men and it lends real importance to
the conditions of the soldiers. Also, repetition of the "p" sounds.....

In the exemplar response the candidate has given a relevant quotation and analysis but has not made clear to the examiner that they understand the meaning of the Latin. Even in the 4-mark question where the English translation is given, the candidate must make it clear that they know the meaning of their Latin quotation.

Question 7*

7* Read the passage and answer the question.

tandem nequiquam iumentis atque hominibus fatigatis castra in iugo posita, aegerrime ad id ipsum loco purgato; tantum nivis fodiendum atque egerendum fuit. inde ad rupem muniendam per quam unam via esse poterat milites ducti, cum caedendum esset saxum, arboribus circa immanibus deiectis detruncatisque struem ingentem lignorum faciunt eamque, cum et vis venti apta faciendo igni coorta esset, succendunt ardentiaque saxa infuso aceto putrefaciunt.

5

Livy, *Hannibal crosses the Alps*, lines 32–39

What makes this a powerful description of the challenges faced by Hannibal's men?

In your answer you may wish to consider:

- the work done by the men;
- the difficulties they faced.

You should refer to the **Latin** and discuss Livy's use of language.

[8]

The 8-mark analysis question, as in previous years, proved to be a good differentiator. The commonest errors made by candidates was to omit a Latin quotation or not give the meaning of the Latin quotation. Some candidates also omitted to give any style points at all. At least 2 style points should be made for the top level to be achieved. There was a wide range of points available and many candidates wrote very impressive answers showing their in-depth understanding of the text.

Key point call out (Eight-mark question)

In this 8-mark question candidates must quote the Latin, show the examiner they understand the meaning of their Latin quote, and write how their quotation demonstrates that this passage is a powerful description of the challenges faced by Hannibal's men. Candidates should aim to give a minimum of 5 points in their answer. Style and content points are allowed, but for the top level, candidates should make at least 2 style points.

Exemplar 2

Livy uses the superlative adverb 'acerrime' (with very great difficulty) to show how challenging and tiresome it was to clear the area for camps.

This response is an example of a candidate who has written a correct, albeit brief, point. The candidate has quoted the relevant Latin word, given the meaning and explained why it is relevant to the question. The candidate has gained full marks for this point, although they would have been more successful if they had explained it in slightly more detail.

Question 8*

- 8* How do the texts of Pliny, Caesar, and Livy show that travel and military expeditions abroad could bring many challenges?

You should support your answer with a range of references to the texts you have read, and you may include passages printed on the question paper. [10]

The 10-mark overarching question was generally well answered. Many candidates had an excellent knowledge of the three texts and clearly enjoyed showing the examiner what they knew. The commonest error was not backing up their point with reference to the text. The references had to show specific knowledge of the text and candidates needed to avoid making any vague generalisations. Latin quotations are not required for this question.

Key point call out (10-mark overarching question)

Candidates should avoid making vague references to the text in the 10-mark overarching question. Latin quotations are not needed in this question. Candidates should aim to make 6 detailed points. Where several texts are being asked about – in this question there were three texts – candidates must make sure that they cover all available texts. Failure to do so will result in the loss of marks.

Exemplar 3

transportation that's better suited to the land. Pliny's expedition also causes an impact on his physical health. The very intense heat causes him to have a slight fever which emphasises the challenges of expedition as he is delayed in his journey as he has to rest in Pergamum which causes him to enter Bithynia later than he hoped. Pliny shows the challenges he faced in his expedition by the weather and the impacts it had on his journey.

This response is an example of a good point made by a candidate. It is full of relevant detail from the text, with personal response from the candidate aimed specifically at the question. This point leads on logically from a point about the weather and wind, ending in a sensible conclusion.

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